

APT Committee

From: Jennifer Karaca <karacajy@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 1:22 PM
To: APT Committee
Subject: Dept. Of Ag. Presentation and Resource Papers
Attachments: Proposed Code Highlights (2).pdf; CoM DoA CIWG MCC Proposal Presentation.pdf; Proposed Code Highlights w_ survey results.pdf

You don't often get email from karacajy@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Aloha Kasie,

Here is a copy of the presentation and supplemental papers for the members. SHane just asked me to send them to you. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Mahalo,

Jennifer Karaca
karacajy@gmail.com
(509)851-8300

Maui County Department of Agriculture

Community Impact Working Group Maui County Code Proposals

Presented by: Jennifer Karaca

Stakeholder Participation

(47 attending meetings 100 on email list)

- Farmers
- Ranchers
- Small Ag Related Businesses
- Distributors
- Markets
- Educators
- Emergency Food Sector Reps
- Business Development Professionals
- Native Hawaiian Practitioners
- Invasive Species Management Sector
- Nonprofit Funding Agencies
- Local Government Officials (past and present)
- Ag Working Group Representation
- Hawaii Farmers Union United Representation
- Maui and Molokai Farm Bureau Representatives and more....

Group Process

(19- 2.5 hour long zoom meetings, so far.)

- First round of Invitations sent out
- First meeting
 - Provided background information, deliverables, expectations, & review ground rules
- Identify Community Partners (nonprofits, funders, businesses, public agencies, residents)
- Second round of invitations sent out (Field Specific Recruitment)
- Identified the Areas of Need
- Community Survey #1 Areas of Need out to public
- Identify Director and Deputy Director Desired Qualifications and Departmental Reporting Requirements
- Survey #2 Qualifications and Reporting Requirements out to public
- Provide Information form both surveys to Ag Committee Chair and Co-Chair
- Identify Strategic Plan Actions for years 1-5
- Survey # 3 Priority Actions out to public (currently taking place)
- Provide info from survey 3 to Ag committee to draft Department Budget Proposal for Year 1

CoM DoA Community Working Group Ground Rules

1. Stay curious and open. Use open ended questions.
2. Listen to hear and understand. Not to respond.
3. If something that is brought up feels threatening, resist the urge to shoot the idea down and instead be open with the potential unintended consequence and ask for ideas to mitigate or avoid the unintended consequence.
4. You're representing a part of the agricultural sector and overall community; speak for them, not just for you.
5. Treat this working group as you would a job, maintain professionalism, show respect for fellow members, review materials in advance and contribute to the workload.
6. Everything that happens in this group is fully shareable outside of it, too. Let's act transparently.
7. We will not solve all of the problems of Maui, remain focused on the problems we can manage and the main focus of a sustainable agricultural system.
8. Be proud that you are helping to create a system that will change the future of Maui for the better.

Areas of Need

(352 Community Responses)

Infrastructure-Improving access to, and availability of: affordable land, water (storage, meters, delivery systems, and prioritization), labor, workforce housing, equipment, commercial kitchens, processing and distribution facilities, and transportation. Working to increase community co-operatives, technology and access to locally grown food for our residents, while also protecting subsistence farming.

Markets & Distribution- Develop programs to increase the access to local products. Work to increase marketing assistance and distribution channels on each island separately, as well as inter-island. Develop institutional purchasing and distribution channels, including with the Hawaii Department of Education. Collaborate with local community organizations and government agencies to increase access and availability of locally grown products, locally made agricultural related products, and monetary assistance (i.e. SNAP, EBT, etc.) in order to increase food security and overall county sustainability.

Funding- Secure Federal, State and private funding, develop special funds and revolving funds to go directly toward agriculture. Provide grants and funding to agricultural related businesses in Maui County. Provide grant writing assistance to agricultural related businesses, organizations, and community needs projects.

Research and Development- Collaborate with government agencies, research institutions, community members, agricultural groups, stakeholders and experts to gain insight and develop solutions to agricultural related issues and obtain feedback to ensure the department continues to meet community needs. Assist other Departments by providing new and up to date information that will promote sustainable growth in our agricultural sector. Collect available market and agricultural data. Create databases that will allow data to be put to use by members of the community to fill gaps in the agricultural sector.

Areas of Need

Education, Outreach and Advocacy- Improve agriculture literacy by developing programs that increase farmer, consumer, market, educator and student awareness about agriculture, regulations, and opportunities. Provide support and coordinate with educational and research programs, provide educational resources and training to ensure the safety of farmers and their families. Organize cultural volunteer programs and opportunities to provide hands-on assistance to the agricultural sector. Work as a community liaison and advocate for farmers and the agricultural sector to address concerns and gain feedback for research and development.

Policy and Regulation Assistance- Review regulations with consequences to the agricultural system and advocate on behalf of the community for change, incentives or exemptions. Provide assistance to the community when needed with county, state, and federal regulations and permitting. Create a streamlined permitting process for agriculture, and perform agricultural property inspections for all county departmental applications with knowledgeable inspectors.

Agency Coordination- Open lines of communication to build bridges within the agricultural sector, develop shared goals and visions for the county, and develop strategic plans to achieve those goals. This can include but is not limited to government, private and public agencies.

Workforce Development- Increase agricultural related industries, occupational skills training, educational opportunities, and the number of agricultural workers in Maui County. Support agricultural related businesses to allow the increase of opportunities for agricultural related jobs that compensate workers with livable wages and develop pathways to affordable workforce housing.

Areas of Need

Invasive Species, Pests and Threats- Collaborate with the federal and state agencies to develop additional time sensitive protocols, like pre and post inspections to prevent the introduction of invasive species and additional inspections for invasive species at retail locations, via mail delivery, airports and harbors. Provide education to the ag sector about agricultural threats, such as climate change, pests and ways to prevent unnecessary imports that may introduce invasives. Provide feedback to develop policy and legislation to prevent the introduction of invasive species, combat agricultural threats and manage pests.

Resources Regeneration and Protection- Work with community organizations, County, State, and Federal agencies to provide insight and feedback on projects that affect the agricultural sector, and implement programs that ensure the sustainable utilization and/or regeneration of major natural resources, such as land, soil, water, air, minerals, forests, fisheries, and wild flora and fauna, so that our agricultural system will continue to have the resources it needs to thrive.

Contracts and Procurement- Provide assistance to promote local production and import substitution with a focus first on local food security.

Transportation- Collaborate with the Hawaii Public Utilities Commission, provide advocacy, education and resources to minimize cost and other barriers for transportation, crops lost or livestock lost in transport. Provide support for the agricultural community to access federal programs that reduce the cost of transportation. Coordinate transportation sharing to support the distribution of local products.

Agricultural Theft, Vandalism and Liability- Develop programs to educate and address liability issues and work with the Maui Police Department, Prosecuting Attorney's office, the County and State to address the losses from agricultural related theft, and vandalism.

Departmental Reporting Requirements

The Department will collaborate with existing efforts and agencies to collate data in the following areas for Maui County, and report annually:

- Labor Demographics (Number of jobs, pay, age of workers)
- Agricultural Lands in Valuation, Dedication, and Conservation
- Number of Farms
- Size of Farms
- Type of Farms
- Crops Grown
- Crop Yield
- Value per Acre
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- Number of Ranches
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- Volume of Compost Produced and Waste Diverted
- Invasive Species Tracking
- Outside Funding Sources and Amounts
- Number of Agricultural Related Industries (Current and Emerging)

The Department shall track and report annually on the following education and outreach areas:

- Resident satisfaction with the department
- Agricultural related legislative tracking and calls for testimony (County, State and Federal)
- Tracking food safety, market and other agricultural related regulations and the impacts
- Political action the department has taken on behalf of the community

Director and Deputy Director Qualification Requirements

The Director and Deputy Director should have a minimum of five years of experience with agricultural production or food distribution systems in Hawaii.

The Director and Deputy Director should have a minimum of three years of experience in the following areas:

- Managerial and budgetary experience
- Developing, supervising and coordinating agricultural programs and projects in Hawaii
- Working with various cultural backgrounds

The Director and Deputy Directors must be willing to research issues, threats and solutions to the agricultural sector, attend continuing education to further their knowledge about the agricultural sector and solutions to issues, as well as collaborate with experts and the community to address issues, in order to be qualified to lead the Department

Director and Deputy Director Qualification Requirements

Note: The group realized it may be too much to add the following section, but would like it to be included in the interview process by the Administration and/or the Council to ensure we find the most qualified candidate. Ideally the experience of one would be complementary to the other's experience, if possible.

The Director and Deputy Director must have at least three years of direct experience, education or equivalent work experience in the majority of the following functions:

- Guiding efforts to optimize opportunities for environmental and natural resource protection, sustainability, conservation, and/or restoration.
- Agricultural related and food safety laws in Hawaii
- Agricultural related zoning, planning, and permitting processes in Hawaii.
- State and Federal labor laws and OSHA regulations
- Oversight of inventory management
- Coordination of agricultural programs by and between private, county, state or federal agencies.
- Facilitation of the rapid, safe, and economical movement of agricultural goods.
- Preparing, administering, implementing and recommending revisions and prioritizing plans such as: long-range planning, general plans, cultural resource management programs, capital improvement plans, water use and development plans

Departmental Resource and Assistance Targets

The Department shall focus resource and assistance efforts on low to moderate sized agricultural operations, with special considerations for minority owned agricultural operations. The Department shall accommodate the public with cultural and language sensitive materials and programs.

Defining Ag operation sizes

****GCFI = annual gross cash income****

Low-sales- Between \$1,000 and \$149,999.

Moderate- GCFI between \$150,000 and \$349,999.

Midsize- GCFI between \$350,000 and \$999,999)

Large- GCFI between \$1,000,000 and \$4,999,999.

Very large- GCFI of \$5,000,000 or more.

Note: Requiring the Department to focus on smaller ag operations will ensure that those who do not have as many resources will not be left behind but will not exclude the department from helping larger entities too. It will prevent them from only helping those who have the time and resources to navigate the system easily. We have seen this occur and be problematic at the state level in agriculture and various other sectors when assistance is provided.

Mahalo to all of the folks in the Community working group for volunteering your time, energy and mana'o. Thank you to all of the community members who took time out of their day to complete the survey and Mahalo to the Maui County Council for allowing us to have our collective voices heard.



All the information provided in this presentation along with recordings of our meetings and the surveys are available at <https://www.mauifoodsecuritynow.com/>

Areas of Need

Infrastructure- Improving access to, and availability of: affordable land, water (storage, meters, delivery systems, and prioritization), labor, workforce housing, equipment, commercial kitchens, processing and distribution facilities, and transportation. Working to increase community co-operatives, technology and access to locally grown food for our residents, while also protecting subsistence farming.

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Funding- Secure Federal, State and private funding, develop special funds and revolving funds to go directly toward agriculture. Provide grants and funding to agricultural related businesses in Maui County. Provide grant writing assistance to agricultural related businesses, organizations, and community needs projects.

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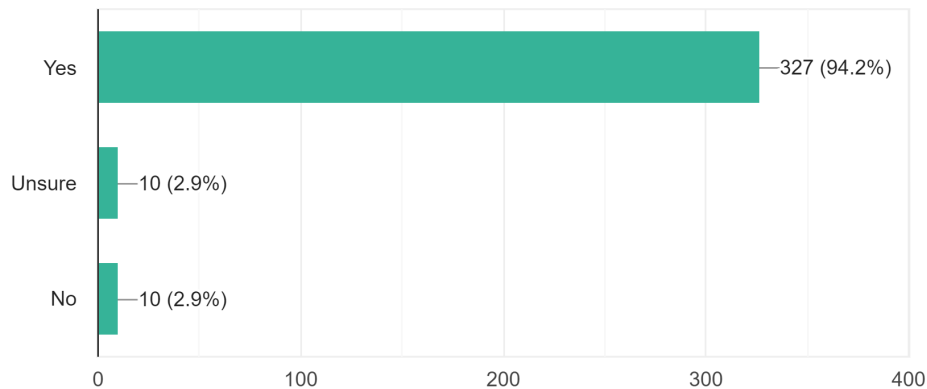
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Areas of Need

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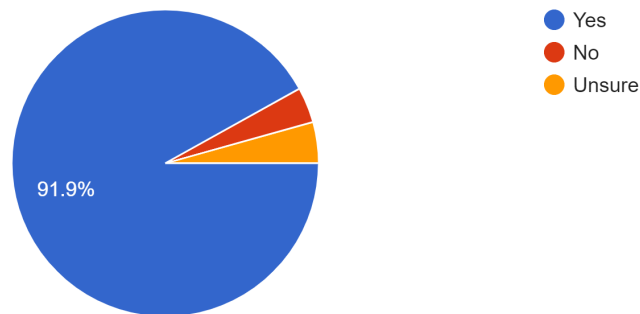
Do you think the Department should address infrastructure to support local Agriculture?

347 responses



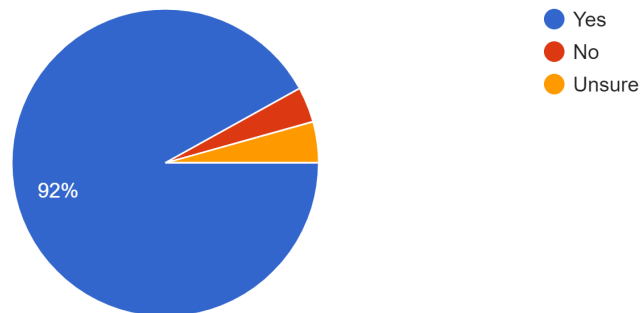
Markets & Distribution- Develop programs to increase the access to local products. Work to increase marketing assistance and distribution channels on each island separately, as well as inter-island. Develop institutional purchasing and distribution channels, including with the Hawaii Department of Education. Collaborate with local community organizations and government agencies to increase access and availability of locally grown products, locally made agricultural related products, and monetary assistance (i.e. SNAP, EBT, etc.) in order to increase food security and overall county sustainability.

Do you think the Department should address markets and distribution to support local agriculture?
347 responses



Funding- Secure Federal, State and private funding, develop special funds and revolving funds to go directly toward agriculture. Provide grants and funding to agricultural related businesses in Maui County. Provide grant writing assistance to agricultural related businesses, organizations, and community needs projects.

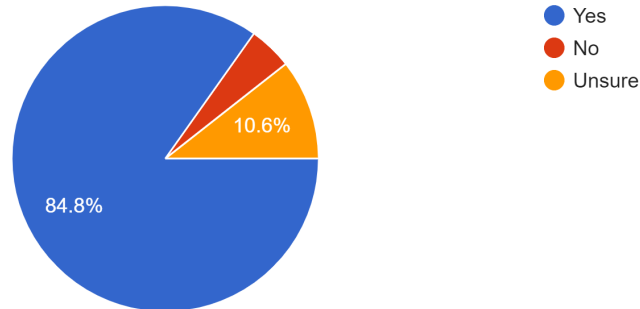
Do you think the Department should address funding to support local Agriculture?
348 responses



Research and Development- Collaborate with government agencies, research institutions, community members, agricultural groups, stakeholders and experts to gain insight and develop solutions to agricultural related issues and obtain feedback to ensure the department continues to meet community needs. Assist other Departments by providing new and up to date information that will promote sustainable growth in our agricultural sector. Collect available market and agricultural data. Create databases that will allow data to be put to use by members of the community to fill gaps in the agricultural sector.

Do you think the Department should address Research and Development to support local Agriculture?

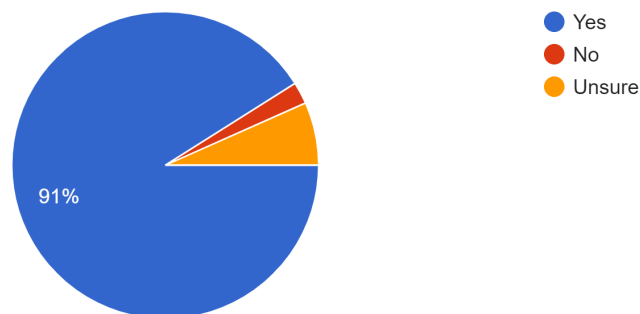
349 responses



Education, Outreach and Advocacy- Improve agriculture literacy by developing programs that increase farmer, consumer, market, educator and student awareness about agriculture, regulations, and opportunities. Provide support and coordinate with educational and research programs, provide educational resources and training to ensure the safety of farmers and their families. Organize cultural volunteer programs and opportunities to provide hands-on assistance to the agricultural sector. Work as a community liaison and advocate for farmers and the agricultural sector to address concerns and gain feedback for research and development.

Do you think the Department should address education, outreach and advocacy to support local agriculture?

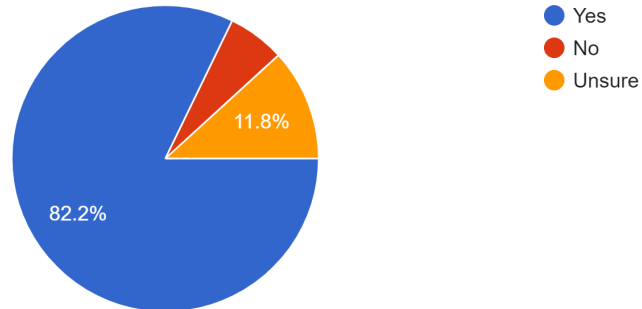
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Policy and Regulation Assistance- Review regulations with consequences to the agricultural system and advocate on behalf of the community for change, incentives or exemptions. Provide assistance to the community when needed with county, state, and federal regulations and permitting. Create a streamlined permitting process for agriculture, and perform agricultural property inspections for all county departmental applications with knowledgeable inspectors.

Do you think the Department should address policy and regulation assistance to support local agriculture?

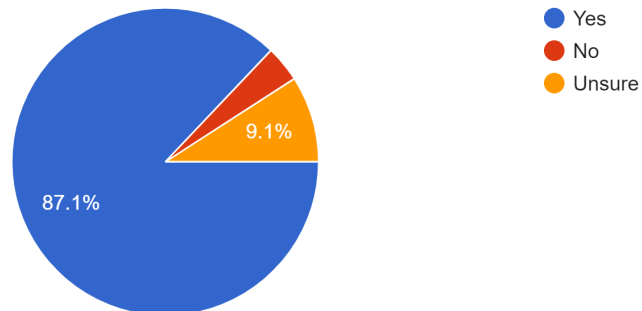
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Agency Coordination- Open lines of communication to build bridges within the agricultural sector, develop shared goals and visions for the county, and develop strategic plans to achieve those goals. This can include but is not limited to government, private and public agencies.

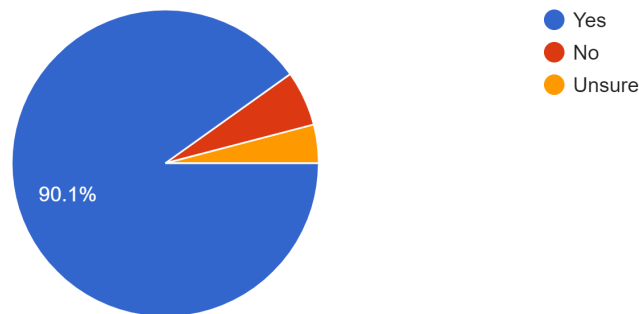
Do you think the Department should address agency coordination to support local agriculture?

341 responses



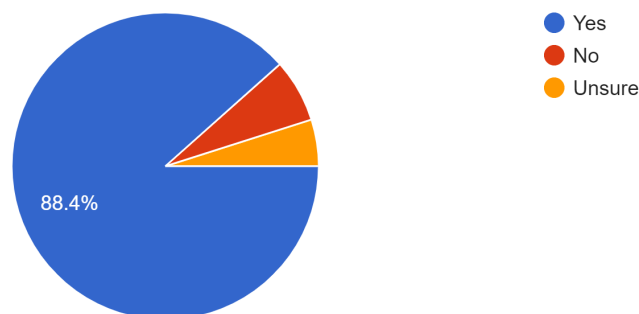
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Do you think the Department should address workforce development to support local agriculture?
345 responses



Invasive Species, Pests and Threats- Collaborate with the federal and state agencies to develop additional time sensitive protocols, like pre and post inspections to prevent the introduction of invasive species and additional inspections for invasive species at retail locations, via mail delivery, airports and harbors. Provide education to the ag sector about agricultural threats, such as climate change, pests and ways to prevent unnecessary imports that may introduce invasives. Provide feedback to develop policy and legislation to prevent the introduction of invasive species, combat agricultural threats and manage pests.

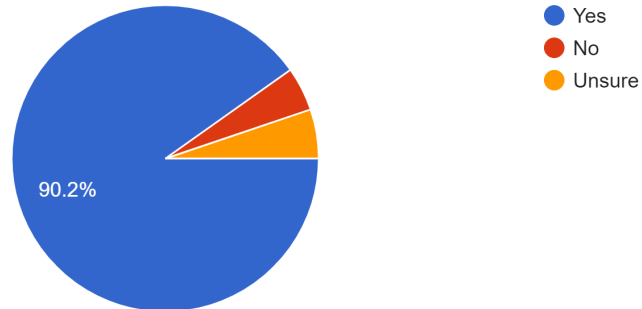
Do you think the Department should address invasive species, pests and threats to support local agriculture?
346 responses



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Do you think the Department should address resource regeneration and protection to support local agriculture?

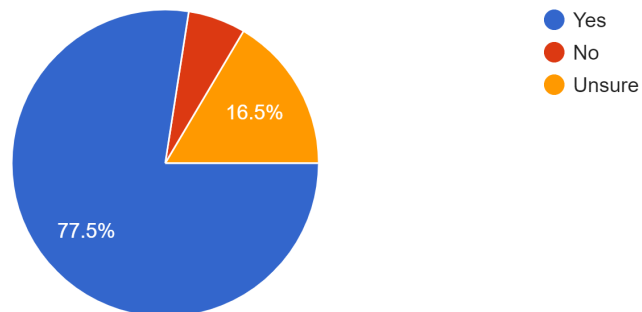
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Contracts and Procurement- Provide assistance to promote local production and import substitution with a focus first on local food security.

Do you think the Department should address contracts and procurement to support local agriculture?

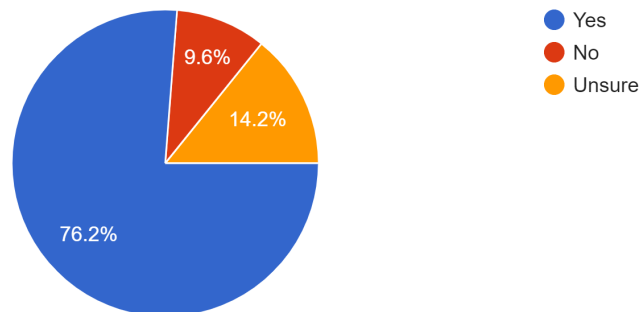
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Do you think the Department should address transportation to support local Agriculture?

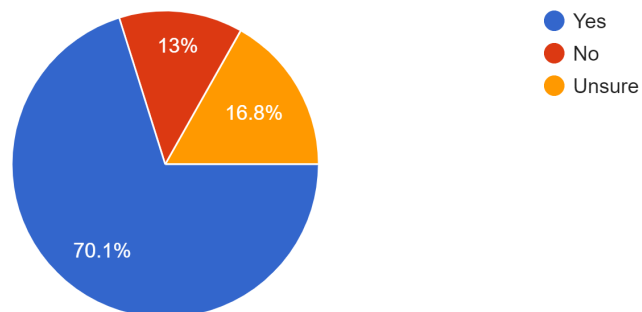
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Do you think the Department should address agricultural theft, vandalism and liability to support local agriculture?

345 responses



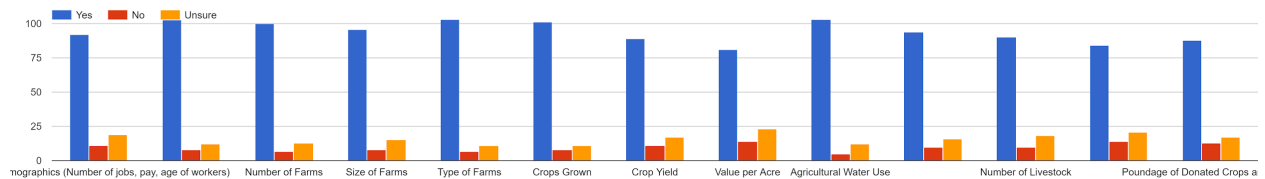
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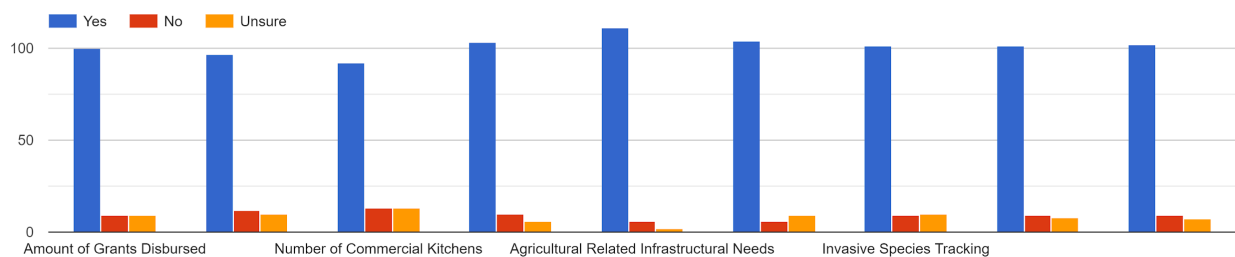
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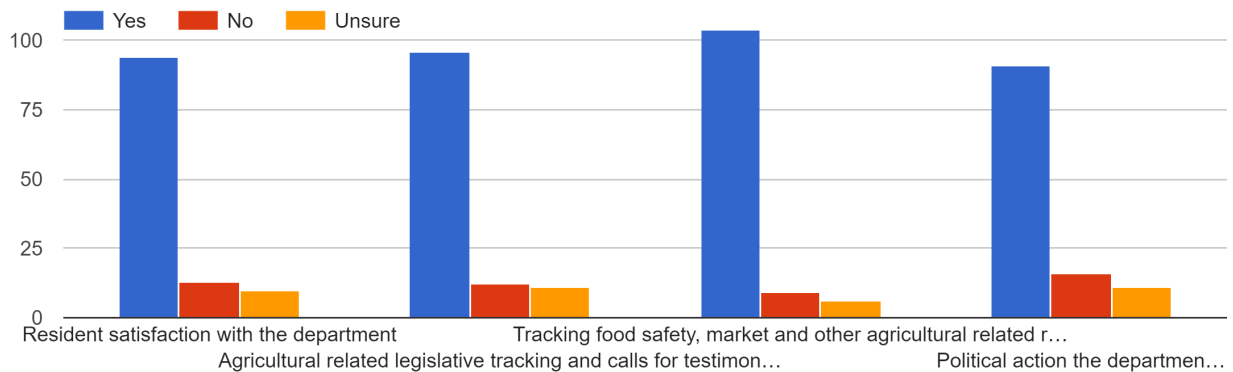


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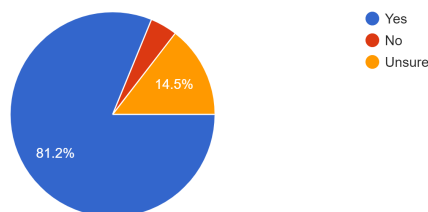


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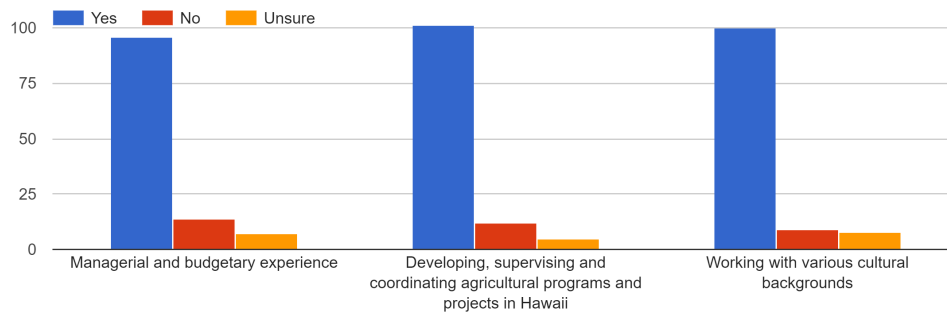
Do you think the Director and Deputy Director should have a minimum of five years of experience with agricultural production or food distribution systems in Hawaii?
117 responses



The Director and Deputy Director should have a minimum of three years of experience in the following areas:

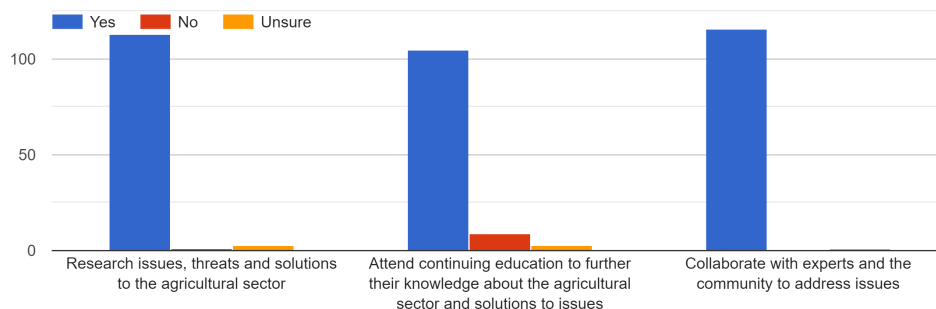
- Managerial and budgetary experience
- Developing, supervising and coordinating agricultural programs and projects in Hawaii
- Working with various cultural backgrounds

Do you think the Director and Deputy Director should have a minimum of three years of experience in the following areas?



The Director and Deputy Directors must be willing to research issues, threats and solutions to the agricultural sector, attend continuing education to further their knowledge about the agricultural sector and solutions to issues, as well as collaborate with experts and the community to address issues, in order to be qualified to lead the Department

Do you think the Director and Deputy Directors must be willing to do the following actions in order to be qualified to lead the Department?

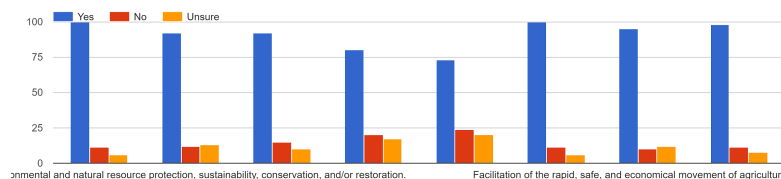


Note: The group realized it may be too much to add the following section, but would like it to be included in the interview process by the Administration and/or the Council to ensure we find the most qualified candidate. Ideally the experience of one would be complementary to the other's experience, if possible.

The Director and Deputy Director must have at least three years of direct experience, education or equivalent work experience in the majority of the following functions:

- Guiding efforts to optimize opportunities for environmental and natural resource protection, sustainability, conservation, and/or restoration.
- Agricultural related and food safety laws in Hawaii
- Agricultural related zoning, planning, and permitting processes in Hawaii.
- State and Federal labor laws and OSHA regulations
- Oversight of inventory management
- Coordination of agricultural programs by and between private, county, state or federal agencies.
- Facilitation of the rapid, safe, and economical movement of agricultural goods.
- Preparing, administering, implementing and recommending revisions and prioritizing plans such as: long-range planning, general plans, cultural resource management programs, capital improvement plans, water use and development plans

Do you think Director or Deputy Director must have at least three years of direct experience, education or equivalent work experience in the majority of the following functions:



Departmental Resource and Assistance Targets

Note: Requiring the Department to focus on smaller ag operations will ensure that those who do not have as many resources will not be left behind but will not exclude the department from helping larger entities too. It will prevent them from only helping those who have the time and resources to navigate the system easily. We have seen this occur and be problematic at the state level in agriculture and various other sectors when assistance is provided.

The Department shall focus resource and assistance efforts on low to moderate sized agricultural operations, with special considerations for minority owned agricultural operations. The Department shall accommodate the public with cultural and language sensitive materials and programs.

Defining Ag operation sizes

****GCFI = annual gross cash income****

Low-sales- Between \$1,000 and \$149,999.

Moderate- GCFI between \$150,000 and \$349,999.

Midsize- GCFI between \$350,000 and \$999,999)

Large- GCFI between \$1,000,000 and \$4,999,999.

Very large- GCFI of \$5,000,000 or more.