



Chatting with High Tech High
Jan. 7, 2022

When I was in 7th Grade I wanted to be a zoologist!

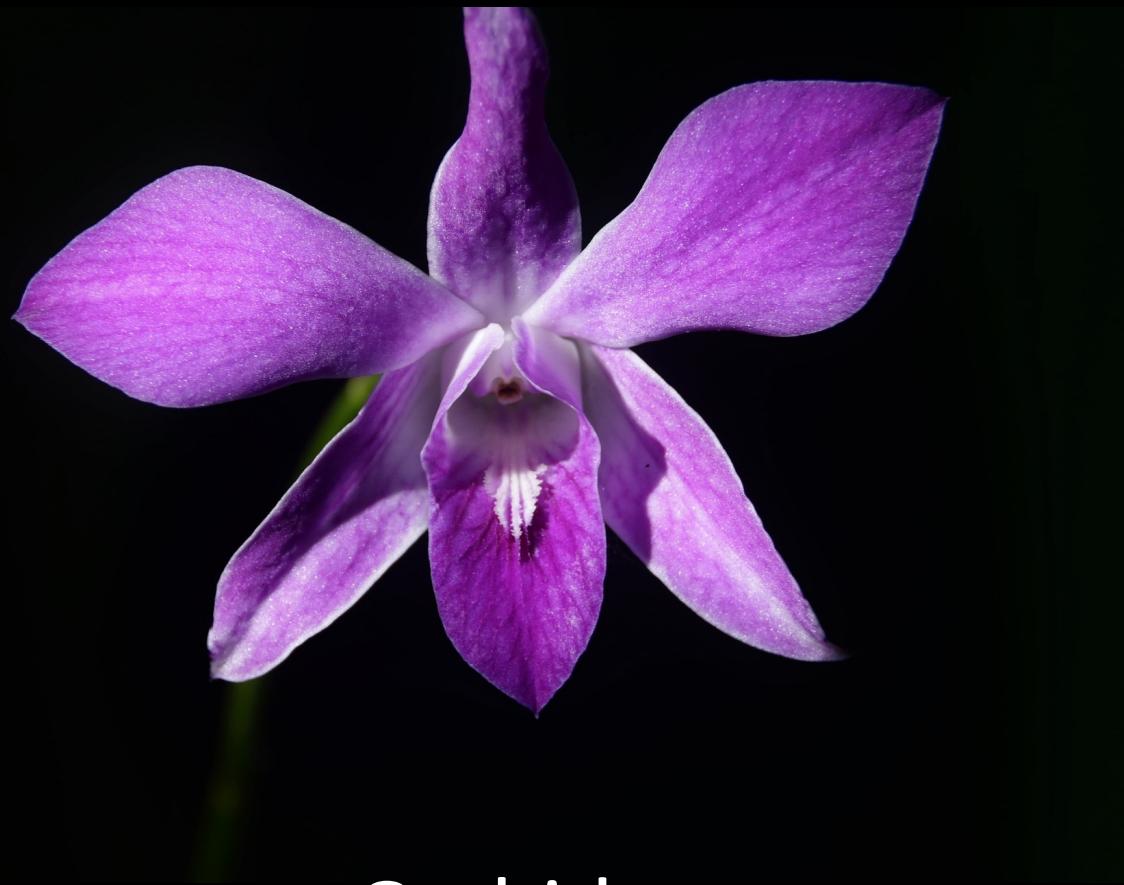


My imaginary “future self”



College
University of Hawai'i at Hilo





Orchid
Dendrobium species



PhD
Cornell University, New York





Rice
Oryza sativa







Corn
Zea mays



‘ōhi'a lehua
Metrosideros polymorpha

“Many forms”



‘ōhi‘a lehua
Metrosideros polymorpha

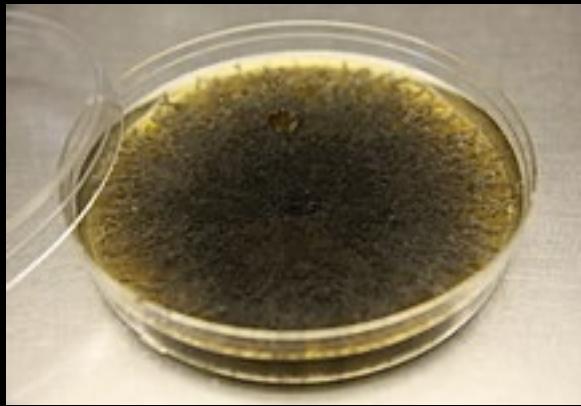
Rapid Ohia Death



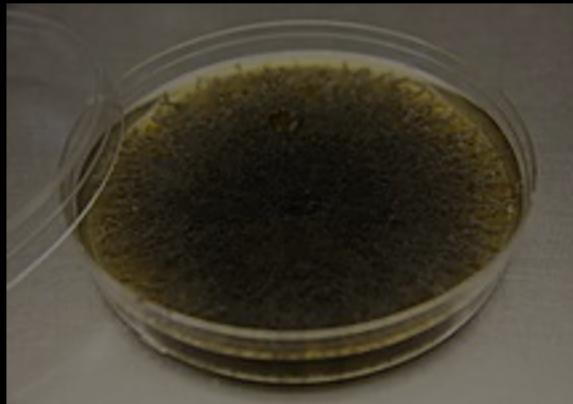
Rapid Ohia Death



Rapid Ohia Death

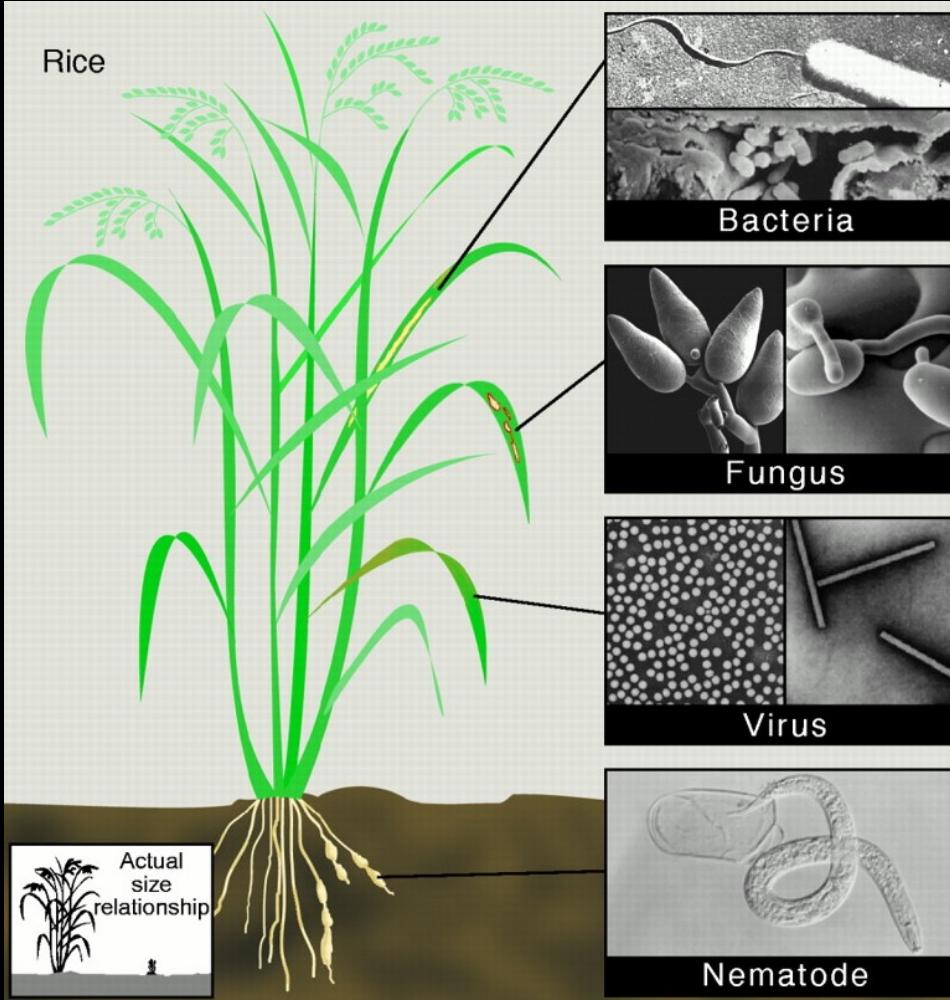


Rapid Ohia Death



How does the fungus move to new trees and areas?

Different microbes (germs) can cause disease







potato
Solanum tuberosum

Healthy

Disease



Plant diseases are a natural part of our ecosystems, **but when a new pathogen arrives it can devastate native plants or agriculture!**

Scientists (like me!) are working to:
Prevent infection and disease
Detect disease quickly
Stop the spread
Understand the plant immune system

Why I love being a scientist:

I get to work with plants,
ask interesting questions,
work to solve puzzles,
help people and the environment,
and, it's fun!



