

Historical and molecular evidence of genetic identity of HAES741 and HAES660 macadamia cultivars

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The Hawaiian cultivars Keaau (HAES 660) and Mauka (HAES 741) were selected by the University of Hawaii, released in 1966 and 1977 respectively, and have been used extensively in macadamia orchards throughout the world. Recent molecular evidence suggests that these two cultivars are almost genetically identical. However, anecdotal evidence suggests they are phenotypically different. This study reviews available molecular, historical and phenotypic evidence to examine the hypothesis that these two cultivars are the same genotype.