



**GoFARM**  
HAWAII  
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

# New GoFarm Hawai'i Site on Maui - FAQ

After over 7 years, we are expanding the GoFarm Hawai'i program on Maui and will finally be offering incubation to future graduates.

We will be breaking ground on Mahi Pono land in March and will be offering educational opportunities and volunteer days over the next several months. We hope to start our first cohort on the new site in the Fall.

We'd like to mahalo Maui County Office of Economic Development, UHMC & the College of Tropical Agriculture for their continued support on Maui and its future farmers and current farming community.

As we head into this transition, we've put together a FAQ to keep everyone up to date with what's happening and how things are lining up.

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## What is GoFarm Hawai'i?

GoFarm Hawai'i is a University of Hawai'i College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (UH CTAHR) extension program. The program has been providing business technical assistance since 2003 and beginning farmer training since 2012.

GoFarm Hawai'i has beginning farmer training sites on O'ahu, Kaua'i, Maui, and Hawai'i Island. Our mission is to enhance Hawai'i's food security and economy by increasing the number of sustainable, local agricultural producers by providing experiential commercial farm and business training.

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## Where and how long has GoFarm Hawai'i been on Maui?

GoFarm Hawai'i has been offering beginning farmer training at the UH Maui College campus since 2015. However, due to space constraints at the UHMC site, a graduate incubation option was not feasible.

## What is the size of land GoFarm Hawai'i will be using for the GoFarmer Training & Incubation Program?

Where is the parcel located?

- 15 acres on Mehamaha Loop, Pu'unene
- Will initially utilize 5 acres for our student training site, and plan to use the additional 10 acres for incubation in future.

## **What does GoFarm Hawai'i Incubation mean and how do I know if I'm eligible?**

Our AgIncubator training phase is open to graduates of our AgXcel program. Students who successfully progress through the initial program phases (AgCurious-AgXposure-AgXcel) are eligible to apply to AgIncubator. Selection for AgIncubator is based on capacity, performance in AgXcel, and a production and business plan.

## **What kind of activity will be happening on the land while GoFarm Hawai'i is waiting to start the next Cohort?**

The new farm site is in a dry and windy area, we will be preparing by installing irrigation, cover crops, and windbreaks using native plants such as a'ali'i, kukui and milo.

We are planning to have an opening / blessing in summer 2023.

## **What is Mahi Pono's involvement in this partnership?**

Mahi Pono is leasing land to GoFarm Hawai'i, and supporting initial land preparation to get the site ready for the GoFarm Hawai'i training program to start.

## **What kind of farming practices will GoFarm be teaching at this site?**

We teach regenerative agricultural practices that build soil health and agricultural ecosystems. We utilize chemicals that are OMRI-approved for use on certified organic farms.

## **If I am a GoFarm Hawai'i alumni from a past cohort or another island, can I apply for Incubation?**

We require students to complete AgXcel at the site where they will enter AgIncubator, in part to gain familiarity with that particular site and its requirements. Previous Maui GoFarm Hawai'i alumni are eligible for a discount on AgXcel tuition.

## **How can I sign up for the GoFarm Hawai'i program?**

You can read more about how our training program works [here](#) along with [additional FAQ's](#) about the GoFarm Hawai'i program.

Sign up to receive notifications about future training and recruitment by joining our mailing list [here](#).