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HAWAIIAN PROVERBS

*The lehua is in bloom.*  
Said by the people of Kawaihae when the *aku* fish appear in schools. It was considered unlucky to speak openly of going fishing.

2696 Pua ka neneleau, momona ka wana.  
*When the neneleau blooms, the sea urchin is fat.*  
The *neneleau* blooms about the time when the *hala* fruit ripens. These were signs for uplanders that the sea urchins were ready to be gathered.

2697 Pua ka uwahi he ahi ko lalo.  
*Where smoke rises there is fire below.*  
Where there are strong words the fire of wrath lies beneath.

2698 Pua ka uwahi o kā'ē'a'ē'a moku o Hina.  
*Up rose the smoke of the experts of the island of Hina.*  
Said of the quickness of the athletes of Moloka'i—they were so fast that they smoked.

2699 Pua ka uwahi o ko a uka, mana'o ke ola o ko a kai.  
*When the smoke [from the fires] of the upland dwellers rises, the shore dwellers think of life.*  
Shore dwellers depended on the uplanders for *poi*.

Pua ka uwahi o Manuokekula. 2700  
*The smoke of Manuokekula rose.*  
Said when one goes off with all speed. *Manuokekula* was a steamer in olden days; smoke was seen from her stack as she departed.

Pua ka wiliwili nanahu ka manō; pua ka wahine u'i nanahu ke kōnāwai. 2701  
*When the wiliwili tree blooms, the sharks bite; when a pretty woman blossoms, the law bites.*  
A beautiful woman attracts young men—sharks—who become fierce rivals over her. The law prevents the rivalry from getting out of hand—it can "bite." It is said that when the *wiliwili* trees are in bloom the sharks bite, because it is their mating season.

Pua ke kō, ku ka he'e. 2702  
*When the sugar cane tassels, the octopus season is here.*  
The sugar cane tassels in late October or early November.

Pua ke kō, ne'e i ka he'e hōlua. 2703  
*When the sugar cane tassels, move to the sledding course.*  
The tops of sugar cane were used as a slippery bedding for the sled to slide on.

Pua lehua i ka lawai'a. 2704  
*A lehua blossom in fishing.*  
An expert in catching fish.