Executive Summary

Agriculture and Natural Resource (ANR) Issues in the State of Hawaii: Perceptions of ANR Professionals-Part 1

February 2015

Introduction
Each geographical location has a combination of environmental and social factors that influence the issues surrounding agricultural and natural resources (ANR). The findings in this report are part of a larger study. Twenty-five ANR professionals in Hawai‘i participated in a modified Delphi study to identify top issues facing ANR industries. It is important to note that these issues were identified and agreed upon by these 25 individuals; other issues play a role in the ANR industries in Hawai‘i and, situation dependent, may be more influential than those found in this study.

Key Findings
• Five issues were found to be issues for the ANR industries in Hawai‘i:
  1. Water issues, public understanding of ANR
  2. ANR technologies
  3. Land issues
  4. ANR input costs

• Water issues, such as costs, availability, protection, and general management, received 91% agreement.

• Public understanding of agriculture and natural resources and the associated processes and implements received 91% agreement.

• Participants had 86% agreement with technology as an issue for ANR in Hawai‘i. This includes biotechnology, new technologies, and innovative products.

• 82% of participants agreed that issues surrounding land (e.g., availability, development, tenure, costs, planning, etc.) are pressing.

• 82% of participants agreed that the general costs of ANR inputs, such as supplies, transportation, machinery, etc., are an issue for ANR in Hawai‘i.