GROUP LEHUA

This group is distinguished by light green, spreading petioles, very smooth, sagittate leaf blades, and lilac-purple corms. The name Lehua is derived from the flowers of the lehua tree, which are similar in coloring to the corm flesh. There are four varieties, all of which make red poi of excellent quality. All red pois are called "Lehua poi" for this reason. They mature early, usually in from 8 to 12 months, and are grown under both wetland and upland cultures. They are known as royal taros and were formerly grown for and eaten only by the chiefs.