



### YASUO BARON GOTO

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Assistant County Extension Agent, Hawaii  
County

Yasuo Baron Goto is county agent for the Kona side of the Big Island. He is a graduate of Mills School, Honolulu, and received his B. S. degree from the University in 1924 and did advanced work in Chemistry in 1927 and 1928. Goto is a real farmer and in addition to working with his father on his coffee and livestock ranch has given much personal attention to bees, the Goto apiary being one of the largest in the United States.

As a student at the University Mr. Goto was a leader in many campus activities. He was elected a member of Lamma Ka, an honorary society made up of those who win distinction in University activities. He was also a member of Crossed Quills, the Hui Loahi, the Dramatic club, the Pre-Medical club, the Literary Society, A. S. U. H. and U. H. Y. and a member of the staff of Ka Palapala and editor in chief of Ka Leo o Hawaii. He was on the executive committee and vice-president of his class. His only connection with athletics seems to have been as assistant manager of the football team.

Mr. Goto has the bearing of a Baron, which name he won in high school and his courtly manner made him a favorite with the ladies but he has resisted their charms so far—? At one time Goto had medicine in mind. but his early attachment to the soil claimed him. He was selected by the University in the Spring of 1928 to make an Extension survey of the Kona coffee district and with the inauguration of the Agricultural Extension Service was made assistant county agent for the Kona side.

As county extension agent he has conducted a very successful rat killing campaign and is the organizer of the first boys' and girls' 4-H Extension Coffee Club in the world. It is composed of young men who are caring for a hundred coffee trees and keeping accurate cost records of their crops.

not so fat, and that appeared to be his most important activity so far as orange production was concerned. He was much interested in our gigantic sugar and pineapple corporations, and inclined to be a little critical. It all seemed to be so "unusual," as they say in California about the weather. At last we asked him "What is the essential difference between getting a check from a cooperative for a crop produced entirely under the control of others on your land, and getting a dividend check for stock in a plantation company?" He got up, abruptly—walked over the tiles to the balustrade and stood for a bit watching the surf roll in at Waikiki, while we smoked our cigarette, and then he came back and said—"Well I'll be darned—I never thought of it that way. You have given me something to think of all the way to Japan." For the first time he used "the" in referring to "his" ranch.

Our corporation farming here has some history that is not pleasant reading. It has brought a set of labor and social problems that give us concern and we have just as many but a different kind of extension problems, but it has "solved" most of the things the Mainland farmer complains of. It is worthy of honest study. Perhaps Hawaii needs more small farms to balance up its gigantic industrialized agriculture, and perhaps also the Mainland needs more large-scale production to supplant a part of its inefficient small farm units.

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### WARNING

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The use of sodium chlorate has become quite extensive on the Mainland in destroying such persistent weeds as Canada thistle, quack grass and wild morning glory. It is being introduced into the Islands. Several cases have been reported of serious injury to persons who have used sodium chlorate as a weed killer. The Kansas Agricultural Experimental Station in a recent bulletin states: "Sodium chlorate in contact with finely divided organic matter forms a combustible mixture. Clothing, fine straw, or chaff that has been moistened with a solution of this material and permitted to dry may be ignited by friction or a spark and become a fire menace. For these reasons sodium chlorate should be handled carefully. The spray solution should not be prepared inside barns or sheds, and if clothing becomes saturated, it should be thoroughly rinsed before being allowed to dry. It is advisable to wear rubber boots while spraying and to keep wagons and spray equipment well painted." The University of Minnesota also reports cases of stock poisoning from the use of this spray material. The Department of Agriculture has issued a special circular calling attention to the need of care in the use of this material.

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### ANNUAL EXTENSION CONFERENCE

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It has been necessary to make a change in the dates for the annual Agricultural Territorial Extension Conference on account of conflict with the Kona fair. The Conference will be held July 24, 25, and 26 instead of August 7, 8, and 9 as announced in the May issue.