

NEWS RELEASE

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USDA Awards over \$340,000 for Hawaii Agriculture to Develop Risk Management Education and Outreach Initiatives

Davis, Calif., Nov. 30, 2011 - The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Risk Management Agency (RMA), Davis Regional Office, today announced \$341,030 in cooperative agreement awards to help provide new ways for producers to manage agricultural risks. Targeted outreach and educational opportunities will help women, limited-resource, and other traditionally underserved farmers and ranchers. Two agreements were awarded in Hawaii.

The University of Hawaii's agreement, "**Hawaii Risk Management School: Risk Management Education for Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, Limited Resource Producers and Ranchers in Farm Safety, Crop Insurance, and Good Farming Practices,**" received \$95,161 to increase the viability and sustainability of farms run by our targeted socially disadvantaged, limited resource producers by providing exposure, basic knowledge and training in areas of risk management through educational conferences held in farming communities.

The University of Hawaii's agreement, "**Risk Management/Crop Insurance Education for Hawaii's Producers,**" received \$245,869 to increase awareness of crop insurance, and to educate producers to take full advantage of crop insurance by focusing on crop-specific insurance tools available for nursery, banana, coffee, papaya, macadamia nuts, and AGR-Lite.

Federal Crop Insurance and Risk Management Education and Outreach programs together provide a safety net to ensure that farmers and ranchers will survive the perils of nature and the marketplace and continue in business, thus ensuring the food supply. RMA administers these projects and the federal crop insurance program. For more information, please see the RMA Web site at: <http://www.rma.usda.gov/aboutrma/agreements/>

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