Koa: A Decade of Growth
Proceedings of the Symposium

Editors: Lisa Ferentinos and Dale O. Evans

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University of Hawai‘i, Renewable Resources Extension
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Dear Friends:

Thank you for your gracious invitation to your 1996 symposium. I regret that I cannot be with you, but wish you success with this important event.

Though many of you have been involved in forestry for many years, you are on the brink of taking on a more important economic role in Hawaii than ever before. I do not need to tell you about the obvious and difficult changes over the last several years in Hawaii agriculture. In the past, there has been a lot of talk about diversifying Hawaii's agricultural base in preparation for inevitable reductions in sugar and pineapple production. For some of us, it was once difficult to imagine a time when sugar would no longer be king in Hawaii. For better or for worse, that time is upon us and I am heartened by the commitment of individuals and organizations like yourselves to take Hawaii into the future.

I would like to express my appreciation to all of the cosponsors of this symposium and all of you in the forest industry for your collaboration, your forward thinking approach and your critical contribution to making diversified and sustainable development an economically viable reality in the State of Hawaii. I was pleased to seek federal financial support for a forestry economic development initiative for Hawaii this year and will do my best to see that this support continues.

Aloha,

DANIEL K. INOUYE
United States Senator

DKI:mfw
MESSAGE FROM U.S. SENATOR DANIEL K. AKABA

It is with great pleasure that I extend my warmest aloha on this annual symposium of the Hawai‘i Forest Industry Association, "Koa, a Decade of Growth."

Let me also express my mahalo to members of the Association for the work that has gone into arranging this symposium. The various presentations during two days of meetings ensure meaningful discussions that will be thought-provoking and educational as participants examine the current status of our efforts to protect, conserve and renew our forestry resources for an economically and environmentally sustainable forest products industry. I expect that with such a broad representation of knowledge in our presenters and attendees, the discussions over these next two days will also help further define the issues, goals and interests in an industry that has promising potential for high value wood products and proudly, products with a Hawaii label.

I also hope that this symposium will provide a better understanding and appreciation of both the science and economics of a viable forestry industry with examples of new ideas and tried solutions that can be applied by those in the field -- the front line where individual and collective successes add up to meaningful growth of this industry.

Let me also take this opportunity to express my appreciation to many of you here for your support of my efforts over the past several years. The National Tropical Forestry Recovery Act is a reality much because of your work to help me craft this legislation into law. Today, your work continues as you help in its implementation.

I look forward to working with all of you in pursuing our common goals.

Aloha pumehana,

[Signature]

DANIEL K. AKAKA
U.S. Senator