Work update at Lawai infestation site

Upcoming control work is scheduled to continue the week of September 24, 2007. Crews will be arriving in the morning and working until around 9:30 pm.

Field crew work is scheduled for September 24, 25, 26, 27, and 28.

This past week at the site, the crew applied citric acid in sections 5, 13, 18, 19, and 20, 21. Lime was applied in sections 2 and 3. Herbicide was used to control hau, guinea grass and California grass in sections 3, 6, 8, 18, 19, 20, and 21. A total of eleven frogs were also hand captured at the site.

Our strategies for next week will continue to include applications of lime and citric acid.

The lime will be applied in sections 5 through 13. The focus of citric acid application will be on sections 11-22 as well as spot-spraying calling males throughout the site that cannot be hand-captured.

As we approach the end of the busiest season and as our coqui crew winds down their efforts, we are continuing to focus on eliminating all calling frogs.

Herbicide work for the coming week will focus on the roadway along the south edge of section 2 as well as the hau tangle in section 5.

Some future clearing work is scheduled to be conducted to continue to reduce coqui habitat in this area making it inhospitable for the frogs.

A tiny frog hatchling

Recordings at the site are verifying our control efforts and a downward trend in calling frogs can be seen. More on this will be written in next week's Coqui News.

Report coqui frogs

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.

There are more than 4,000 types of amphibian in the world, but Europe only has 45 species. There are no native amphibian species in Hawaii.
**Hawaii real estate suit filed over noisy frog**

HILO, Hawaii — A Honolulu company is suing a Big Island real estate firm for making allegedly false representations about a Hilo property that was billed as “pristine” but turned out to be infested with coqui frogs.

Brinkwood Land Equities Ltd. is suing Hilo Brokers Ltd. and Hilo Brokers owner Kelly Moran in connection with a proposed sale of more than four acres at 245 Wainaku Street.

Although the noisy coqui frogs native to Puerto Rico are now a widespread irritant on the Big Island, several observers of the local real estate industry said this is the first lawsuit over the frogs they have seen.

The loud whistles of the frogs have been commonplace in Wainaku for years, and Moran said the coqui issue was fully disclosed in a contract addendum that warned of the coqui frog problem on the island.

“I think it’s a little ludicrous,” Moran said of the lawsuit. “They signed off on that addendum that explained the issues of coqui frogs. They signed that when they wrote up the contract, so that’s self-explanatory.”

According to the suit filed in Honolulu Circuit Court, a Hilo Brokers advertisement for the property suggested that a buyer could “build your development with the views and sounds of waterfalls and Pukihae Stream on your porch.”

Sandy Singleton and James Clay made an offer to buy the land on May 23, 2005 for more than $2 million, and committed $25,000 that would be forfeited if the transaction did not close, according to the suit.

The two also committed more than $26,000 in development expenses, according to the suit.

After the deposit was fully committed, Singleton received information that the neighborhood might be a hangout for drug dealers and prostitutes at night, and visited the site on the evening of Sept. 7 to see for himself.

When he arrived at the property, Singleton “heard a painful screeching noise as if small animals or birds were being tortured,” according to the suit. He asked a passerby about the noise, and was told he was listening to coqui frogs. Singleton then decided the property could not be developed in a way that would allow residents there to hear the waterfalls from their homes, and the sale never closed.

Singleton and Clay later assigned their interest and claim in the transaction to Brinkwood, which filed the suit.

The suit alleges that Hilo Brokers and Moran made “false representations” and violated state law that prohibits unfair or deceptive practices.

The suit filed on Sept. 5 seeks damages, costs and lawyers’ fees.

By Kevin Dayton
Advertiser Big Island Bureau

---

**What is herpetology?**

Herpetology is defined as the scientific study of amphibians and reptiles. It is composed of numerous cross disciplines including behavior, ecology, physiology, anatomy, paleontology, taxonomy, etc. of the animals in this grouping.

Herpetology as a branch of science seems to have it's roots based on the ancient tendency to group together all creeping animals. Note that the etymology of the word Herpetology means "creeping" in Greek [herpetos].

The study of these animals in a laboratory setting is made easier by the fact that many Herpetiles are very easy to maintain and breed in captivity. They are widely used in physiological teachings. Herpetological research also includes the extraction and study of venom and it's effects. All Herpetiles are Vertebrates.

---

**Informational Links**

Please visit the following sites for more info:
- [http://photovault.com/Link/Animals/AnimalsHerpetologyMaster.html#anchor1275377](http://photovault.com/Link/Animals/AnimalsHerpetologyMaster.html#anchor1275377)

---

**Hilo Brokers Ltd.**

A frog telephoned the Psychic Hotline and was told, "You are going to meet a beautiful young woman who will want to know everything about you."

The frog said, "That's great! Will I meet her at a party, or what?"

"No," said the psychic, "Next semester in her biology class."