

Food Safety

TRAINING SUMMARY

I attended a training at the U.S Department of Agriculture in Honolulu and Hilo Hawaii on Crop Production from July 22nd to August 2nd 2024. I trained under the guidance of Dr. Peter Follet.

From 22 July to 24 July 2024, I visited key facilities in Honolulu, including the APHIS airport preclearance operations, the Honolulu Plant Inspection Station, and Pa'ina Hawaii LLC's cobalt-60 irradiation facility for phytosanitary purposes, guided by Michael Koehn. I also had the opportunity to visit the CDFA Waimanato Fruit Fly Rearing Facility, hosted by Amber Tateno.

Between 25 July and 2 August 2024, I met with Marisa Wall and Nicholas Manoukis and visited several research projects, including work on dragon fruit ripening with Dr. Xiuxiu Sun and fruit fly rearing with Charmaine Sylvia. I participated in discussions about irradiation equipment, dosimetry, and experimental design with Dr. Peter Follet and Angelita Acebes-Doria. The experience also included field tours and studies on fruit flies, nematodes, chemical ecology, and more, with visits to the Hilo farmers market and Kona coffee farms for insight into IPM application.

WHATS NEXT?

Upon returning home, I plan to use my training to support the commitments of the Indonesian government, including efforts by the National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN), the Indonesia Quarantine Authority (IQA), local authorities, universities, and other agencies. The focus will be on building standard infrastructure for irradiation facilities and fruit fly laboratories, as well as enhancing capacity for controlling fruit fly species in key production areas.

Additionally, I aim to strengthen collaboration between government institutions, the private sector, farmers, and officials to develop sustainable, advanced agricultural research and improve researchers' capabilities by securing adequate equipment.



“This training had given me so many experiences and knowledge that very useful for me and for my country”

Arastuti Nasution- Indonesia

July 22nd to August 2nd 2024

Hosted by: U.S Department of Agriculture