

What is happening?

Work to eradicate the coqui frogs from Lawai continues despite the unusually wet weather we have been experiencing. Work to clear foliage from the under-story is still in progress. This work has been successful in altering the

habitat that the small tree-frogs find desirable thus reducing the existing population.

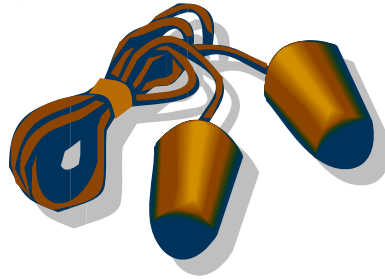


Photo courtesy of Rex Cauldwell.

KISC crew has also, when possible, been spraying coqui frogs in areas close to the residential areas as well as along the boundaries and into the core of the infestation.

Intensified efforts to eliminate this pest will occur as weather permits.

Please bear with us. We are working on the problem!



Update as of March 31, 2006



GOT COQUI?

Please call:

Kauai Invasive Species Committee

Phone: 808-246-0684

Fax: 808-632-0841

E-mail: KISC@hawaiiintel.net

www.kauaiisc.org

GOT COQUI?

What is happening in your neighborhood....

Coqui Eradication Project:
Aepo Reservoir,
Lawai, Kauai, HI



**KAUAI COQUI HOTLINE:
808-246-0684**

WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH THE COQUI?

Battling the coqui frogs at Aepo Reservoir, in Lawai, has been the result of a unified partnership of individuals, agencies, and private entities. **In late summer of 2005 a Kauai Coqui Frog Working Group was formed** involving neighboring landowners, the Hawaii Department of Agriculture (HDOA), the Kauai Invasive Species Committee (KISC), Kukuiula Development Company, DLNR's Division of Forestry and Wildlife, UH- College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (CTAHR), and County Council representatives Joanne Yukimura and Jay Furfaro. A plan was devised to implement strategies that have



Size of coqui. Photo by S. Chun, UH-CTAHR

proven effective in the treatment of coqui populations on the Big Island, Maui and Oahu. Strategies for eradication being implemented include habitat modification,

chemical control, and the use of traps to collect clusters of laid eggs.

Habitat Modification

In early November, work began to clear under-story of small brush and trees under 14" in diameter. This method of control has a two-fold purpose: the first is to make the site more accessible for spraying operations; the second is to change the type of habitat that the frogs most desire. Due to the nature of the coqui being



KISC crew mixing citric acid in 200 gallon sprayer

territorial, this method has shown to stress the frogs, rather than dislocate or have them move to another site. When spraying the site with citric acid after major clearing, the KISC crew could see the frogs "raining from the trees" due to the fact that there are less trees for them to climb!

We have noticed, however, a few "escapees" in the neighboring area which KISC is responding to with spot-spraying.

Chemical Control

Night-time spraying continues with the use of Citric Acid mixed to a 16% solution. This is showing to be effective, but requires dry weather for application. Plans to use a slurry of hydrated lime sprayed on the ground during the day will target the frogs while they burrow under leaf-litter. **Both of these methods have proven to be very effective at controlling the frogs.** Check out <http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/coqui/control.asp> for more information on these control

methods.

Upcoming / Ongoing Work

Further habitat modification is ongoing as well as chemical control when the weather allows for it. Night spraying is conducted by KISC and is most effective during the coqui's most active time which is after dusk. Crews spray close to the residential areas early in the evening and move further away later in the evening due to pump noise.



Picture of a coqui about to 'sing'. Photo courtesy of Rex Cauldwell.

Other methods of control are being discussed with the Working Group and the Department of Health. We will keep neighbors informed as plans progress.

Everyone is encouraged to call if there are any questions or to report coqui frogs. KISC will respond to all calls island-wide.

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