

iPhone and iPad Apps for Extension[©]

Kent D. Kobayashi

Tropical Plant & Soil Sciences Dept., University of Hawaii at Manoa, 3190 Maile Way,
St. John 102, Honolulu, Hawaii 96822, USA

Email: kentko@hawaii.edu

Smartphones and tablets are increasingly being used to supplement or replace laptops and desktop computers. Horticulture-related applications (apps) for extension are becoming more available. These apps deal with such topics as:

- Food safety
- Geographic information systems
- Image enhancement
- Hydroponics
- Insect scouting
- Turfgrass and weed management
- Plant growth regulator calculations
- Creating and scanning QR (quick response) codes
- House plants
- Landscape design
- Plant and tree identification
- Whiteboard
- Agricultural retailers
- Crop protection product information
- Industry trade publications.

Finding apps can be done in several ways:

- Search for apps on a specified subject in the itunes App Store
- Do Internet searches for apps
- Use apps, such as appadvice, Appsfire, apps: Free!, Free App Tracker, FREE appz, and Apps Gone Free, to find apps.

To get apps, downloaded them to a smartphone or tablet, or to a computer and then transfer them to mobile devices. Apps can be downloaded from Apple's App Store using the app called App Store. Or, use the Mac App Store on a Macintosh computer. For my extension work, I have used the app, Zapd, to create mobile web sites. Mobile websites can also be created using Google Sites. E-books are easily created with the app Book Creator. I have given extension talks on QR code generator apps to produce QR codes and using QR code reader apps. News-aggregator apps and RSS Feed apps are used to help find articles, websites, and videos about cutting-edge technological developments in horticulture, which are then distributed to clientele. In conclusion, apps for mobile devices provide horticulturists with useful tools for their work.

