



Hawaii Board of Agriculture & Biosecurity
Plant Quarantine Branch Conference Room
1849 Auiki Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96819

RE: 26 May Board of Agriculture & Biosecurity Meeting Agenda Item VI-1, Interim Rule 26-1

Aloha, Members of the Board. As you know, the Big Island Invasive Species Committee (a project of the University of Hawaii Pacific Cooperative Studies Unit) has offered to provide the required trainings for the above referenced DAB interim rule for compliance within the CRB-affected zone in Kona on the Big Island. At the request of the petitioners, I have compiled a report on the status so far.

Trainings: As of Friday, May 22, BIISC has **offered 26 compliance training opportunities and trained 164 individuals from 19 entities**. A handful of these were provided on-site for specific groups, but the majority were open to any interested parties to sign up.

- Participating entities receive a booklet that includes the rule and compliance agreement, along with slides and useful materials from the training, such as an inspection log sheet that can be used to keep track of inspections of palms and plants.
- Participants are offered a “ring” of laminated quick-guide cards that describe larvae, palm damage, and reporting and management processes:

<https://www.biisc.org/wp-content/uploads/CRB-ID-Cards.pdf>

Promotion:

- We have created an informational page about the rule requirements with an online request form to request training:
<https://www.biisc.org/crb-compliance-trainings/>
- BIISC created & shared a social media post to our Instagram & Facebook feed as well as the feed of key area FB groups. We paid for 7 days of promotion on FB for the Kona area.
- We sent 2 emails with the training opportunities to the group of Keahole and Keahole-adjacent producers who had attended a February meeting with the petitioners to provide feedback on the proposed rule
- We created a flyer that was distributed at the trainings to participants, and asked them to share with their colleagues and others.

All businesses must be in compliance by May 1st!

**Attention Landscapers,
Arborists, Nurserymen, &
Green Industry Professionals**

Businesses that move CRB host material are now required to enter into a formal compliance agreement with the Department of Agriculture & Biosecurity.

Sign up to complete your mandatory training!

Department of Agriculture & Biosecurity
STATE OF HAWAII

BIISC
BIG ISLAND INVASIVE SPECIES COMMITTEE

CRB
CROSS-BORDER
MATERIALS
REGULATION

In Process:

- We will be offering an online webinar and resources for those that cannot attend in person.
- We have begun building the website with the compliant businesses and are regularly adding more: <https://www.biisc.org/crb-compliant-businesses/>

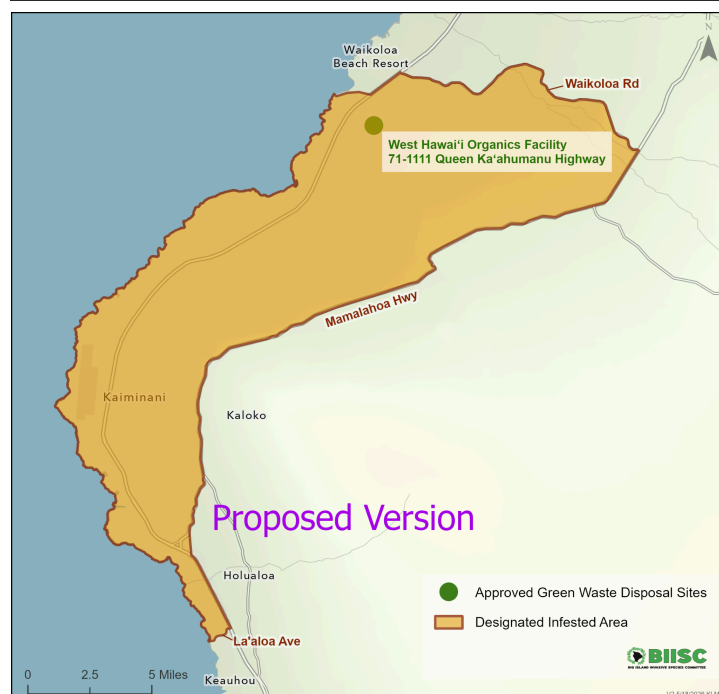
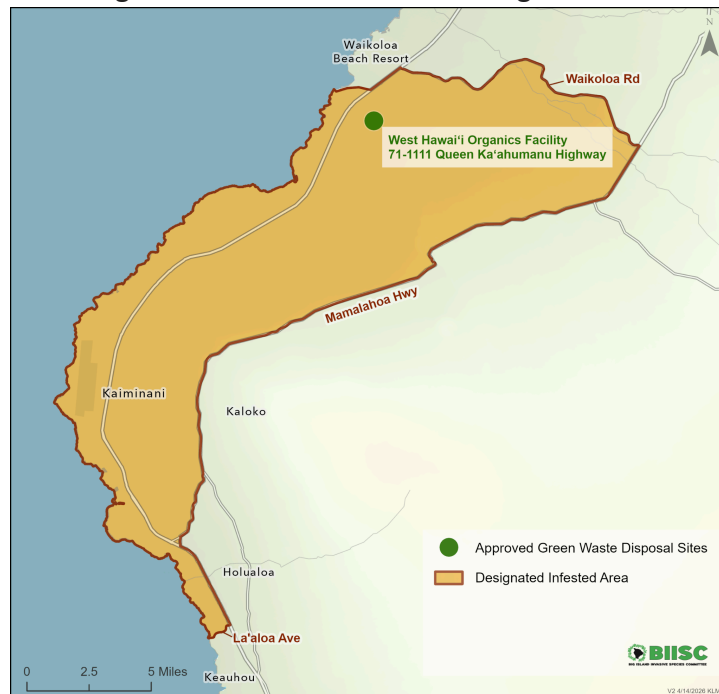
Positive Outcomes:

- One nursery decided to do a mulch survey the day after their training, and immediately found a breeding site for CRB - 67 grubs have been recovered so far, additional follow-up survey w/ dog has been scheduled.

Challenges/Questions/Requests:

1. We heard from several businesses that they will not participate in the compliance efforts unless they see that the “big box” stores are being held to the rule and required to comply. We alerted PQ leadership in Feb, March, and April that in prior interactions, we have found that these stores do not respond to inquiries or requests from our staff and will only deal with the state agency, so DAB would need to communicate directly with them about the rule. On May 11 a PQ staffer from Kona contacted the Oahu CRB team to offer assistance with a visit to Home Depot, and BIISC staff accompanied them on May 13th to the store and they were generally well-received. However the store stated they will need some time to become compliant (the rule requires that the large outdoor displays of mulch and soil must be in containment from dusk to dawn). They will also need some time to schedule all of the relevant staff for training. This communication really should have taken place much earlier, and while the Kona-based PQ staff member was very positive and engaged, she was unaware of the existence of the compliance rule until May.
Suggestion/request: delegating some of the work and responsibility for enforcing the rule to Kona-based PQ staff and including them in regular CRB Response communications and meetings w/ BIISC team, to ensure that timely actions can take place.
2. BIISC has been sharing the list of trained businesses with PQ and pre-filling the compliance agreements as requested by PQ, but as of yet none of our trainees has received their official agreement. Request: Can we get a timeline for approximately when the agreements will be issued after being received by DAB, so we can share that with the participants?
3. Some of the trainees are asking about the part of the rule/agreements that state that DAB will be inspecting locations every 6 months. Request: Clarification on the plan/process for DAB’s inspections that we can share with participants.

4. One particular store is in a shopping center located on the mauka side of the road which is on the map as the “dividing line”. This has created a situation where stores in the shopping center on the makai/north side of the road are included in the rule, but the mauka/southern side of the same road are not (the area in question is toward the lower end of the area, right where it narrows). Request: The map needs to be updated to make it clear that both sides of the road are included in the rule. We propose that this be added to the next Board meeting as an item for decision making.



Mahalo to the County of Hawaii, Research & Development Department and Department of Environmental Management for providing the funding that has allowed BIISC to create these resources and offer the trainings.

Mahalo to the County of Hawaii and Terraformation for providing venues to us at no cost for trainings, and to CTAHR's CRB team for assisting with the development of the training.

Thank you for providing me with the opportunity to provide information on this matter. Please reach out with any questions.

Sincerely,



Franny Brewer
BIISC Manager
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First cohort of trainees! West Hawaii Civic Center, April 2026