

## What is the Hawai'i-Pacific Weed Risk Assessment (HPWRA)?

The HPWRA is like a free background check for plants. A trained botanist uses published information to answer 49 questions about the biology and history of a plant. This results in a numerical score and a prediction of whether or not a plant is a high or low risk of becoming invasive in Hawai'i. It is more than 90% accurate, and it is the best tool we have to help us make decisions about whether or not to import or use certain plants.



[www.plantpono.org](http://www.plantpono.org)

Funding for the development of this website and project was provided by the Kaulunani Urban and Community Forestry Program, U.S. Forest Service, Hawai'i Invasive Species Council, and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

When in doubt, check it out. It's good to know before you grow.



COORDINATING GROUP ON  
ALIEN PEST SPECIES



For more information about  
Plant Pono contact:

Amanda Skelton  
(808) 634-6235  
[amanda@plantpono.org](mailto:amanda@plantpono.org)

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

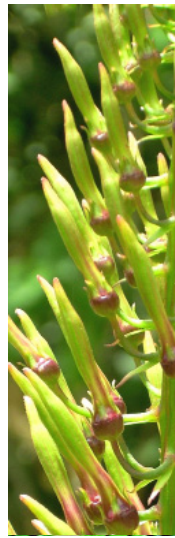


Making Good Planting Decisions For Our 'Āina

## Protect the 'Āina

Together We Can Make a Difference

[www.plantpono.org](http://www.plantpono.org)

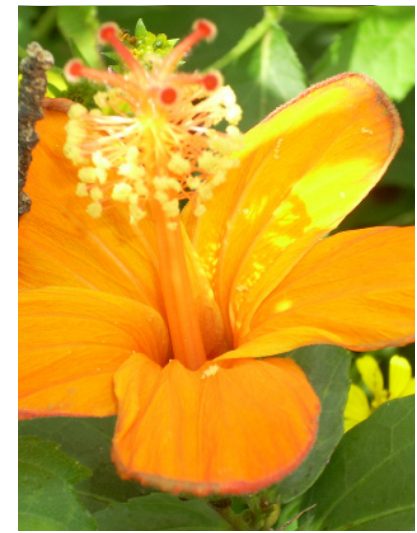


## Why Plant Pono?

Miconia, fountain grass, Australian tree fern, pampas grass: each of these plants were imported and used as ornamentals, and each have spread by wind and birds far beyond their intended yards and gardens. Some threaten the watershed, others are fire promoters, and all of them are replacing native forest ecosystems. Although the vast majority of Earth's 250,000+ plant species would not be invasive if imported and grown in Hawai'i, a small percentage would be damaging to the environment and agriculture.

Today, there are tools that can help us make responsible plant choices.

Image below: Fountain grass=high risk.



To help you make informed planting decisions, we have created [www.plantpono.org](http://www.plantpono.org)

### The Plant Pono Website Offers:

- Planting information on non-invasive plant choices for yards and landscapes
- Examples of invasive plants and their impacts in Hawai'i
- Easy access to risk assessment results for more than 1,400 plants using the Hawai'i-Pacific Weed Risk Assessment (HPWRA)
- Ways to request free risk assessments for plants, ask questions, and participate in a moderated forum on invasive plants

## State and Federal Laws

State and Federal laws do not require that plants be checked for their potential to become invasive when they are imported or sold in Hawai'i. That is why it is so important for each of us to Plant Pono.

[www.plantpono.org](http://www.plantpono.org)

