Ulupalakua
(Breadfruit Ripened On The Back)
by John P. Watkins

Famous

Is 'Ulupalakua

The pangs of the cold evening air

The home of the cowboys

My lei is an adornment

The sweet scent of ginger is

Truly beautiful

Tell the refrain

The home of the cowboy

Source www.huapala.org, Kamehameha Schools HSI Copyright John Watkins - An ancient Maui chief would send runners to Kipahulu for breadfruit. When they returned with the fruit, it was ripe. The chief called the district Ulupalakua or "breadfruit ripened on the back". The composer visited Ulupalakua, in up-country Maui on the southwestern slopes of Haleakala. He was so impressed by the cold mountain air, the scent of ginger and the cowboys, he composed this mele in 1947, to honor the district. Edited by Dr. Barbara Price