

## Keynote Speaker Yan Diczbalis

Yan Diczbalis, B. Agr. Sc., M. Agr. Sc., Regional Industries Development Officer for the Centre for Wet Tropics Agriculture, South Johnstone, Queensland, Australia, will be the keynote speaker for the Hawaii Tropical Fruit Growers' 17<sup>th</sup> Annual International Tropical Fruit Conference.



Yan started his career as a grain crops agronomist. In 1990, he eagerly accepted an offer to join the Horticulture Group in Darwin in the Northern Territory to work on water requirements and irrigation management. During his 13 years with the NT DPIF, eight of which he was Senior Horticulturist, Irrigation Research and Management, he gained considerable experience on water requirements and irrigation management of a number of tropical crops including rock melons, mango, rambutan, mangosteen, and durian.

Yan joined the Queensland Department of Primary Industry in early 1999 as Senior Research Scientist, Tropical Exotic Fruits, based at South Johnstone, a small village approximately 60 miles south of Cairns. During this time, his research and industry development programs included: Unlocking Lychee Research; floral manipulation and canopy management in rambutan and longan; nutrition and phenology survey of durian and mangosteen orchards in North Queensland; and enhancing fruit yield and quality of rambutan and longan by optimizing irrigation and nutrition systems

Recently, Yan took on the challenge of Regional Industry Development Officer, a position which involves close interaction with horticulture and agriculture industry leaders in the development of existing and new industries. A major part of his role is assisting in the commercialization of an emerging N. Queensland cocoa industry.

Yan noted that none of the above activities and achievements would have been possible or enjoyable without the support of his family.

## Conference Hotel Information

The Hilo Hawaiian Hotel is offering conference participants a discounted rate of \$85/night for standard rooms and \$99/night for deluxe ocean view rooms. The number of rooms is limited and arrangements must be made directly with the hotel by August 28, 2007. Please use the enclosed hotel request form and send it to the Hilo Hawaiian Hotel at 71 Banyan Drive, Hilo, Hawaii 96720. The Hilo Hawaiian's telephone number is 808-935-9361 and the fax number is 808-969-6472.

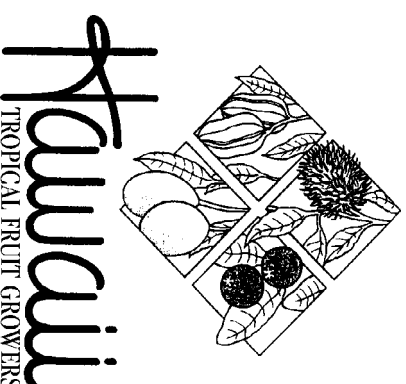
*The 17<sup>th</sup> Annual International Tropical Fruit Conference is dedicated to the memory of William Whitman, long-time HTFG supporter, and Richard Hamilton whose research and development greatly contributed to the tropical fruit industry in Hawaii*

### Directions to 'Imilioa Astronomy Center:

From Banyan Drive and the Hilo Airport, take Kaneohehua Ave. southbound toward Volcano, go past the Prince Kuhio Plaza on your left. Make a right onto Puainako St. and proceed for one and a half miles. Turn right onto Komohana St. Proceed about ¼ of a mile on Komohana and turn right onto Nowelo St. Take the second left onto 'Imilioa Pl.

***This conference is presented by Hawaii Tropical Fruit Growers and made possible by a grant from the Hawaii County Department of Research and Development. HTFG thanks the county for its continued support of this organization and of agriculture in the State of Hawaii.***

# 17<sup>th</sup> Annual International Tropical Fruit Conference



***"The Times They Are  
A-Changing"***  
September 28 - 30, 2007

'Imilioa Astronomy Center  
600 'Imilioa Place  
Hilo, Hawaii

## Friday Night Program September 28, 2007

- 5:00 p.m. REGISTRATION OPENS
- 5:30 p.m. RECEPTION  
Heavy pupus & no host bar
- 6:30 p.m. **Welcome & HTFG Update**  
Richard Johnson, HTFG President
- 7:00 p.m. **An Overview of Tropical Fruit Production in Australia**  
Yan Diczbails, Keynote Speaker

## Saturday Conference Program September 29, 2007

- 7:30 a.m. REGISTRATION OPENS
- 8:00 a.m. **Welcome**  
The Honorable Harry Kim  
Mayor, County of Hawaii

- 8:15 a.m. **Membership Meeting**  
Richard Johnson, HTFG President
- 8:30 a.m. **Post-Harvest Technologies for Lychee, Rambutan, and Longan**  
Yan Diczbails, Keynote Speaker
- 9:30 a.m. **UH & USDA Research Updates: Mixed Fruit Boxes for Export and Little Fire Ant Control**  
Peter Follett, Ph.D.  
Research Entomologist  
USDA-ARS PBARC

- 10:00 a.m. **Rambutan Disease Update**  
Lisa Keith, Ph.D.  
Research Plant Pathologist  
USDA-ARS PBARC  
BREAK

- 10:15 a.m. **UH & USDA Research Updates: Management of Flowering and Fruiting of Kaimana Lychee in Hawaii**  
Trace Matsumoto, Ph.D.  
Research Horticulturist  
USDA-ARS PBARC

**Pattern of Nutrient Levels in Kaimana Lychee Leaves and Fruits**  
Mike Nagao, Ph.D.  
Horticulturist  
UH CTahr

**Post Harvest Practices for Longan and Rambutan**  
Marisa Wail, Ph.D.  
Research Food Technologist  
USDA-ARS PBARC

11:00 a.m. **Virtues of Foliar Application of Nutrients to Tropical Fruits**  
Kenneth Gemmill  
Nutrient Technologies

11:30 a.m. **It Was Nice While It Lasted: Strategies for Finding Funding to Support Tropical Fruit Growers**  
Douglas L. Vincent  
Special Director for Grants & Contracts  
UH Manoa CTahr

12:00 n. LUNCH

1:00 p.m. **Facilitating the Interstate Movement of Hawaiian Tropical Fruits**  
David B. Lamb  
Import Specialist, Mexico, Canada, Hawaii, & US Territories  
USDA, APHIS, PPQ Permits & Imports  
Commodity Import Analysis and Operations (CIAO)

1:30 p.m. **Field Production Research and Technologies for Lychee, Rambutan, and Longan**  
Yan Diczbails, Keynote Speaker

2:30 p.m. **Marketing Tropical Fruits**  
Tom Tjerandsen,  
Managing Director  
Chilean Fresh Fruit Association

3:15 p.m. **Fruit Tasting & Wrap Up**

**Dinner & Auction**

6:00 p.m. No Host Bar

7:00 p.m. Dinner and Live Auction

## Sunday Conference Program September 30, 2007

Join HTFG on a field trip to Peter Kincaid's Anuenue Farms in Kurtistown, a tour of Eric Wehnert's Hawaii Pride irradiation facility, and Bob and Susi Hamilton's Plant It Hawaii/Hula Brothers packing facility in Keaau. Workshops will be presented RAIN or SHINE, so be prepared!

8:30 a.m. Vans leave the Hilo Hawaiian Hotel

9:00 a.m. **Work Smarter, Not Harder: Mechanizing Your Orchard for Greater Productivity**

Anuenue Farms (producers of longan, lychee, & rambutan)

10:30 a.m. **Tour of Irradiation Facility**  
Hawaii Pride

12 n. LUNCH  
Plant It Hawaii/Hula Brothers

1:00 p.m. **Work Smarter, Not Harder (continued)**  
**Tour of packing facility and demonstrations** – sprayers, mowers, automated irrigation, and more  
Plant It Hawaii/Hula Brothers

2:00 p.m. Return to Hotel

**Hawaii Tropical Fruit Growers**  
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**Hilo, HI 96721-1582**  
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**[www.hawaiiitropicalfruitgrowers.org](http://www.hawaiiitropicalfruitgrowers.org)**

Information on the conference, including registration, hotel reservation, and membership forms will also be available on the HTFG website. If you are not a HTFG member and would like to qualify for "member prices," please send your membership form and payment with your conference registration.

**Registration receipt deadline is Sept. 20.**