

# BREADFRUIT INSTITUTE

## SUMMER PROGRESS REPORT | 2017



The National Tropical Botanical Garden (NTBG) is dedicated to tropical plant research, conservation, and education. NTBG's Breadfruit Institute ([www.breadfruit.org](http://www.breadfruit.org)), established in 2003, is the global leader in efforts to use breadfruit diversity to support food security, regenerative agriculture, and income generation for smallholder farmers in the tropics. The Breadfruit Institute manages the world's largest collection of breadfruit, vital to research, conservation and education. More than 300 trees of 150 varieties make up a living germplasm repository.

### A Milestone for the Global Hunger Initiative



Since the launch in 2009 of the Global Hunger Initiative, we are excited to announce that over 100,000 breadfruit trees have been sent to 44 countries! The Breadfruit Institute and partners worldwide are engaged in an initiative to respond to critical global food security and reforestation issues by expanding plantings of good quality breadfruit varieties in tropical regions.



Thanks to our incredible partners at Global Breadfruit who recently shipped 10,000 breadfruit trees to Africa! We are so grateful to a private donor who made this distribution of trees possible and all of the collaborators on the ground who are working to make our Global Hunger Initiative have a meaningful impact! If you would like to donate trees to our growing initiative, please go to [ntbg.org/breadfruit/donate](http://ntbg.org/breadfruit/donate) and make a difference!

### Africa Breadfruit Initiative



The Africa Breadfruit Initiative team, Josh Schneider from Global Breadfruit and Tacarra Birmingham from First Avenue International, had a successful trip visiting five West African countries (Benin, Liberia, Ghana, Nigeria, and Kenya). Josh and Taccara provided seminars, workshops, and helped coordinate breadfruit projects for local farmers and policymakers.



They assessed the Ghana project with the Hunger Alliance of Ghana which received nearly 1,000 trees in 2011. Many are now mature and providing fruit. They also met with the forestry department and observed breadfruit trees provided by funding from generous donors who support the Breadfruit Institute, Global Breadfruit, and First Avenue International's work. This campaign will help identify strategies that address environmental, socioeconomic, and economic opportunities along with developing partnerships and resources for Africa's food security issues.



## Breadfruit Agroforestry Demonstration Update



Dan Rudoy, BFI Collection Manager and Project Implementation Coordinator, and Craig Elevitch, Agroforestry Expert, began planning for the first phase of the breadfruit agroforestry demonstration project. They have been meeting with various NTBG staff on logistics and site preparation. Patagonia Provisions and Hawaii's Department of Agriculture provided funding for the project.

BREADFRUIT RESEARCH ORCHARD



### Why breadfruit agroforestry?

Breadfruit has long been an important staple crop and a primary component of traditional agroforestry systems in Oceania. In addition to providing food and goods, these breadfruit agroforestry systems provide broad ecosystem services such as soil and water conservation and maintenance of biodiversity essential to long-term island

habitation. Intercropping of compatible trees and other agricultural crops and plants help to provide food security and a healthy environment. The demonstration at NTBG will incorporate regenerative organic agricultural practices and be a model for breadfruit farmers around the world.

## An Evening with Breadfruit Event in San Francisco



The Co-Chairman of the Breadfruit Institute Committee, John Hooper, and Molly Hooper hosted a BFI event at their home in San Francisco for an intimate gathering to learn about the institute's mission and enjoy various breadfruit appetizers. Mr. Hooper, Dr. Ragone, and Roger Still, Director of Global Initiatives, presented an overview on the current projects involving Global Hunger Initiative, the agroforestry demonstration in McBryde Garden, and the potential of product development. Phillip Tran, the event caterer, made wonderful breadfruit appetizers that included breadfruit coconut mini muffins, cheesecake, chips, hummus, wontons, lumpia, and cheese dip.

## Working with Patagonia Provisions



Dr. Diane Ragone visited the Patagonia Provisions office in Sausalito to discuss breadfruit usage and product development. Dr. Ragone also gave an informative presentation about breadfruit and the institute. The BFI continues to work with Patagonia through breadfruit agroforestry and other projects.



## Taumako Breadfruit Project



Project collaborators continue to document breadfruit varieties, usage, and traditional names in the Temoto Islands. To date, 72 variety names have been recorded on the tiny island of Taumako. For more information on our partner's incredible journey, go to [vaka.org](http://vaka.org) to see the project's Polynesian voyage and cultural importance.



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