Work update at Lawai infestation site

Upcoming control work is scheduled to continue the week of June 11, 2007. Crews will be arriving in the early morning and working until 9:30 pm., at the latest.

This week, field-work is scheduled to take place on June 12 and 13.

Last week, crews were able to herbicide in section 2, 4, and 5. They sprayed citric acid in section 2 and 3.

Monday, June 11, the State of Hawaii celebrates King Kamehameha Day and the KISC crew will be taking this day as a holiday. The crew will plan on working at the frog site on Tuesday and Wednesday. On Thursday, we will be responding to various island-wide reports of coqui.

Field work will focus on applying citric acid in sections 5, 6, 11, 13, 17, 21 and one pesky frog at the end of Uwila Place on Smith property.

Application of hydrated lime will happen in sections 2, 8, and 11.

We are hoping that the contractor with the machinery will be able to get into the site this week. Again, he is going to be working on sections 13 through 20 as well as cleaning up an access road. We will keep you posted on their work.

KISC is ramping up eradication efforts by recently taking delivery of 88,000 pounds of citric acid that just arrived from China as well as hiring six new crewmembers. We are hoping that this crew will be up and running by the middle of June.

This new work-force will be working four-10 hour days every week at the Lawai site.

Prior notification of work will continue to be given weekly. If there are any questions or concerns please contact the crew supervisor.

Report a Pest:
643-PEST

Management Area Map

The map to the left shows the entire infestation area. This area has been broken into management units, and numbered accordingly.

Work at the site will reference these numbers.

If you hear calling frogs in an area near you, please contact our office so that we can schedule treatment in that unit.

Contact Phone Numbers:
• KISC: 246-0684
  (from 7:00 am to 4:00 pm)
• Crew Supervisor:
  651-8781
• Hawaii Department of Agriculture: 274-3069
• Pest Hotline: 643-PEST

Tidbit

In their native range, juveniles tend to remain on or near litter and ground vegetation, moving higher when foraging as they age.
The many colors of coqui

Typically, the color of the coqui is usually brown or grayish brown. But other colors of this small frog may be seen as well.

Coquis have greater variation in color than their cousin the greenhouse frog and vary from light yellow to dark brown.

They can be uniform in color, mottled, flecked or with black spots.

Their thighs are often darker with yellowish green mottling; the solid red or brown color on the inside of the hind legs is distinguishing.

Some even have dorsal chevrons which look like dark “W”s.

Some have lines or bands that go down the center of their backs. Others have lines on their sides and some of these also have lines going between the eyes. Some are found with no stripe at all.

Of course, with such wide variations, it isn’t surprising that often people will confuse these frogs as coquis of different species.

Whatever color you may find the coqui they all pose the same threats to Hawaii’s fragile ecosystem.

More on the diversity of these tiny frogs can be found on-line at the web link provided below.

The ‘Birds and the Bees’ of coqui

Coquis breed year-round, but breeding is more common during times of heat and high humidity, from late spring to early fall. Females approach calling males, who then lead the females to potential nest sites where amplexus (the mating posture of a pair of frogs or toads, in which the male clasps the female behind during egg release and fertilization) occurs.

While calling for mates, males will call to females from open, elevated areas as well as from leaf surfaces, axils of palms, and tree trunks.

Coquis deposit eggs in partially enclosed spaces such as rolled leaves, palm fronds, and bromeliad axils, where they are guarded by the male parent.

Clutch size varies with the size of female, which varies with locality. Clutch size varies from 12–24 eggs in Florida, averages 26 eggs in Puerto Rico, and in Hawaii clutches average 34-75 eggs.

Under laboratory conditions in Hawaii, mating pairs produce a clutch every 2½ weeks without loss of fertility – that’s 26 clutches a year, or more than 1,400 eggs per female per year!

Informational Links

Please visit the following sites for more info:

- http://www.hear.org/AlienSpeciesInHawaii/species/frogs/
- http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/coqui/morphs.asp
- http://amphibiaweb.org/cgi/amphib_query?where-genus=Eleutherodactylus&where-species=coqui&account=lannoo

Male coqui frog guarding clutch of eggs