



2007 National Plant Board Annual Meeting
Additional Information
Honolulu, Hawaii

Aloha. I am adding additional information on to Lyle's original information page, which I have gathered in the last week. I hope you find it helpful. Carol Russell

HOTEL:

- Parking (self-park) \$20.00/day
- Towels for beach and pool: Check out towels at pool. Can take these towels to the beach. Need your room key. Can leave towels in your room. Do not have to return to pool area.
- Exercise Room – treadmills, Nautilus equipment, etc.
- Salon / Spa located in hotel
- Taxi \$35 one way from airport to hotel
- Rooms have lanai's (balconies) – partial ocean view or city view
- **New!** Rooms are conserving energy and have **chill boxes** to keep something cool. They are not refrigerators for preserving food; however, some of the rooms still have refrigerators, but not all.
- Internet service: Wireless is provided at \$12.99 per 24 hours. Or wired DSL is available in your room and charged to your room bill.
- Business Office with FedEx supplies and ability to ship, computers, printers, copiers, etc. **Can even weigh your luggage.**
- **Boarding pass print FREE** by front desk in the lobby. To the left of the front desk in an alcove. Ask at the front desk.
- Smoking: The hotel is a non-smoking hotel, and one terrace is designated as smoking. As at the hotel. Otherwise you must leave the hotel to smoke. Smoking prohibited in your rooms, or at the pool.
- Beach: Waikiki Beach is right across the street.
- Honolulu newspapers provided, available at front desk
- 2 coffee shops – Seattle's Best Coffee: 1 in hotel, 1 located next door

SHUTTLE:

The hotel does not provide a shuttle. There are shuttles at the airport, and I have listed a few sites below. You can also take a taxi at \$35 one way. Please make a reservation:

<http://www.airportwaikikishuttle.com/schedule-pickup.php>

<http://www.robertshawaii.com/airport-shuttle/schedule-pickup.php>

<http://www.honoluluhawaiiairportshuttle.com/>

CAR RENTAL:

You may rent a car. Parking at the hotel is \$20/ day. You won't need a car rental in Waikiki. It's easy to walk everywhere, but if you want to see the island, or if traveling to other islands, I recommend renting a car. Hertz car rental is available at the hotel, if you decide you might want a car at the last minute.

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DRESS:

What's IN: As Lyle states below, casual and aloha attire which means a short sleeve shirt with a collar for men either a button up shirt or polo shirt style. Slacks as in khaki's, Dockers, or something similar including jeans. Shoes of choice, and suggest tennis shoes and slippers (flip flops, thongs, sandals). Bring some shorts. Shorts are acceptable and encouraged for the field trip with the same type of shirt, even for the luau. Women might like summer cotton clothing – sun dresses, capri's, pants, skirts, and shorts are acceptable for the field trip and the luau. Bathing suit. Umbrella?.....maybe.

What's OUT: Suits, ties, formal wear, hose, and heels.

Weather: Hot and humid. Will be nice on the beach. Hopefully tradewinds are blowing our way.

PACK SUNCREEN, hat, and sunglasses.

FEDERAL EMPLOYEES ONLY:

Per Diem: Lodging rate for federal employees is now \$177. It just went up, but will not cover your room rate of \$179. People putting in your 202 will need to put in A for Actual or C for Conference rate. M& IE is \$112 per day.

Meal Deductions: You will need to deduct meal costs from your M & IE rate.

8/20, Lunch only \$28.00

8/21, Lunch \$28.00, and Dinner \$45.00

8/22 Lunch \$28.00, and Dinner \$45.00

Incidentals: \$22.00

The agenda says Continental Breakfast, but this is not a full meal, no deductions for breakfast required. It is refreshments – pastries, and fruit. Coffee, and tea.

Hotel taxes and fees: will go under your miscellaneous column on your travel. Hawaii is not international nor foreign, EXCEPT, when you "call in" to FedTraveler to make a reservation. Then you must ask for the international desk.

Laundry is not an allowable expense.

Phone Calls per day are \$5.00 during official travel.

Comp Time for Travel begins in the time zone you left from.

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Field Trip: August 22, 2007 (Thursday), 2 Stops; Bus loading at hotel at 10:00am

11:30am – 3:00pm: Waimea Valley Audubon Center: <http://waimea.audubon.org/>
North Shore of O’ahu, Hawai’i. Beautiful valley that houses a world-class botanical collection which features 35 distinct gardens representing flora from different parts of the world and different groups of plants. Plants are identified for a self-guided tour. Follow the shaded paved path to a waterfall and pool complete with a lifeguard. Bring a bathing suit and jump in for a swim. Seating available, as well as changing rooms, and portable toilets.

Grounds are a habitat for native Hawaiian animals such as the Hawaiian goby (o’opu), our only native freshwater fish. You will also see the endangered Hawaiian moorhen (‘alae’ula), and several peacocks strolling the grounds.

When we arrive, the North Shore Grower’s association will provide an exhibit of special agricultural products grown, and manufactured from this region of the island for retail and export from Hawaii such as plants, flowers, oils, vegetables, fruits, beef, etc. From here, you are free to stroll around the grounds on your own as a self-guided tour to see all the plants, and take a walk to the waterfall. Go swimming if you like. (We will find out the conditions that morning). Then we will meet at 1:00pm at the pavilion on the grounds for a light lunch. Most of the food is made from the local products grown by this north shore grower’s association. Vegan Taro Burgers available for vegetarians, and very good. After lunch, about 3:00pm we will load up the buses and move on to the:

4:00pm – 9:00pm: Polynesian Cultural Center: <http://www.polynesia.com/islands.html>
Arriving around 4:00pm, you will have time to do “some” of the following, and this is your choice. There is no guided tour. You may go to any of the following, but you won’t have time to do them all:

- IMAX Theater and see the film “Coral Reef Adventure” – an inspiring documentary about the ocean’s most wondrous, fragile ecosystems on this planet.
- Take a tropical canoe boat tour in the lagoon: Palm trees line each shore of the Center’s lagoon as you pass by the Polynesian villages (weather permitting)
- Enjoy the Polynesian villages, and the 2 most popular and recommended are:
 - Island of Tonga
 - Island of Tonga

Meet at the Polynesian Cultural Ambassador Restaurant on the grounds at 5:00pm for the Luau. If you arrive around 5:15pm, that is okay. We have an area reserved for our group. You will be given a fresh flower lei, and shown to your table where they group will be sitting. The luau is buffet feast of Hawaiian foods, as well as prime rib, shrimp cocktail, fresh fruits, vegetables, desserts, and much more. During the luau you will be treated to an evening of traditional music, dance, and the ritual of removing a well-roasted pig from the fire-pit or “imu”.

At 7:00pm, we will move to the Pacific Theater, across from the restaurant, for the “Horizons” night show complete with over 100 performers, fire, waterfalls and a volcanic eruption. Dressed in authentic attire, the performers represent six island nations which share their cultures in time-honored tradition. Included is the popular fire dancers and fire walker. Show is from 7:30pm – 9:00pm. We will return to the hotel by 10:00pm.

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Things to know:

No flash photos at the night show at the Pacific Theater for the performance. No alcohol served on the grounds.

Bring mosquito repellent – especially to Waimea Falls.

Can wear tennis shoes and/ or sandals or slippers, even to the waterfall. Easy 20 minute walk. Same shoes are okay for the Polynesian Cultural Center.

Smoking in designated areas at Polynesian Cultural Center. Smoking outside of Waimea Valley Audubon.

This Polynesian Cultural Center is operated by students from more than 60 countries who attend neighboring Brigham Young University – Hawai'i

Field Trips for Spouse/ Companions/ Children during the meeting day:

Available through the concierge desk at the hotel: See attached document titl

**O'ahu Tours
Available at: Concierge
Waikiki Beach Marriott Hotel**

Attachment in e-mail: Oahu Tours.doc

National Plant Board Meeting 2007 Additional Information

Previous information from Lyle:

Aloha! The Hawaii Department of Agriculture, Plant Industry Division, is honored to host the 81st Annual Meeting of the National Plant Board in Honolulu, Hawaii. The meeting will run from Sunday, August 19th, through Thursday, August 23rd, and will be held at the Waikiki Beach Marriott Spa and Resort in the heart of Waikiki Beach at 2552 Kalakaua Avenue. The General Sessions will begin Monday morning and end Thursday afternoon.

The program agenda for the 81st National Plant Board Meeting is attached for your review. An excellent program has been developed with emphasis on the APHIS budget and the programs of critical importance to state pest prevention and control initiatives. A biotechnology update will be presented with opportunity for state and industry input into the regulatory programs under development.

Accommodations

The hotel rate for the conference is \$179 plus applicable state and local taxes at the time of check in (currently, 11.96%). Check-in is 3:00 p.m. with a checkout time at 11:00 a.m. Attendees are required to guarantee their reservation with one night's prepaid room and tax with a major credit card. The deposit is nonrefundable if cancellation occurs within 72 hours of arrival. To book your reservation at the rates above, go to the National Plant Board Webpage at <http://nationalplantboard.org> and go to the Meeting link and click on the hotel link for the NPB room reservations. The hotel will honor the rate of \$179 per night for three days before and three days after the official scheduled event (August 19-23, 2007) only on a space and rate-available basis. Please note that if you are requesting pre/post of the contracted dates, the reservation will be declined. Call the hotel directly at 1-800-367-5370 and ask for room reservations. All reservations must be received no later than July 30, 2007 ("Cutoff Date").

Please note that the week of August 19th is the peak month and week for the visitor season in Hawaii and reservations should be made early as there is no guarantee that rooms at the Marriot will be available after July 20, 2007 and finding comparable accommodations in Waikiki will be difficult.

Transportation

Air service to Hawaii is provided by all the major carriers (United, Delta, American, Northwest, Hawaiian, Aloha, Continental, and others). We hope many will find an opportunity to visit our beautiful island state and will have an opportunity to tour Oahu, as well as our neighbor islands. You are encouraged to make these interisland reservations at the same time when booking your flight to and from Hawaii. Our interisland carriers are Hawaiian, Aloha, Island Air and go!.

Ground transportation from Honolulu International Airport to the Waikiki Beach Marriott in Waikiki is approximately 20 minutes by taxi or Airport Shuttle. A listing of taxicabs, Airport Shuttle Service, and car rentals are listed on the airport website.

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Registration

The registration fee is \$400 for meeting participants and \$125 for spouse/companions. The registration fee for children (3 to 11 years old) planning to attend the reception, awards banquet and Ag Tour, is \$40.

Single day registration for attendance on August 20, 21, and 23 is \$100 per day. Attendance on August 22 for the farm tour, lunch and dinner is \$150 per person.

The deadline for meeting registration is July 13, 2007. Payments are to be made by checks only. Please make check payable to "National Plant Board – Hawaii".

There will be a \$50 late fee for registration received after July 13th.

Weather

The average temperature in Hawaii is between 75°-85° F, with August being on the warmer end.

Trade winds in August average about 13 miles per hour from the east northeast, keeping the weather and temperature comfortable.

The average humidity for August runs between 52% and 74% during the day and night, respectively.

Average water temperature for Waikiki Beach is in the upper 70° F.

Events

On Sunday evening, there will be a welcome reception at the Marriott which you are all encouraged to attend. An awards banquet will be held on Tuesday evening at the hotel. On Wednesday, a tour of local farms is being coordinated, followed by a Hawaiian luau dinner and Polynesian cultural show.

Spouses and families will have the opportunity to visit local attractions during the scheduled meeting sessions. There will be an individual specifically located at the registration table to assist with the above.

Dress Code

Casual and Aloha attire, coats/ties not required

Door Prize Certificate

If you would like to donate a prize to be raffled off to meeting registrants, please fill out and return the enclosed form.

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For more information on Hawaii, and other visitor information, go to the Hawaii Visitors and Convention Bureau website at; <http://www.gohawaii.com>

We look forward to your attendance and participation in the 81st Annual Meeting of the National Plant Board in Hawaii. If you have any questions, please contact Lyle Wong at lyle.wong@hawaii.gov or Sue Sakamoto at sue.h.sakamoto@hawaii.gov or call (808) 973-9535.