



Agribusiness

Development Corporation

*Working for a Strong
Agricultural Future*

Who We Are

An Overview of the Agribusiness Development Corporation

The Hawai'i State Legislature established the Agribusiness Development Corporation (ADC) in 1994. Our main role is to facilitate Hawai'i's transition from a dual-crop economy to a diversified multi-crop economy, ensuring a strong agricultural future for our state and its people. We work to provide leadership for the development, financing, improvement and enhancement of agricultural enterprises.

ADC is administratively attached to Hawai'i's State Department of Agriculture and has its own 11-member board of directors, eight of whom are appointed by the Governor. ADC staff are state employees, but do not hold civil servant status.

*Nobili Pump Station in
Kekaha, Kaua'i*



*Anturium farming on
the island of Hawai'i*

What We Do

ADC's Role in Hawai'i's Agricultural Landscape

ADC works for the continuation, expansion and improvement of agriculture in Hawai'i. Our responsibilities include facilitating Hawai'i's transition from sugar and pineapple plantations to diversified crops, managing agricultural lands and maintaining infrastructure. Our goal is to serve all communities across the state.

To allow greater flexibility to manage our programs, we are exempt from certain state laws such as Chapter 171, which relates to land use. Our unique position allows us to coordinate federal, state and private resources to maximize agribusiness opportunities for our islands, resulting in improved economic, environmental and social benefits for Hawai'i's people.

Specifically, we are empowered to acquire, alter and release properties, infrastructures, accessory facilities, and water facilities used for conveying, distributing and transmitting water for irrigation and agricultural uses. We also carry out specialized programs designed to develop new markets for Hawai'i's agricultural products and provide technical advice and assistance through contracted experts.

*Preparing for
routine check of
water transmission
tunnel*



*Workers harvest cabbage
in Kunia, O'ahu*



*Waiabole Ditch in
Kunia, O'ahu*



What We Envision

ADC Maximizes Its Unique Position for a Strong Agricultural Future

Land Management

To leverage our exemptions and management expertise on state lands to benefit agribusiness.

Water System Management

To leverage our exemptions and expertise on water system management to support the success of agriculture.

Hydroelectricity

To leverage our exemptions and expertise on management of hydroelectric plants to further explore and develop this source of alternative energy on existing irrigation systems.

Processing Facilities

To support the use of existing and the development of new processing facilities to assist various industry groups.

Commodity Development

To support the development of new agricultural commodities that have the potential to compete nationally and internationally.

New Farmers

To work in conjunction with University of Hawai'i's College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources on incubation programs to support and develop new farmers.

Marigold seed flowers growing in Kekaha, Kaua'i



Water is diverted from the main transmission tunnel and released into Waiabole Stream, O'ahu



Ripening tomatoes ready for packing

Our Mission

To create and maximize the agricultural assets of our state for the economic, environmental and social benefit of Hawai'i's people.

Why We Do It

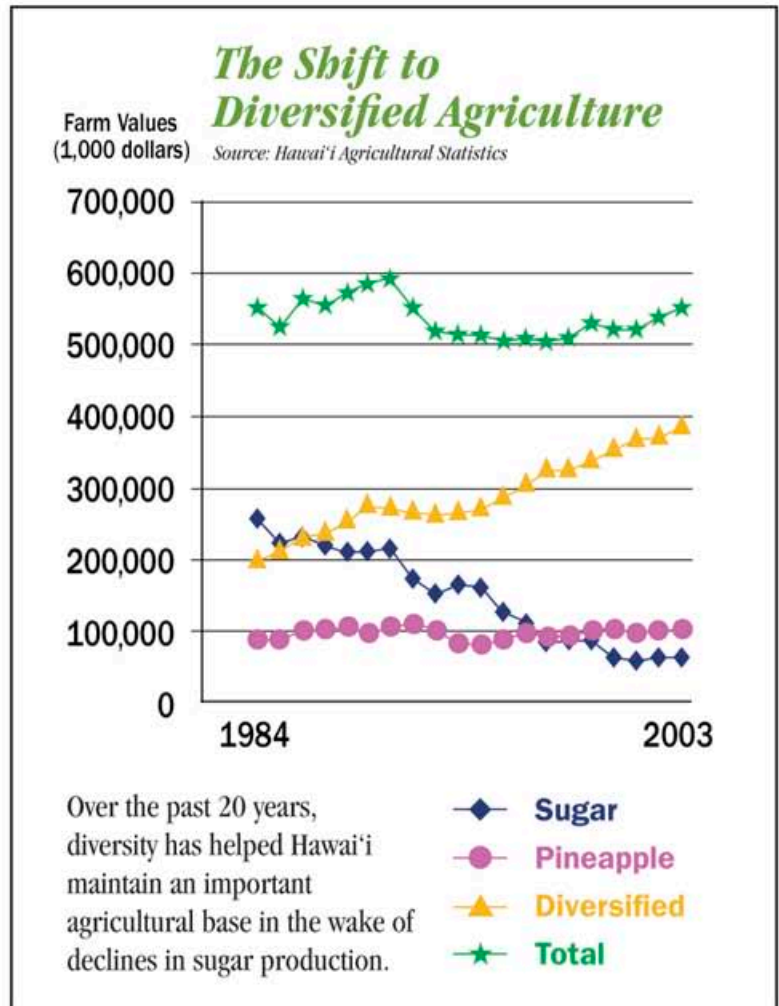
How Diversified Agriculture Benefits Hawai'i's People

More jobs for farmers. Hawai'i's climate allows a variety of enterprises to thrive, providing employment opportunities for farmers and other agricultural workers.

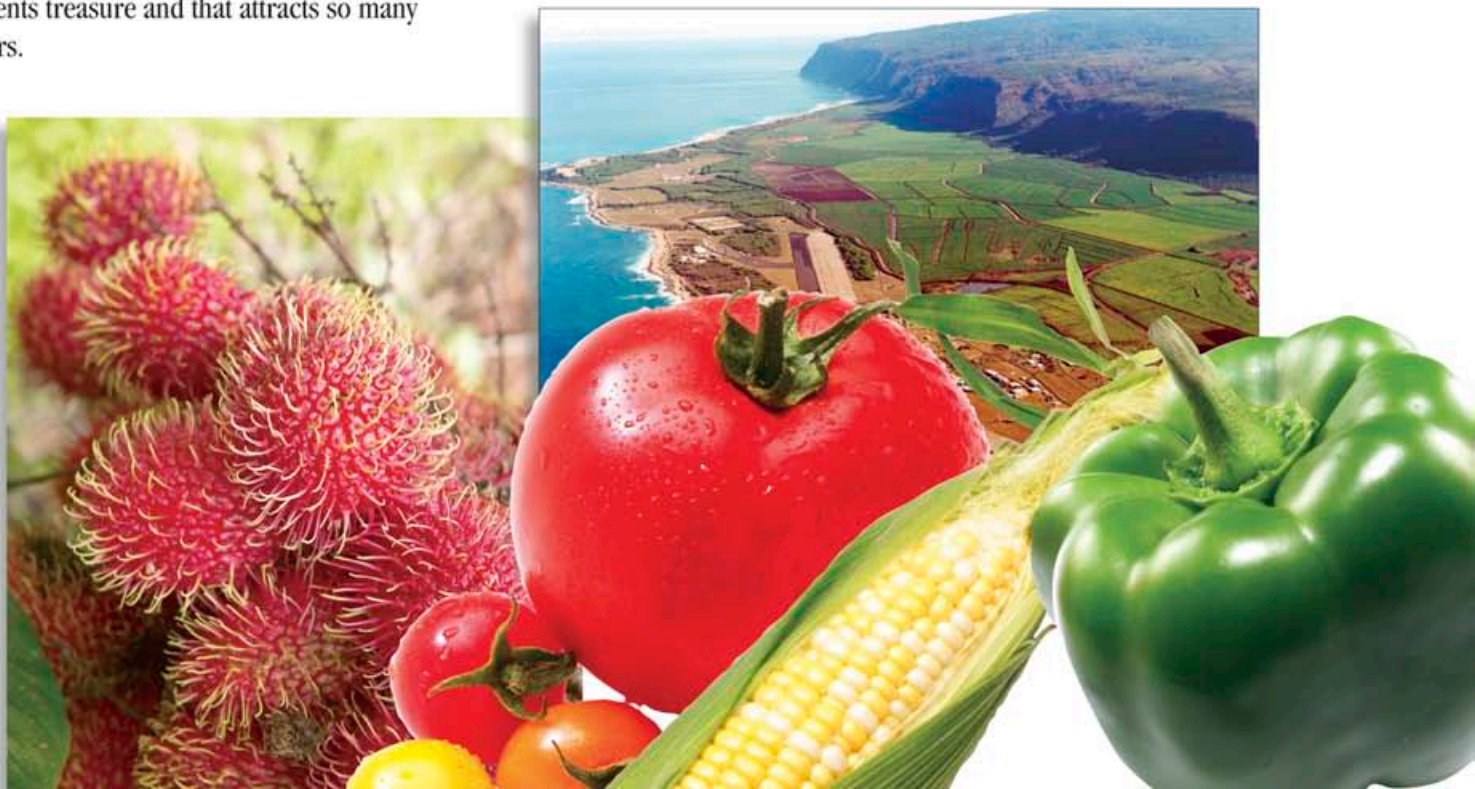
A stronger economy. Even with the dramatic slowing of Hawai'i's sugar industry in the last 20 years, total farm revenues from 1993 to 2003 rose 7.7 percent to \$553 million due to the strength of diversified agriculture. A strong agricultural industry leads to a stronger economy, which means more jobs and a better standard of living for everyone.

Fresh, island-grown foods. The variety of locally grown food is more diverse than ever before. Island tomatoes, bell peppers, watermelon, eggplant, cabbage, coffee, onions, macadamia nuts, asparagus, lychee, rambutan, ginger root, herbs, gourmet greens, banana, papaya and more are increasingly in demand in markets and restaurants as Hawai'i's people ask for fresh island produce.

A more beautiful landscape. Maintaining diversified agriculture on Hawai'i's lands helps to preserve the lush, green environment that residents treasure and that attracts so many visitors.



Agricultural land adjacent to Pacific Missile Range Facility in Kekaha, Kaua'i



What We Are Working On

Several of ADC's Projects Around the State

Hawai'i

The Tea Project

ADC is partnering with University of Hawai'i at Manoa's College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources to create a tea industry in Hawai'i. Together we will establish a demonstration tea farm and pilot processing facility in Kamuela.

Kaua'i

Kekaha Agricultural Lands

In 2003, 12,500 acres of agricultural lands in the former sugar plantation area of Kekaha were transferred by executive order to ADC for management. The lands include two irrigation ditches, two hydroelectric plants, a power distribution system and a complex drainage system. ADC, the Kekaha Agriculture Association, and the Pacific Missile Range Facility have been working together on long-term use and maintenance of common areas and infrastructure.

Kaua'i Tropical Fruit Disinfestation Facility

The Kaua'i Tropical Fruit Disinfestation Facility, located in Lihue, is capable of treating papaya for export to the U.S. mainland and international markets. ADC is in the process of negotiating a lease for the facility with the University of Hawai'i in order to ensure long-term viability of the papaya industry on Kaua'i.

East Kaua'i Irrigation System

ADC has been partnering with the East Kaua'i Water Users' Cooperative since 2002 to undertake extensive repairs and restoration work to the East Kauai Irrigation System. The system is critical for the survival of agricultural crops and the preservation of prime agricultural land in the Kapa'a area. The restoration has also benefited the renowned Fern Grotto, which has experienced a regrowth of ferns and other flora.

O'ahu

The Waiahole Water System

The Waiahole Water System, developed in 1916, transports non-potable water via gravity flow from the rainy Windward side of the island to irrigate drier Central and Leeward lands. Approximately 85 percent of the water serves crops. The system is 26.4 miles long and includes tunnels, open ditches and siphons, all managed and maintained by ADC.

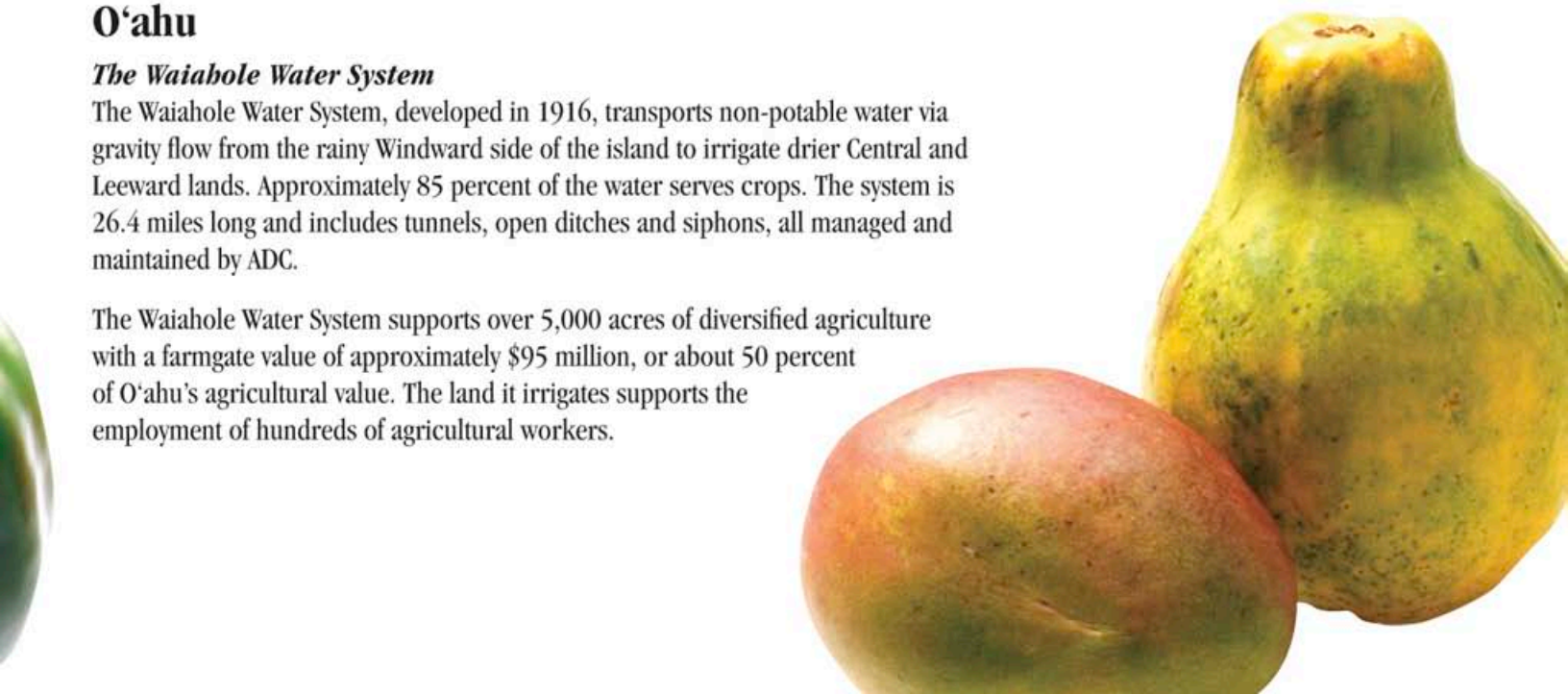
The Waiahole Water System supports over 5,000 acres of diversified agriculture with a farmgate value of approximately \$95 million, or about 50 percent of O'ahu's agricultural value. The land it irrigates supports the employment of hundreds of agricultural workers.



Experimental tea plants on the Big Island



Hanamaulu Ditch in East Kaua'i





We welcome your questions and comments.

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