



University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

## **Hawai'i Natural Energy Institute**

School of Ocean & Earth Science & Technology

### **Oils from Tropical Plants - Biofuels**

Numerous tropical trees produce oil-bearing seeds with the oil having the potential for use as a biofuel. Some of these crops are grown for human consumption (oil palm) while others have potential industrial and biofuel uses. *Jatropha* or Purging Nut (*Jatropha curcas* L.) is widely used as a medicinal plant. The oil from this small tree has biofuel potential and is illustrative of the research needs to make tropical oil crops a commercial biofuel source in Hawaii. The major constraint is genetic, with work being necessary to select or breed suitable material that can be grown and managed in a cost-effective and sustainable manner. The agronomy or field management practices must allow regular uniform fruiting that can be mechanically harvested, preferably with a minimum of inputs (fertilizer, irrigation, etc.).

#### **Robert E. Paull**

Tropical Plant and Soil Sciences

College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources

**Tuesday, October 10, 2006**

**3:15 – 4:15 PM**

**HIG Auditorium, Room 110**

**Sponsored by**

**Hawai'i Natural Energy Institute**