



BREADFRUIT INSTITUTE



Diane Ragone, PhD, Director

PROGRESS REPORT - Summer 2014

Global Hunger Initiative—Costa Rica to the Kenyan Coast



Costa Rica

The first half of 2014 has been an incredible time for the initiative. Pakistan became the 27th country to receive trees since GHI's launch in 2009. The Breadfruit Tree Trust of Pakistan brought in more than 400 trees, and plans to continue expanding the project. Trees shipped to EARTH University in Costa Rica for agronomic research trials and product development. They will be integrated into the most comprehensive agronomic project ever undertaken with breadfruit. In Kenya, the Feeding 10 Million In Ten Years campaign has planted the country's first Breadfruit trees in Garissa and Kisumu. The group met with the Ministry of Agriculture, and has confirmed that the Governor of Kwale and agriculture officers across the country would like to meet to present Breadfruit as a crop to be planted along the coast of Kenya for food security.



Haiti



Kenya



Liberia



Pakistan

Thanks to generous support from the Ceres Trust, the Breadfruit Institute was able to expand our Plant A Tree of Life project internationally. Working with our partners at Global Breadfruit and First Avenue International, more than 1,000 trees were sent to Monrovia, Liberia. They will be incorporated into an entrepreneurship program in connection with a local university. Our partners at the Trees That Feed Foundation will receive 1,000 trees for their projects in Haiti.

The Trees That Feed Foundation continues to expand its efforts in Jamaica, Haiti, Barbados, and Puerto Rico. In June alone, more than 2,000 young Breadfruit trees from Global Breadfruit arrived in Jamaica. Working closely with Three Angels Relief, breadfruit trees are brought to Haiti, grown at a nursery, and then distributed to other relief organizations, churches and schools. The flour made from Breadfruit is used to make porridge and feed 1,000 children per day. It is exciting to see that trees planted in 2011 are showing their first fruit.

Since 2009, the Global Hunger Initiative has distributed 40,000 Breadfruit trees worldwide.

Much of the work of the Breadfruit Institute is supported by grants and contributions. We continue to seek additional funding to accomplish our mission. You can help us in this critical endeavor.

To make a donation, please visit: <http://ntbg.org/breadfruit/donate/plantatree.php>

Plant a Tree of Life - Grow 'Ulu

Only halfway through its second year, the project distributed more than 2,500 Breadfruit trees on five Hawaiian Islands. The trees went to numerous churches, schools, farms, community gardens, individuals, and organizations. We were overwhelmed by the appreciation we were shown at every event! Recipients were thrilled to have the opportunity to receive the new varieties of Puaa and Piipiia along with the Ma'afala. We're grateful to the Ceres Trust for funding this project to significantly contribute to food security in Hawaii.

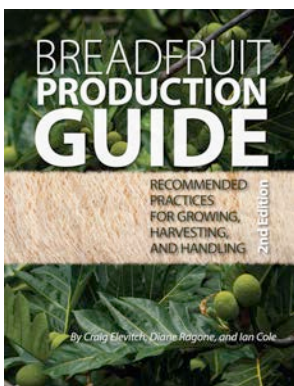


Bringing Breadfruit to the Community

BFI and partners have been busy sponsoring interactive workshops since January. We organized a series of "Breadfruit: Tree to Table" workshops on Maui, Oahu, Kauai, and Hawaii Island with our Ho'oulu ka 'Ulu partners at the Hawaii Homegrown Food Network. Designed for growers, sellers, cooks, consumers, and community members, more than 500 enthusiastic people attended. The *Breadfruit Production Guide* was published in



February, and is available on Amazon.com, and as a downloadable PDF from project partner websites. The illustrated guide provides an overview of breadfruit, and details best practices to ensure that good quality fruit reaches the consumer. Supplemental materials include: "Breadfruit Basics," three variety fact sheets, and "Nutritional Value



and Versatility," with cooking tips and a comparison of breadfruit nutrients to potatoes and white rice.

New Faces at BFI

The Breadfruit Institute has hired two great additions to our staff. Amy Langley joined the team in March as Assistant to Director Ragone, and is currently writing this Progress Report. Roger "Kama" Helekahi, BFI's first Horticultural Technician, works closely with Ian Cole at Kahanu Garden. Kama recently completed the rigorous Landscape Industry Certified Technician program on Maui. The nationally accredited class teaches first aid and safety, soil nutrition, irrigation, insect and weed identification, botany and plant identification, and management of trees, shrubs, groundcovers, and turfgrass.



Breadfruit in the News

Breadfruit and the work of the Breadfruit Institute and collaborators received wide media coverage:

- *New Scientist*. "Wonder Food."
- *Garden Island Newspaper*. "Plant preservation, hunger obliteration."
- *Roanoke Times*. "Breadfruit expert has Roanoke roots."
- *Hawaii Herald Tribune*. "New videos, publications promote use of breadfruit."
- *Inside Agroforestry*. "Plant a Tree of Life."
- *Windy City Live TV*. "Escape to the Hawaiian Islands." Interview with Ian Cole.
- *NPR Radio's Marketplace Show*. "Superfood fads: Super distracting for global farmers?" Interview with Josh Schneider.
- *Hawaii Public Radio*. "The National Tropical Botanical Garden on Kauai celebrates its 50th anniversary." Interview with Dr. Diane Ragone.
- *Daily Mail UK online*. "Is this the new wonder food?"

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