

MAR 18 2008

---

---

## SENATE 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  
34 by the spreading and aging of molucca albizia trees; now,  
35 therefore,  
36



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

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

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

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

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

OFFERED BY: 

