

## **Oral presentation**

### **Ossification of traditional knowledge in Pacific Island cultures emerging from colonial cultural suppression**

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Pacific Island communities that have maintained traditional practices and knowledge through avoiding major colonial activities typically are optimistic and pragmatic in outlook using adaptive natural resource management systems. A different situation is often encountered in Pacific Island communities that endured a century or more of colonial cultural suppression and are now enjoying revival of interest in their own histories, practices, languages, and understandings of plants. In these communities, traditions are being revived from a variety of sources including colonial records, scientific reports, remnant practitioners, and borrowing from related cultures. This presentation will briefly consider some of the differences between communities and likely implications in ethnobotanical research and long-term cultural survival.

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