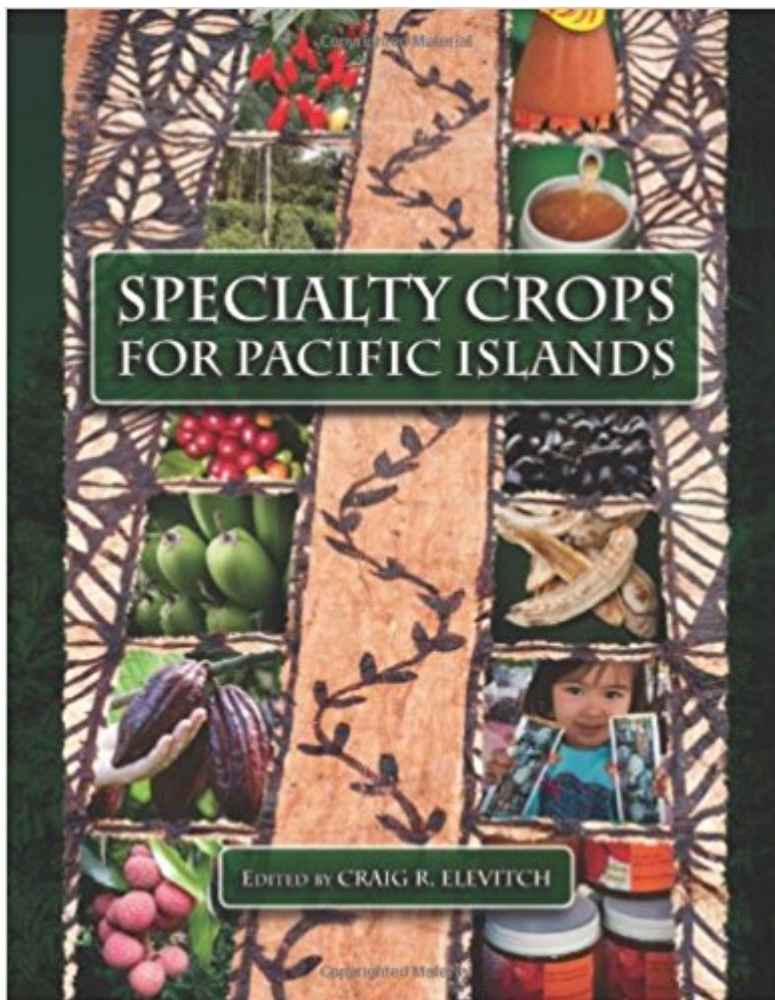


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# Specialty Crops For Pacific Islands



## Synopsis

From bamboo to black pepper, cacao to coconut and tea to taro—Specialty Crops for Pacific Islands provides detailed cultivation, value-added, and marketing information for 27 of the most important specialty crops for Pacific Islands and other tropical locations. Specialty crops provide a rapidly growing economic opportunity for innovative farmers and gardeners who are interested in diversifying their products. The book provides insights into sustainable cultivation and processing techniques for local and export markets with an emphasis on innovating production methods, postharvest processing, and marketing. Beautifully illustrated with over 940 color images, each chapter covers a crop in detail. Specialty Crops for Pacific Islands highlights producers from throughout the Pacific and shares their experience—both their challenges and successes. From the publishers of Traditional Trees for Pacific Islands and Agroforestry Guides for Pacific Islands, this 576-page book promotes high-quality food, fiber, and healthcare crops grown in diverse agroforestry systems. The emphasis is on providing small farms with opportunities for local consumption and commercial sale. Specialty Crops for Pacific Islands is a must-have reference book for farmers, gardeners, teachers, and extension agents in the Pacific and throughout the tropics who are interested in new economic opportunities from specialty crops. This is not a book that sits on the shelf, but is thumbed through again and again.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This formidable array of information is a gold mine of great ideas and insights on how our

agricultural and food systems can be more environmentally, economically, culturally, and nutritionally sustainable and adaptable to a changing island world. --Dr. R. R. Thaman, The University of the South Pacific, Suva, Fiji  
This book provides an enormous boost to the growing worldwide recognition of the crucial role these traditional crops can play in alleviation of ongoing malnutrition, poor health, poverty, environmental degradation, and social deprivation. --Dr. Roger R. B. Leakey, James Cook University, Cairns, Australia  
This book comes at an opportune time for Pacific Island countries exploring means of self-sufficiency through potentially high-value crops that meet both local needs and earn export income. For the enterprising cultivator, the book is comprehensive in its coverage and is beautifully illustrated. --Suliana Siwatibau, community development consultant, Suva, Fiji

Since 1989, Craig R. Elevitch has worked in agroforestry design, management, and education. His projects focus on agroforestry systems that have economic, environmental, and cultural significance. Craig's internationally recognized publications have guided thousands of readers in developing agroforestry systems, ecological restoration, and reforestation on farms, ranches, homegardens, and conservation areas. Publications include *Agroforestry Guides for Pacific Islands* (2000), *Growing Koa: A Hawaiian Legacy Tree* (2003), *The Overstory Book: Cultivating Connections with Trees* (2004), *Traditional Trees of Pacific Islands: Their Culture, Environment, and Use* (2006), and *Pathways to Abundant Gardens: A Pictorial Guide to Successful Organic Growing* (2007). *Specialty Crops for Pacific Islands* (2011) is the result of four years of work by 40 authors from throughout the Pacific (see contents above for author names).

Very thorough explanations giving the reader much to ponder if they're planning to grow any of these crops.

Excellent overview to many crops. Very useful information.

Another very useful book

It is a very thick book that includes lots of color photographs, which are worth the money, but the book is of limited use if you are outside of the tropics. Many of these fruit trees will not fruit outside of the tropics, for instance, mango steen, cacao, breadfruit will not fruit in south Florida; except in Key West (without a greenhouse). The crops include: Bamboo, Banana, Black pepper, Breadfruit,

Cacao, Chili pepper, Coconut, Coffee, Giant swamp taro, Giant taro, Ginger, Honey bees, Kava, Koa, Lychee, Macadamia nut, mangosteen, moringa, pumpkin and squash, sandalwood, sweetpotato, tamanu, tannia, taro, tea, and vanilla. Different authors wrote different sections of the book.

Craig Elevich has once again given us a tremendous tool for tropical agroforestry and permaculture. This manual reviews marketable products for both sunny areas and, importantly, products that can be raised in the shade of productive trees. If you are serious about regenerative enterprise in tropical climates this book is a must have. It offers incredible details on production, marketing, processing, and budgeting for a range of crops from moringa to black pepper to honeybees.

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