

PREL

**Commonwealth of the  
Northern Mariana Islands**

# **Southern Carolinian**

**Refaluwasch**

Dryland Taro  
*Colocasia esculenta*

English	Refaluwasch (Carolinian, Southern Dialect)	"Sounds Like..." pronunciation guide
Hello	Tirow	TEE <sup>1</sup> -row <sup>2</sup>
Good morning	Leesor allim	LEH-sor AHL <sup>3</sup> -lim
Good afternoon	Lealowas allim	LEH-AH-lo-wahs AHL-lim
Good evening	Leefááf allim	LEH-FÆF AHL-lim
Good night	Leebwong allim	LEH-bwong <sup>45</sup> AHL-lim
Thank you	Olomwaay / Ghilissow	o-lo-MWAY <sup>6</sup> khee <sup>7</sup> -lee-SSOW <sup>89</sup>
You're welcome	Ese bwal yoor	eh LEH ah-fah-EE-nah
Goodbye	U le ló (said to 1 person who is leaving) U le lo (said to 1 person who is staying behind)	oo LEH law oo LEH lo
My name is __[insert name]__	Iteey <sup>10</sup> nge __[insert name]__	ee-TEY NGEH __[insert name]__
What is your name?	Meeta itómw?	MEH-tah ee-TAWM
Yes	Óó	AW <sup>11</sup>
No	Eghe	EH-kheh

Phase 1 and Phase 2 reviewers: Oleai Dialect

Phase 3 reviewer: Southern Dialect

<sup>1</sup> The syllables that are all capitalized represent the syllables with more emphasis (i.e., pronounce them a little bit louder or longer)

<sup>2</sup> Roll all the [r]'s

<sup>3</sup> The [ah] is like the Chicago dialect pronunciation of words like *car* and *Chicago*

<sup>4</sup> The [bw] is pronounced similarly to the "bu" sequence of the Spanish word *bueno*

<sup>5</sup> The [ng] represents the nasal sound made with the back of the tongue touching the soft palate, like the [ng] of English *sing*

<sup>6</sup> The [mw] is pronounced similarly to the "mw" sound sequence in the middle the English word *somewhere*

<sup>7</sup> The [kh] sound is a rough sound made with the back of the tongue close to the soft palate, almost like a combination of the [h] sound of English and the [j] sound of Spanish

<sup>8</sup> Double consonants in the pronunciation guide means hold out the consonant longer

<sup>9</sup> This pronunciation rhymes with English *sew*; don't pronounce it to rhyme with English *bow*

<sup>10</sup> Another spelling/pronunciation is also used: *itáy* (ee-TÆY)

<sup>11</sup> This pronunciation rhymes with English *law*; don't pronounce it to rhyme with English *meow*