

A photograph of a mountainous landscape. In the background, a large, rugged mountain peak rises against a clear blue sky. The mountain's slopes are covered in dense, green vegetation. In the foreground, there is a thick forest of smaller trees and shrubs, also in shades of green. The overall scene is bright and clear, suggesting a sunny day.

Kaupo Mesic Forest

Plants of Haleakala National Park

Acacia koa “Koa”

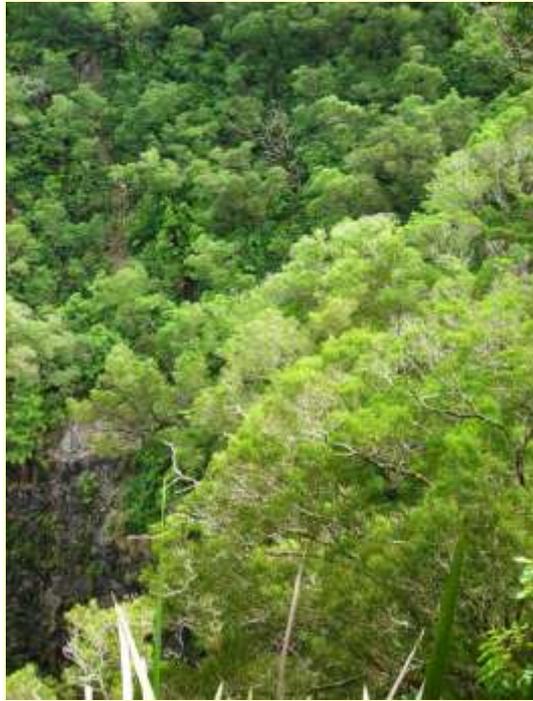


Image Source: www.hear.org,
www.botany.hawaii.edu/faculty/carr/images

Acacia koa Endemic to the Hawaiian Islands **Common name:** “Koa” **Family:** Fabaceae **Listing Status:** Not listed. **Species Info:** This wood is well known for construction of canoe hulls. There are over 1200 species of Acacia in the world, many of which are native to Australia.

Park Distribution: Kaupō Gap, Kaumakani, Kipahulu Valley, Kaapahu, Manawainui.

Elevation in Park: 470-5600 ft.

Habitat: Dry to wet forest.

General Description: Second most common native tree in Hawai‘i, dominant tree in mid-elevation dry to wet forest. Trees up to 35 m. tall. Adult leaves reduced to sickle-shaped phyllodes, 7.5-26 cm. long, .5-2.5cm. wide. Bipinnately compound true leaves are present on saplings. Flowers pale yellow, 2mm. long, 8mm. diameter, in racemes or panicles. Seeds in flattened pods, 8-30 cm. long.

Alyxia oliviformis “Maile”



Image Source: www.hear.org



Alyxia oliviformis Endemic to the Hawaiian Islands **Common name:** “Maile” **Family:** Apocynaceae **Listing Status:** Not listed. **Species Info:** The stems and leaves are fragrant and used to make lei. This is one of five plants offered at the hula altar.

Park Distribution: Kaupō Gap, Kipahulu Valley, Manawainui, NE Rift.

Elevation: 1500-5000 ft.

Habitat: Extremely diverse, from dry open sites to dense closed-canopy rainforest.

General Description: Trailing liana or small shrub with milky sap. Leaves arranged in threes or opposite, upper surface glossy, oval shaped, fragrant when crushed. Flowers in cymes, greenish white. Fruit are dark purple drupes.

Bidens micrantha ssp. kalealaha “Ko`oko`olau”



Image Source: www.hear.org

Bidens micrantha ssp. kalealaha Endemic to Lana`i, Maui **Common name:** “Ko`oko`olau” **Family:** Asteraceae
Listing Status: Endangered **Species Info:** All 19 native Bidens species are endemic to the islands, and all are interfertile.

Park Distribution: Crater, above Kapalaoa, Kaupō Gap, Waikane

Elevation in Park: 6100-7700 ft.

Habitat: Shrublands and dry forest.

General Description: Sprawling perennial herb 0.5 to 1.5 m. tall, growing in the steep rock faces and cliffs; dissected leaves with ciliate margins; leaflets ovate-lanceolate, lanceolate or narrowly lanceolate; small yellow flowers at the ends of branches in loose clusters.

Dodonaea viscosa “A`ali`i”



Image Source: www.hear.org/starr/hiplants,
www.botany.hawaii.edu/faculty/carr

Dodonaea viscosa Indigenous to pantropical region. **Common name:** “A`ali`i” “`a`ali`i kū makani” “`a`ali`i kū ma kua”, “kūmakani”
Family: Sapindaceae **Species Info:** This plant has many ethnobotanical uses, from medicinal to weaponry.

Park Distribution: Crater, Kaupō Gap, Kipahulu Valley, Manawainui

Elevation in Park: 300-8800 ft.

Habitat: Xeric to wet forests, cinder deserts, and subalpine shrublands.

General Description: Erect large shrub or small tree 6 - 24 ft. tall. Branched with reddish brown to gray or blackish gray bark. Leaves 2 - 15 cm. long and 1 - 6 cm. wide. Flowers male or female, 1 - 5 cm. long.

Myrsine lessertiana “Kōlea”



Image Source: Forest and Kim Starr - www.hear.org

Myrsine lessertiana Endemic to the Hawaiian Islands **Common name:** “Kōlea” “Kōlea lau nui” **Family:** Myrsinaceae **Listing Status:** Not listed. **Species Info:** The wood was used in housebuilding, canoe construction, and making olonā scraping boards. The bark was used to make red dye for kapa.

Park Distribution: Crater, Kaupō Gap, Kipahulu Valley, Manawainui, NE Rift, West Slope

Elevation: 2900-7600 ft.

Habitat: Dry forest to rainforest

General Description: Trees or shrubs, 2-8 m. tall, branches reddish brown to purple, smooth. Leaves dark green, young leaves reddish to dark purple, thick, oblanceolate, 4-15.5 cm. long, 1-7 cm. wide. Leaves with a prominent midrib, usually red towards the petiole. Flowers in clusters with bracts at the axils, green to purple. Fruit is a purple to black drupe.

Pipturus albidus “Māmaki”



Image Source: Forest and Kim Starr - www.hear.org



Pipturus albidus Endemic to the main Hawaiian Islands **Common name:** “Māmaki” **Family:** Urticaceae **Listing Status:** Not listed. **Species Info:** The bark was used to make kapa. The leaves were made into a medicinal tea.

Park Distribution: Kaupō Gap, Kipahulu Valley, Manawainui

Elevation in Park: 800-5690 ft.

Habitat: Wet ravines, mesic forest and shrublands.

General Description: Shrubs or small trees, 2-6 m. tall, bark is gray to brown. Leaves are dark green, ovate to elliptic, 5-20 cm. long, 2-15 cm. wide, young leaves larger, veins impressed and sometimes red, lower surface white or gray, margins serrate. Flowering and fruiting year-round. Flowers clustered along branches.

Osteomeles anthyllidifolia “`Ūlei”

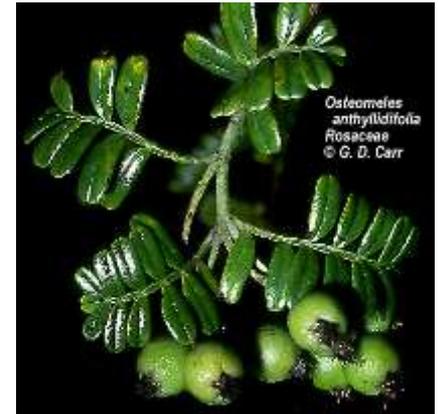
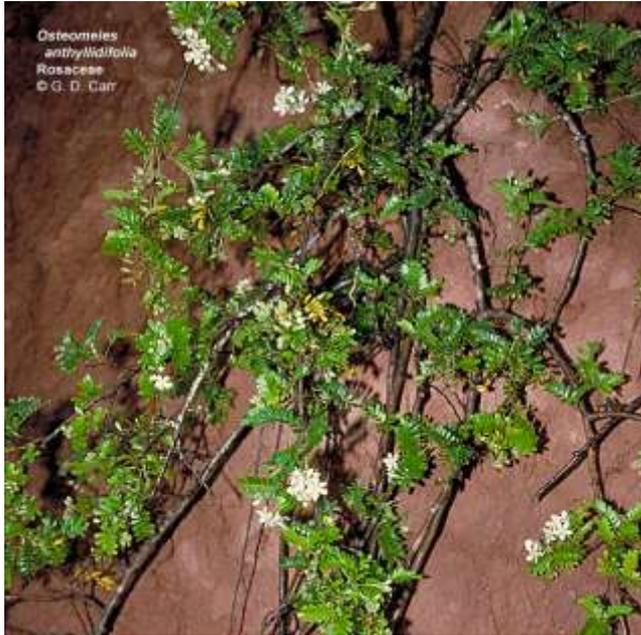


Image Source: Forest and Kim Starr www.hear.org,
www.botany.hawaii.edu/faculty/carr

Osteomeles anthyllidifolia Indigenous to the Cook Islands, Tonga, and the Hawaiian Islands. **Common name:** “`Ūlei” “u`ulei” **Family:** **Rosaceae** **Listing Status:** Not listed. **Species Info:** The wood was used to make hoops for fishing nets, tools for agriculture, a musical instrument called the `ukēkē, and carrying poles. The berries were used for food and dye for kapa.

Park distribution: Crater, Kaupō Gap, Lower Kipahulu Valley, Ka`apahu, Front Country

Elevation: 900-8000 ft.

Habitat: Gulches in subalpine shrubland.

General Description: Large shrubs to small trees, up to 12 ft. tall, branched, with young branches grayish and drooping. Stems usually prostrate. Leaves 2 - 7 cm. long. Fruit white to purple at maturity, 10 mm. in diameter.

Santalum haleakalae “`Iliahi”



Image Source: Forest and Kim Starr www.hear.org



Santalum haleakalae Endemic to East Maui **Common name:** “Sandalwood” **Family:** Santalaceae **Listing Status:** Rare, but not listed.
Species Info: The Sandalwood industry was started by Captain John Kendrick in 1791. The fragrant wood sold for \$125 a ton and brought an estimated 3 to 4 million dollars to the islands. The industry ended in 1845 when all trees of marketable size had been harvested. This trade greatly impacted the Hawaiian people because they were forced by their kings to abandon their farming and bring the wood to the coast.

Park Distribution: Kaupō Gap, Crater, Ko’olau Gap.

Elevation in Park: 5700-8700 ft.

Habitat: Subalpine shrubland, cinder desert.

General Description: Small tree 6 - 12 ft. Leaves olive green often purplish tinged, 2.5 - 7.5 cm long, 2-6 cm. wide. Flowers weakly fragrant, reddish to creamy colored in bud. Fruit black or purplish black at maturity, 10-15 mm. long.

Sophora chrysophylla “Māmane”



Image Source:

www.kcc.hawaii.edu/campus/tour/plants/pmamane.htm
Forest and Kim Starr www.hear.org, Hale/Images

Sophora chrysophylla Endemic to the Hawaiian Islands **Common name:** “Māmane” **Family:** Fabaceae **Listing Status:** Not listed. **Species Info:** One of the major species in the shrublands, it has been increasing in population with the removal of feral goats.

Park Distribution: Kaupō Gap, Kipahulu Valley, Manawainui, Crater.

Elevation in Park: 4000-9400 ft.

Habitat: Upper elevation shrubland, dryland, and rainforest.

General Description: Shrubs to trees up to 50 ft. tall. Leaflets alternate or opposite. Flowers yellow, peak in March in the Front Country and in December in Kaupō Gap; 11.5-21 mm. long, 8 - 20 mm. wide. Seeds yellow, brown, or grayish black.