

Dean M. Matsukawa



Background:

Third generation farmer grew up on the family farm on the windward side of Oahu. The farm grew bananas, tropical flowers and occasional vegetable and fruit crops for crop rotation. The farm consisted of 30 acres just outside the Wilson tunnel and eventually relocated to 10 acres in Waiahole Valley.

Professional Experience

State Department of Agriculture

Deputy Director 1/2024-Present

Agricultural Loan Administrator 05/2005-3/2022

- Manage daily operations and developed long term strategies for the Agricultural Loan Division.
- Increased loan portfolio from \$17 million to \$25 million.
- Instrumental in developing new loan programs and modifying existing programs to better meet the needs of clients and the farming community.
- Ensured compliance with Statutes governing the program as well as program rules, policies and procedures.
- Oversaw conversion of the Division's loan system.
- Developed and wrote legislative bills, provided written and oral testimonies
- Made public appearances on behalf of the program.

State Department of Agriculture 10/1991-04/2005

Business Loan Officer

- Involved in all aspects of the loan process from initial loan interviews to loan closing.
- Involved in all aspects of collections including loan modifications, foreclosures, forbearances, loan settlements. Etc.

- Worked on all islands and counties and am familiar with crops, production techniques and crop/area issues throughout the state.

Self-employed Farmer 8/1985-10/1991

- Managed and operated family farm in Waiahole raising bananas and tropical flowers.
- Installed accounting and payroll systems.
- Over saw schedules of harvest, irrigation, pesticide, fertilizer and fungicide applications.

Education and Training:

B.A. in Political Science from University of Washington

- Coursework includes Botany, Horticulture, Accounting, and Ag. Economics

Agricultural Lending Institute, Fresno State

Hawaii Leadership Academy, State of Hawaii

Agricultural Leadership Program (Class VI), Agricultural Leadership Foundation of Hawaii

Related Information

Manager of the Year, Department of Agriculture

Team of the Year, Department of Agriculture

President-East Oahu County Farm Bureau

President-Kona County Farm Bureau

Recipient Writing and Executing Exceptional Action Plans award, Hawaii Leadership Academy