
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII TO CONDUCT A STUDY ON THE
MOLUCCA ALBIZIA TREE.

1 WHEREAS, the molucca albizia tree was first introduced to
2 Hawaii in 1917 as an ornamental tree and for the purposes of
3 reforestation; and

4
5 WHEREAS, at one time, the United States Forest Service
6 planted 135,000 molucca albizia seeds on Kauai, Oahu, Molokai,
7 Lanai, and Hawaii for the production of lumber; and

8
9 WHEREAS, molucca albizia is one of the fastest growing
10 species among the broad-leaf tree species and has a life span of
11 twenty-five to thirty years; and

12
13 WHEREAS, today, the molucca albizia is present statewide,
14 as it has adapted to the semi-moist areas below one thousand
15 five hundred feet in elevation; and

16
17 WHEREAS, the molucca albizia has a large crown and can
18 reach more than one hundred feet in height; and

19
20 WHEREAS, the molucca albizia has a soft and brittle wood,
21 has a shallow root system in poor soil, and its large branches
22 are often susceptible to breaking in high wind; and

23
24 WHEREAS, these factors pose a significant hazard to people
25 and property in various residential and recreational areas,
26 including the Manoa Falls trail; and

27
28 WHEREAS, there is increasing public concern about the risk
29 to people and property presented by the spread of the molucca
30 albizia tree in the State; and

31
32 WHEREAS, the molucca albizia tree was last studied by the
33 Harold L. Lyon Arboretum in 1985 for the potential risks caused



1 by the spreading and aging of molucca albizia trees; now,
2 therefore,

3
4 BE IT RESOLVED the Senate concurring, by the House of
5 Representatives of the Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of
6 Hawaii, Regular Session of 2008 that the University of Hawaii is
7 requested to conduct a study on the molucca albizia tree,
8 including a field inventory of these trees in at least the Ala
9 Wai watershed area, as well as other areas throughout the State;
10 and

11
12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that as part of its study, the
13 University of Hawaii is requested to prepare recommendations on
14 whether it is feasible to eradicate the molucca albizia and, if
15 so, a method of how to eradicate this species of tree; and

16
17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the University of Hawaii is
18 also requested to identify the necessary components of an
19 eradication pilot project to be performed in Manoa Valley, Oahu,
20 and other areas in the State; and

21
22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the University of Hawaii is
23 requested to report any findings and recommendations to the
24 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
25 the 2009 Regular Session; and

26
27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
28 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Regional Manager of
29 the United States Forest Service, the Chairperson of the Board
30 of Regents of the University of Hawaii, the President of the
31 University of Hawaii, the Chancellor of the University of Hawaii
32 at Manoa, the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural
33 Resources, the Chairperson of the Board of Agriculture, the
34 Director of the Lyon Arboretum, and the Director of the Center
35 for Conservation Research and Training.

36
37
38

OFFERED BY: Kirk Caldwell

MAR 12 2008

