CENTER FOR
TROPICAL AND SUBTROPICAL
AQUACULTURE

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Letter from the Director

Aloha and Happy Holidays,

As we approach the end of the year, we here at CTSA are celebrating this joyous holiday season together with loved ones; it is our hope that you, our valued friends and stakeholders, are also able to take some time away from work and gather together with family and friends.

This time of the season also finds us reflecting on the good times we had this year, as well as the accomplishments of our Center and funded projects. We are also looking forward to the productive year to come. Again, I would like to ask for your partnership to reach our shared goals of achieving food security while protecting our precious planet and its finite resources. We all know that the food wasted every day is enough to feed millions of people. It also creates environmental hazards. Therefore, we should strive to not only improve the efficiency of food production but also reduce food waste and the industry's carbon footprint.

Hawaii is the most vulnerable state in America when it comes to food security. We rely on importation to meet food demands, with ~90% of the food supply coming from off-island. Singapore is another island nation that currently imports the same amount of food, but they are working hard to change this. I recently had an opportunity to visit and was impressed by Singapore's commitment and approach to reducing reliance on imported foods. The country is determined to implement innovation approaches to produce thirty percent of its nutritional needs by the year 2030. There are many new approaches and policies that we can learn and apply across the CTSA region to reduce the current reliance on imported foods. I find myself pondering, do we have what it takes to learn and employ innovative approaches to achieve food security and also protect our region's unique and pristine environment? I believe this will be an important goal for 2023 and the years to come.

Mahalo,
Dr. Cheng-Sheng Lee
Executive Director, CTSA

Prosperous New Year

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This newsletter is written and prepared by the CTSA Information Specialist Meredith Brooks.
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