



'Waimea' Anthurium

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'Waimea' is a new anthurium developed as a much-needed fast-propagating, high-yielding, bright red cut flower. It is being released to fill the niche once held by the popular but highly blight-susceptible red cultivar 'Ozaki'.

The new cultivar originated from a cross between 'Paradise Pink' and selection 768-47 (*A. antioquiense* x 'Marian Seefurth') made in December 1987 by H. Kamemoto. This seedling was selected for observation and evaluation in November, 1989. Tissue-cultured plantlets were initiated in 1994, and micropropagated plants were given to grower-cooperators for advance testing in 1999. Field performance from all test sites indicated good growth and high yield. Evaluation was completed in December, 2001, and mother flasks of propagative materials were released to the Hawaii industry in March, 2002.



Characteristics of 'Waimea' anthurium

Spathe	
Size and shape	Large, 5¾" long, 5" wide
Color	Red (RHSCC 45B)
Spadix	
Size and shape	3¼" long, ½" diameter
Color	Orange-red (RHSCC 39A), turning red-purple (RHSCC 62A)
Flower stem	Erect, 27" long, ¼" diameter
Leaf blade	13½" long, 8 1/2" wide
Leaf petiole	17½", ¼" diameter
Yield	6.3 flowers per shoot per year
Internode length	Medium
Sucker production	Fair
Disease tolerance	Moderately resistant to bacterial blight and anthracnose
Keeping quality	28 days (includes 3-day packing time)

'Waimea' anthurium has a medium- to large-sized heart-shaped flower with slightly overlapping lobes. It retains its vibrant color even under hot summer conditions and exhibits little damage from rain or mechanical injury in the field. Like 'Ozaki', the spathe and spadix of 'Waimea' share the same color grouping. The flowers are borne on straight and sturdy stems that have an average length of 27 inches. The yield potential of 'Waimea' is about 6.3 flowers per stem per year. This cultivar is notably fast in tissue culture. Packing trials with 95 flowers conducted over a 2-year period showed good keeping quality of 28 days total from harvest. Vase-life can be increased to 34 days (plus 3 days packed) by dipping or spraying flowers with 100 ppm B.A. No phytotoxic reaction was observed in response to Avid® 0.15EC and Dimethoate® 400 at twice the labeled rates.