

Join us for the **2nd Annual**
Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle Science Symposium
Harnessing Knowledge to Protect
Communities & Ecosystems

October 21-23 Virtual; 12:30-4:30 PM HST



AGENDA

Day 1: October 21

12:30 pm Welcome & Opening Session

- 12:30 pm** **Welcome & Introductions** –Dr. Keith Weiser, Hawai‘i Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle Response & Dr. Elliott Parsons, Pacific RISCC / PICASC at UH Mānoa
- 12:45 pm** **History of *Oryctes rhinoceros* (CRB) invasion of the Pacific region; response and lessons for the future** – Dr. Trevor Jackson, Bioeconomy Science Institute
- 1:25 pm** **Genomic characterisation of a novel Indonesian OrNV isolate provides insight into the challenges of CRB biocontrol** – Dr. Tek Tay, CSIRO Health & Biosecurity

2:00 pm BREAK

2:05 pm Research Session 1: New Technologies

- 2:10 pm** **Research updates on chemical and biological control of Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle in Hawai‘i** – Dr. Zhiqiang Cheng, University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa
- 2:25 pm** **Persistence of insecticide-treated burlap for CRB control** – Dr. Xing Wei, Research Corporation of the University of Hawai‘i
- 2:40 pm** **A multifaceted approach to biocontrol of *Oryctes rhinoceros* in Hawai‘i** – Adrianna Dupriest, University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa
- 2:55 pm** **Precision aerial pesticide application for CRB control** – Dr. Daniel Jenkins, Department of Plant & Environmental Protection Sciences, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources, University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa

3:10 pm BREAK

3:15 pm Research Session #2: Biological Control & Surveillance

- 3:20 pm Genetic diversity of the coconut rhinoceros beetle (*Oryctes rhinoceros*) –**
Dr. Sean Marshall, Bioeconomy Science Institute
- 3:35 pm Matching pathogen and host: biological control of CRB with *Oryctes nudivirus* –**
Dr. Sarah Mansfield, Bioeconomy Science Institute
- 3:50 pm Use of pheromones for surveillance and monitoring of coconut rhinoceros beetle**
– Dr. Sarah Mansfield, Bioeconomy Science Institute
- 4:05 pm Screening of new *Metarhizium* isolates for control of the coconut**
rhinoceros beetle in the Pacific islands – Dr. Sean Marshall, Bioeconomy
Science Institute

4:20 pm Closing Remarks Day 1

- 4:20 pm Closing Remarks and Wrap-up for Day 1 –** Franny Brewer, Big Island Invasive
Species Committee, & Dr. Elliott Parsons, Pacific RISCC / PICASC at UH Mānoa
- 4:30 pm Finish**

Day 2: October 22

12:30 pm Welcome to Regional Updates Day 2

- 12:30 pm Welcome Back & Introductions; Recap of Day 1; Overview of Day 2 –**Franny
Brewer, Big Island Invasive Species Committee (BIISC) & Dr. Mike Melzer,
Department of Plant & Environmental Protection Sciences, CTAHR, The University of
Hawai'i at Mānoa
- 12:40 pm Welcome to the CRB Regional Updates Day –** Dr. Laura Brewington, Pacific Research on
Island Solutions for Adaptation (RISA) Program

12:55 – 2:00 pm – Session 1

- 1:00 pm American Samoa, Samoa, Tokelau, Tuvalu, Hawai'i, Wallis & Futuna –**
10 minutes each for updates.

2:00 – 2:15 pm - Interactive Session (2026 CRB Meeting)

2:15 – 3:10 pm – Session 2

- 2:20 pm CNMI, Guam, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Republic of Palau,**
Federated States of Micronesia - 10 minutes each for updates.

3:10 – 3:30 pm - Presentation

3:10 pm **An island-centric biosecurity network for high-risk invasive plant pests in the Pacific** – Dr. David Teulon, New Zealand Bioeconomy Science Institute, Plant & Food Research Group

3:30 – 4:25 – pm Session 3

3:35 pm **Fiji, Vanuatu, New Caledonia, Timor Leste, Papua New Guinea** - 10 minutes each for updates.

4:25 pm **Closing Remarks Day 2**

4:25 pm **Closing Remarks and Wrap-up for Day 2** – Dr. Mark Ero, The Pacific Community (SPC)

4:30 pm **Finish**

Day 3: October 23

12:30 pm **Welcome & Opening Session**

12:30 pm **Welcome & Recap of Days 1-2; Overview of Day 3** – Dr. Mark Ero, The Pacific Community (SPC)

12:45 pm **The Pasifika NiuNet: A mechanism to support our local coconut sector** – Dr. Alan Aku - Kokonas Indastri Koporesen, Pasifika NiuNet, Pacific Coconut Governance Board

1:25 pm **An action plan for coconut pests including CRB in the Pacific: Strengthening preparedness, response, and management through collaboration and innovation** – Dr. Carmel Pilotti, Centre for Pacific Crops and Trees (CePACT) - Genetic Resources Programme, Pacific Community (SPC) - Land Resources Division

1:50 pm **BREAK**

1:55 pm **Research Session 3: Detection & Monitoring**

2:00 pm **Beyond Coconuts: CRB Management Strategies for Conservation Collections, Perspectives from a Botanical Garden** – Tobias Koehler, South Shore Gardens, National Tropical Botanical Garden / Allerton Garden & McBryde Garden

2:15 pm **Leveraging existing data to guide biosurveillance for CRB** – Dr. Marcel Jardeleza, University of Hawai‘i, Hawai‘i Cooperative Studies Unit & Dr. Helen Sofaer, USGS, Pacific Islands Ecosystem Research Center

2:30 pm **Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle (CRB) Detection, Eradication and Prevention Measures Program on Rota, CNMI** – Mark C. Manglona, USDA, NFWF, US DOI OIA, CNMI Department of Finance Customs & Biosecurity, CNMI DLNR Division of Fish and Wildlife, CNMI, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Northern Marianas College, USFWS, CNMI Division of Agriculture

- 2:45 pm** **Integrating Detection Dogs into CRB Management and Eradication –**
Marlee Monahan, CRB Response, Conservation Dogs of Hawai‘i, Kauai CRB
Volunteer Program
- 3:00 pm** **Improving an AI model for automated roadside CRB damage surveys –** Dr.
Aubrey Moore, Emeritus, University of Guam

3:15 pm Break

3:20 pm Research Session 4: Insights from the Pacific

- 3:25 pm** **Evaluating Long-Term Efficacy of CRB Management Strategies at**
Guam's Ports of Entry – Dr. Glenn Dulla, Western Pacific Tropical Research
Center, University of Guam
- 3:40 pm** **Forestry Responses to CRB in Fiji: Linking Pest Delimitation, Senile Coconut**
Management, and Engineered Wood Products – Mr. Alivereti Bola, Natural
Resources Management Programme, Pacific Community (SPC) - Land Resources
Division
- 4:10 pm** **Evaluation of Biocontrol Approaches for CRB Management in Oil Palm in**
Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands – Dr. Emad Jaber, Crop Protection
Department, Papua New Guinea, Oil Palm Research Association (OPRA), Dami
Research Station

4:25 pm Closing Remarks Day 3

- 4:25 pm** **Closing Remarks and Wrap-up for Day 3 –** Riten Gosai (The Pacific Community
(SPC) & Dr. Mike Melzer, Department of Plant & Environmental Protection Sciences,
CTAHR, The University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa
- 4:30 pm** **Finish**

Register for the 2025 CRB Science Symposium here ([registration link](#))



CRB SCIENCE & MANAGEMENT SYMPOSIUM

Join us for a virtual symposium:

October 21-23

12:30-4:30 Hawai'i Time

Day 1: CRB Research & Management

Day 2: CRB Regional Updates

Day 3: CRB Research & Management

Register:



bit.ly/CRBSymposium2025

Contact us at crbsymposium2025@gmail.com with questions.

