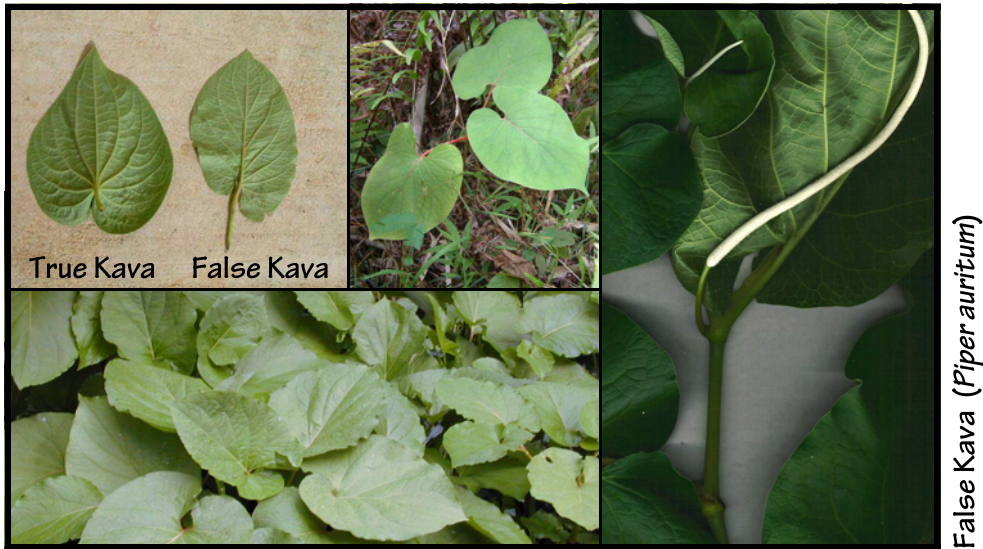


Have you seen this plant?



False Kava (*Piper auritum*)

Help keep this super weed off our island!!!
Call KISC 808/821-1490 to report sightings.

False Kava or False `awa (*Piper auritum*)

This plant is mistakenly planted as true `awa (kava) (*Piper methysticum*). The leaves differ from true `awa, which have a “palmate” vein pattern versus the “pinnate” vein pattern found on false kava. False kava also does not possess any of the medicinal properties that true `awa has. It also has a root beer, or anise-like, odor when the leaves are crushed. This plant can grow quickly (more than twice as fast as true kava plants!) and spreads by root suckers which will displace other plants.

What can you do?

Note the difference between these two plants! Since this plant can spread by root sucker, it is extremely difficult to eradicate. If you believe that you have seen this plant, record its location (GPS if possible), take a cutting, and call KISC at 808/821-1490. We will be happy to come and eradicate your plants