



## E kūpaku ka 'āina

Job Title: Kāko'o Mahi'āina - Farm Assistant

Location: Waiehu, Maui

Compensation: \$20 -\$25/hour dependent on experience, plus benefits.

This position is an opportunity for someone interested in traditional Hawaiian food crops and production methods as part of a project focused on the recovery of Hawaiian kalo and 'uala varieties, the application of appropriate modern and Hawaiian agricultural practices, including lunar planting systems and kilo. This is an opportunity to engage with, learn from, and work in service to 'āina, contribute to local food security and small farm cultivar diversity. This position is based in Waiehu on the island of Maui.

The Kāko'o Mahi'āina - Farm Assistant is a half-time position (20hrs/wk) continual for one year, contingent upon satisfactory performance, with the possibility of renewal. Work schedule can be flexible dependent on what activities may need to be completed at the farm in any given week, the weather and daylight hours, or other factors. Candidates must have a valid driver's license and should have access to an insured vehicle.

The successful candidate will be employed by EKKA through Altres and supervised by EKKA's Project Coordinator. This position is supported by a grant.

Position supervisor: Penny Levin

Interested applicants should send a resume and contact information, along with contact information for two references, at least one from a previous job, to:

Penny Levin [pennysfh@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:pennysfh@hawaii.rr.com)

**Closing date:** Open until filled.

### Duties and Responsibilities:

- Assist with daily maintenance of the fields that support and multiply our kalo and 'uala diversity collections
- Maintenance activities including weeding; irrigation system checks, schedules and reconfiguration; assisting with planting, cultivation, harvest and huli prep; keeping fence lines, tools and other equipment clean and well organized, and other duties as needed
- Assist with on-farm composting and mulching, biochar and soil amendment applications, rotational/succession plantings
- Operate light farm equipment such as weed whackers and use hand tools efficiently, effectively and safely
- Ensure proper care, storage, and maintenance of field equipment and supplies
- Pick up supplies from local vendors, including Dell's, Simplot, ISI, Ace and others

- Participate in preparing EKKA fields for site visits by schools, community groups, and other visitors
- Support and participate in on-farm educational programs and volunteer days, as needed.
- Engage in daily kilo to anticipate weather changes and deepen understanding of the natural cycles and indicators present at the farm
- Coordinate weekly work schedules and activities with Project Supervisor
- Assist in the distribution of kalo and planting material

**Minimum Qualifications (MQs):**

- Must be at least 18 years of age and a high school graduate with a minimum of 2 years of experience in agriculture or similar field in Hawai'i; or in possession of a GED with equivalent experience in agriculture or similar field in Hawai'i
- Must be legally authorized to work in the United States
- Must have a valid driver's license and access to an insured vehicle
- Able to lift and carry up to 50 pounds
- Able to work in hot sun and rainy conditions
- Able to implement tasks in a timely and efficient manner
- Excellent verbal communication skills
- Excellent work ethic

**Desirable Qualifications (DQs):**

- Knowledge of Hawaiian kalo and 'uala in general
- Understanding of indigenous agricultural systems and practices; experience working in lo'i and/or māla'ai systems
- Ability to speak and understand Hawaiian
- Experience working with Native Hawaiian communities
- Familiarity with traditional Hawaiian food crop varieties