

BUY NATIVE 'ŌHI'A IT'S EVERYONE'S KULEANA



Photos: Chris Dacus

'Ōhi'a lehua is an endemic species only found in Hawai'i. Its brilliant flowers, made up of a mass of stamens, range from fiery red to yellow. In Hawaiian mythology, 'Ōhi'a and Lehua were two young lovers. The goddess Pele was jealous of their love and turned 'Ōhi'a into a twisted ugly tree in revenge for spurning her advances. The gods transformed Lehua into the flower of the 'Ōhi'a tree, so that 'Ōhi'a and Lehua could be together for eternity. When an 'Ōhi'a flower is picked, it rains like tears as Lehua cries for 'Ōhi'a. 'Ōhi'a trees are the very first plants to grow on new lava flows.

Recently, a new disease called Rapid 'Ōhi'a Death has devastated large areas of 'Ōhi'a forests on Hawai'i Island and have been detected on Maui, O'ahu, and Kaua'i. It's everyone's kuleana to protect our precious 'Ōhi'a by not wounding trees and not transporting 'Ōhi'a wood, seedlings, and other products between islands, especially from Hawai'i Island, unless inspected by the Hawai'i Dept. of Agriculture. Young 'Ōhi'a trees, however, seem to be much less likely to get the disease. Buy locally-produced native 'Ōhi'a and keep planting!

BUY NATIVE 'ŌHI'A.

OHIA



Photos: Joel Lau



Photos: Joel Lau



Photos: J.B. Friday



Photos: David Eickhoff



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Photos: Hank Oppenheimer



Photos: J.B. Friday



Photos: Adam Williams



Photos: Hank Oppenheimer



Photos: Joel Lau



Photos: David Eickhoff



Photos: Forest & Kim Starr



Photos: J.B. Friday



Photos: Joel Lau



- Dry
- Full Sun
- Shade
- Indigenous
- Salt & Wind Tolerant
- Wet
- Partial Sun
- Endemic
- Pollinators
- Endangered Species



BUY NATIVES IT MATTERS



1. Golden rule: Use of native plants should never endanger their wild populations.
2. Do not collect native plants from the wild without a Hawai'i Department of Land & Natural Resources collection permit (<https://dlnr.hawaii.gov/dofaw/permits/>). Do not collect from private lands without permission.
3. Cultivated/landscape stock of threatened and endangered (T&E) plants require a license from the Hawai'i Dept. of Land and Natural Resources - Division of Forestry and Wildlife. A red T&E plant tag must accompany each listed plant.
4. Collect native plants only if you are a trained individual. Native ground cover vegetation can be damaged very easily. Avoid unnecessary damage to collection sites by staying on or near established trails.
5. When collecting common species with a permit, collect less than 5 percent of total seeds from each plant.
6. When collecting, propagating and planting native plants, replicate nature's genetic diversity. Ideally, collect from 8-10 plants per population and a total of 3-5 populations. Keep good records of the location and description of parent plants. Note provenance of plants throughout propagation to installation.
7. Use native plants from your island even if the species distribution is statewide.
8. Avoid moving native plants interisland.
9. Do not import native plants from outside of Hawai'i.
10. Purchase native plants from an established plant nursery.
11. Use native plants in your landscaping only and do not outplant them in natural areas.

OHIA

Lehua papa

Metrosideros rugosa

VEGETATION COMMUNITY	Forest
PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE	Seeds & Air Layering
READY FOR OUPlantING	1-2 years after propagation
ISLAND DISTRIBUTION	O'ahu
PEST & DISEASE INFO	Thrips, Ants, Scale, Aphids, Mealy Bugs, Sooty Mold And Cerambycid Borer Rapid 'Ohia Death
SOIL TYPES	Prefers well draining soils.



'Ohia, 'Ohia Lehua, Lehua

M. macrocarpa

VEGETATION COMMUNITY	Forest
PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE	Seeds & Air Layering
READY FOR OUPlantING	1-2 years after propagation
ISLAND DISTRIBUTION	O'ahu
PEST & DISEASE INFO	Thrips, Ants, Scale, Aphids, Mealy Bugs, Sooty Mold And Cerambycid Borer, Rapid 'Ohia Death
SOIL TYPES	Prefers well draining soils.



'Ohia, 'Ohia Lehua, Lehua

M. waialealae var. waialealae

VEGETATION COMMUNITY	Forest
PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE	Seeds & Air Layering
READY FOR OUPlantING	1-2 years after propagation
TOLERANCES	
ISLAND DISTRIBUTION	Kaua'i
PEST & DISEASE INFO	Thrips, Ants, Scale, Aphids, Mealy Bugs, Sooty Mold And Cerambycid Borer, Rapid 'Ohia Death
SOIL TYPES	Medium to Heavy clay soils. Prefers well draining soils.



Lehua 'ahihi

M. tremuloides

VEGETATION COMMUNITY	Forest
PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE	Seeds & Air Layering
READY FOR OUPlantING	1-2 years after propagation
TOLERANCES	Drought Tolerant
ISLAND DISTRIBUTION	O'ahu
PEST & DISEASE INFO	Thrips, Ants, Scale, Aphids, Mealy Bugs, Sooty Mold And Cerambycid Borer, Rapid 'Ohia Death
SOIL TYPES	Medium to Heavy clay soils. Prefers well draining soils.



'Ohia Lehua

M. polymorpha var. glaberrima

VEGETATION COMMUNITY	Forest
PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE	Seeds & Air Layering
READY FOR OUPlantING	1-2 years after propagation
ISLAND DISTRIBUTION	O'ahu, Maui, Kaua'i, Hawai'i Island, Moloka'i, Lana'i
PEST & DISEASE INFO	Thrips, Ants, Scale, Aphids, Mealy Bugs, Sooty Mold And Cerambycid Borer, Rapid 'Ohia Death
SOIL TYPES	Prefers well draining soils.



'Ohia, 'Ohia Lehua, Lehua

M. polymorpha var. incana

VEGETATION COMMUNITY	Forest
PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE	Seeds & Air Layering
READY FOR OUPlantING	1-2 years after propagation
TOLERANCES	Drought Tolerant
ISLAND DISTRIBUTION	O'ahu, Maui, Hawai'i Island, Moloka'i, Lana'i
PEST & DISEASE INFO	Thrips, Ants, Scale, Aphids, Mealy Bugs, Sooty Mold And Cerambycid Borer, Rapid 'Ohia Death
SOIL TYPES	Medium to Heavy clay soils. Prefers well draining soils.



'Ohia, 'Ohia Lehua, Lehua

M. polymorpha var. macrophylla

VEGETATION COMMUNITY	Forest
PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE	Seeds & Air Layering
READY FOR OUPlantING	1-2 years after propagation
TOLERANCES	Drought Tolerant
ISLAND DISTRIBUTION	Hawai'i Island
PEST & DISEASE INFO	Thrips, Ants, Scale, Aphids, Mealy Bugs, Sooty Mold And Cerambycid Borer, Rapid 'Ohia Death
SOIL TYPES	Medium to Heavy clay soils. Prefers well draining soils.



'Ohia Lehua

M. polymorpha var. newelli

VEGETATION COMMUNITY	Forest
PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE	Seeds & Air Layering
READY FOR OUPlantING	1-2 years after propagation
TOLERANCES	Drought Tolerant
ISLAND DISTRIBUTION	Hawai'i Island
PEST & DISEASE INFO	Thrips, Ants, Scale, Aphids, Mealy Bugs, Sooty Mold And Cerambycid Borer, Rapid 'Ohia Death
SOIL TYPES	Medium to Heavy clay soils. Prefers well draining soils.



'Ohia, 'Ohia Lehua, Lehua

M. polymorpha var. pumila

VEGETATION COMMUNITY	Forest
PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE	Seeds & Air Layering
READY FOR OUPlantING	1-2 years after propagation
TOLERANCES	
ISLAND DISTRIBUTION	Hawai'i Island, O'ahu
PEST & DISEASE INFO	Thrips, Ants, Scale, Aphids, Mealy Bugs, Sooty Mold And Cerambycid Borer, Rapid 'Ohia Death
SOIL TYPES	Medium to Heavy clay soils. Prefers well draining soils.



'Ohia, 'Ohia Lehua, Lehua

M. polymorpha var. pseudarugosa

VEGETATION COMMUNITY	Forest
PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE	Seeds & Air Layering
READY FOR OUPlantING	1-2 years after propagation
TOLERANCES	
ISLAND DISTRIBUTION	Maui
PEST & DISEASE INFO	Thrips, Ants, Scale, Aphids, Mealy Bugs, Sooty Mold And Cerambycid Borer, Rapid 'Ohia Death
SOIL TYPES	Medium to Heavy clay soils. Prefers well draining soils.



'Ohia, 'Ohia Lehua, Lehua

M. polymorpha var. dieteri

VEGETATION COMMUNITY	Forest
PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE	Seeds & Air Layering
READY FOR OUPlantING	1-2 years after propagation
TOLERANCES	Drought Tolerant
ISLAND DISTRIBUTION	Kaua'i
PEST & DISEASE INFO	Thrips, Ants, Scale, Aphids, Mealy Bugs, Sooty Mold And Cerambycid Borer
SOIL TYPES	Prefers well draining soils.



Nioi

Eugenia reinwardiana

VEGETATION COMMUNITY	Forest
PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE	Seeds, Cuttings
READY FOR OUPlantING	1 year
TOLERANCES	
ISLAND DISTRIBUTION	O'ahu, Maui, Kaua'i, Moloka'i
PEST & DISEASE INFO	
SOIL TYPES	Well draining cinder soil



'Ohia ha, Kauokahiki, Pa'ihii

Syzygium sandwicensis

VEGETATION COMMUNITY	Forest
PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE	Seeds & Air Layering
READY FOR OUPlantING	1-2 years after propagation
TOLERANCES	Drought Tolerant
ISLAND DISTRIBUTION	O'ahu, Maui, Kaua'i, Moloka'i, Lana'i
PEST & DISEASE INFO	Ants & Chinese Rose Beetles, Myrtle Rust
SOIL TYPES	Medium to Heavy clay soils. Prefers well draining soils.



'Ohia, 'Ohia Lehua, Lehua

M. waialealae var. fauriei

VEGETATION COMMUNITY	Forest
PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE	Seeds & Air Layering
READY FOR OUPlantING	1-2 years after propagation
TOLERANCES	
ISLAND DISTRIBUTION	Oahu, Molokai
PEST & DISEASE INFO	Thrips, Ants, Scale, Aphids, Mealy Bugs, Sooty Mold And Cerambycid Borer, Rapid 'Ohia Death
SOIL TYPES	Medium to Heavy clay soils. Prefers well draining soils.



'Ohia, 'Ohia Lehua, Lehua

M. polymorpha var. polymorpha

VEGETATION COMMUNITY	Forest
PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE	Seeds & Air Layering
READY FOR OUPlantING	1-2 years after propagation
TOLERANCES	
ISLAND DISTRIBUTION	O'ahu, Maui, Hawai'i Island, Moloka'i, Lana'i
PEST & DISEASE INFO	Thrips, Ants, Scale, Aphids, Mealy Bugs, Sooty Mold And Cerambycid Borer, Rapid 'Ohia Death
SOIL TYPES	Medium to Heavy clay soils. Prefers well draining soils.



References:
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Thank you
 Big Mahalo to Elizabeth Hugoman, Matthew Keir, David Eickhoff, Sharon Hurd, J.B. Friday, Joel Lau, Forest & Kim Starr, Hank Oppenheimer, Adam Williams, Jacob Hau'oli Lorenz, Erico, my wife Cheryl Duce and Henry Iha & McDonald's crew.



Funding provided by the State of Hawaii Department of Agriculture