



**Kauna'oa**, *Cuscuta sandwichiana*, also native dodder is official Lanai colored lei material. Kauna'oa is a parasitic fungi usually growing among Pohuehue.

Hawaiian Dictionaries do not list word *Kaunoa*. Perhaps colors of Pohuehue and Kauna'oa represent Kaunoa School's colors, Green & Gold. Both species grow on nearby Spreckelsville Beach.  
Aloha, Warren



**Pohuehue**, *Ipomoea pes-caprae*, Beach Morning Glory, a vine growing atop sandy shores. Prevalent at Kanaha and Kihei Beaches.



Lana'i recognizes the kauna'oa as the official island lei material. Each of the Hawaiian Islands has designated an official flower or lei material, as well as an official island color.

Blooming Kauna'oa (*Cuscuta sandwichiana* -  
*Kaunaoa* [Cuscutaceae]) - photo by Forest & Kim Starr  
(USGS): [Plants of Hawaii](#)



Kauna'oa blossom at Kalepolepo, Maui, Hawaii - photo  
by  
Forest & Kim Starr (USGS): [Plants of Hawaii](#) - [cuscuta  
sandwichiana](#)