



DAMAG-AGRI

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Ilocos Agri posts positive performance in 2015

Despite the challenges of strong typhoons and the threat of El Nino, the Ilocos Region remains to be on top as far as agricultural production is concerned.

Contributing a total of 1,777,121 metric tons of palay or 9.79% to the national rice production of more than 18 million metric tons for CY 2015, Region 1 remains to be the 4th major rice producing region in the country.

Besting other corn producing regions of the country, Region I also takes pride of being recognized to have the best quality of corn grains produced and ranks No. 5 as corn producing region in the country.

For high value crops, Region I sustained its role as the major source of mango, peanut, mungbean and pinakbet vegetables where it contributed 71% and 32% of locally produced garlic and onion respectively, while 30-40% supply of tomato and eggplant in the market comes from Region I.

For its Livestock production, Region I's livestock industry remains competitive due to its FMD Free and Avian Influenza-free status.

Region 1 remains self-sufficient in almost all of its priority commodities. It has a 178% sufficiency level on rice, 189% sufficiency level on corn, 246 % sufficiency level on fruits, 106% on rootcrops, 169% on vegetables, 108% on legumes, 123% on meat and 143% sufficiency level on fishery.

Among the four provinces, Pangasinan remains the highest producer of rice in the region followed by the Province of Ilocos Norte, Ilocos Sur and La Union respectively. The positive production performance was attributed to the completion of various projects on irrigation systems that increased the harvest area for rice in the region.

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Region I farmers remain steadfast with the agri-sector's positive growth.

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REGION I HOSTS 18TH MANGO CONGRESS

Joining forces to strengthen the mango industry while positively responding to the pressing issues and concerns of the major industry players, the Department of Agriculture-Regional Field Office I in collaboration with the Philippine Mango Industry Foundation, Inc. (PMIFI) and the Provincial Government of Ilocos Norte hosted the 18th National Mango Congress and Summit Workshop 2016.

Held at the Plaza del Norte Hotel and Convention Center in Laoag City, Ilocos Norte on March 15-16, 2016, the Mango Congress aims to work out doable moves and strategies to positively respond to the pressing challenges that the mango industry is now facing especially on the production and marketing aspect of the commodity.

Participated in by around 800 individuals from the mango industry from growers, producers, processors, researchers, farm input suppliers and traders, the Mango Congress provided an avenue to convene all industry players in providing solutions to the pressing issues and concerns in the industry.

Most prominent issues and concerns that were discussed in the Mango Congress are the low price of the commodity per kilo due to the glut of supply in the

market and unstable production due to the strict regulation of flower inducers for mango.

According to Ms. Virginia dela Peña, President and Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the PMIFI, mango farmers are at the losing end due to this situation. "We need to program the induction of flowers to our mango," dela Peña said.

Responding to the comments of Ms. dela Peña, Mr. Ricardo Tolentino, President of the Ilocos Norte Mango Growers Federation recommended for the proper programming of production by islands since harvesting of Mango in Mindanao coincides with the peak of harvesting season in Luzon and Visayas.

"Huwag nating pagsabay-sabayin ang production. Hindi dapat itaon ng Mindanao ang kanilang pag-harvest sa panahon ng pag-harvest ng Luzon," Mr. Tolentino lamented.

Taking into account the 2014 mango season where most of mango growers and contractors like Mr. Tolentino lost a lot of money, he suggested for the Mindanao region to move their flower induction activities from the month of May to June to November.

Pangasinan farmers receive P115M worth of agri-dev't projects from DA



Hon. Proceso J. Alcala wows the crowd with the P115,435,580.50 worth of programs, projects and interventions for turn-over, award and raffle to various farmers and irrigators associations recipients. Among these projects are the Small Water Impounding Projects (SWIP), Farm to Market Roads (FMR), farm machineries and equipment such as 4-wheel drive tractors, hand tractors, pump and engine sets and collapsible dryers. Assorted vegetables as well as bottom set gillnet and tilapia fingerlings in support to the high value commercial crops program and fisheries sector was also awarded to the farmer and fisherfolk beneficiaries. Included in the raffle are: knapsack power sprayers, pump and engine sets, farmalite, carabao with implements, native piglets and goats.

T rue to his commitment of serving the farmers since day one of his term as the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, and with farmers clamoring to extend his term beyond the Aquino administration, Hon. Secretary Proceso Alcala made sure that for as long as he holds the highest position as Food Czar, farmers will continue to feel the responsive support of DA to them.

Thus, bringing with him agri-development projects worth P115M, Sec. Alcala met with farmer leaders and association members during a Farmers

Forum held at the Umingan Municipal Auditorium in Umingan, Pangasinan on January 26, 2016.

Alcala led the distribution of various agri-equipment to farmer-association beneficiaries such as two units 4-wheel drive tractors, four units hand tractors, three units pump and engine sets, five collapsible dryer cases, assorted vegetables as well as bottom set gillnet and tilapia fingerlings from the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR). He also awarded the Certificates of Turn-over of the completed DA funded Farm to Market Road Project

"We cannot move our schedule of flower induction here in Luzon because beyond May is already rainy and typhoon season," Mr. Tolentino said.

Another critical issue that the Congress had discussed is the unavailability of potassium nitrate due to

the strict regulation of RA 9156 otherwise known as the Comprehensive Dangerous Drug Act. This resulted to lower production of mango in CY 2015.

Potassium nitrate is the major ingredient in flower induction of mango. According to Mr. Nestor

Pangasinan Farmers receive 115M...

(fr. page 3)

worth P 13M, and five Small Water Impounding Projects worth PhP70M.

With a crowd estimate of around 4,000 Alcala thanked the overwhelming display of eagerness from the people to be further informed about the on-going programs of DA as they positively responded to the message of the Secretary assuring them that DA has enough funds to continually *(next page)* pursue more projects and programs for the farmers.

“Ang ating gobyerno po ay tumututok sa pangangailangan ng nakararaming magsasaka at mangingisda at ng buong sektor ng agrikultura. Hindi po problema ang pondo ngunit kailangan lang po nating gastusin ito ng tama, bantayan po natin at siguraduhing ang benepisyo ay dadaloy hanggang sa maliliit nating magsasaka at mangingisda sa bawat rehiyon.”, Alcala said.

To prove that they have felt the assistance and support of DA and truly helped improve their lives, some farmers gave testimonies on how DA projects helped alleviate their livelihood as farmers.

Mr. Virgilio Ferrer, Vice Chairman of the Ricos Irrigators Association claimed that his income together with his fellow farmers in barangay Ricos have doubled due to the availability of water supply from the constructed SWIP in their area which enabled them to plant rice in two cropping seasons and for the first time were also able to plant hybrid rice.

Mr. Mamerto Santos, General Manager of St. Paschal MPC of San Quintin, Pangasinan happily narrated how their cooperative successfully evolved through the help of the DA in the Region. According to Mr. Santos, through DA's provision of various projects and services like farm machineries, production inputs and post harvest facilities, their coop is now considered as pillar of development in Pangasinan since members of their association tripled in number while their net asset increased to PhP19M.

Brgy. Capt. Jesus Espiritu of Brgy. Luna East, Umingan, Pangasinan, a beneficiary of the Farm to Market Road constructed in Brgys. Prado and Sta. Maria in Umingan likewise shared their story. He informed that they could now conveniently haul their agri-commodities from their farm to the Poblacion reducing their usual travel time from one hour to half an hour.

He likewise thanked DA for giving the necessary production inputs such as seeds and fingerlings that greatly contributed to their income. He took the opportunity to request from the Secretary provision of cold storage facility and value adding technology for their major vegetable commodity produced which is squash.

With a positive response to the testimony of Mr. Espiritu, Sec. Alcala revealed that in two weeks time, DA will be issuing the No Objection Letter (NOL1) to the municipality of Umingan for the construction of another FMR in Brgy. Prado funded under the Philippine Rural Development Project (PRDP) worth around P120M. The issuance of NOL1 signals the





"We need to change the image of Filipino farmers" - Sec. Alcala

"Gusto kong mabago ang imahe ng mga magsasaka. Dapat nakangiti na nakasakay sa traktora at may pera sa bulsa."

This is how Department of Agriculture Secretary Proceso Alcala pictured how he wanted to change the image of Filipino farmers at the end of his term as the food czar in Aquino's Administration during the Farmers' Forum held on February 22, 2016 at Sta. Maria Municipal Auditorium, Sta. Maria, Ilocos Sur.

From a common ordinary farmer who are oftentimes described as filthy, with a sun-dried skin, living in wretched condition with his old-aged carabao, Sec. Alcala said that farmers under his watch must live comfortably with the provision of greater intervention geared towards higher production and income.

Making this possible, Secretary Alcala has once more turned-over Php56.2M worth of agri-development programs and projects to the various farmers groups and associations in Ilocos Sur all leading towards the development of their lives as a farmer and in their community as well.

Having hosted the Farmers' Forum in Ilocos Sur, Sta. Maria town received the most costly programs and projects like the rehabilitation of Pinsal SWIP amounting to P15M, the DA-BAR Funded CPAR Project on Breeder Goat (Php2.5M) and the DA-PhilMech funded tramline (Php2.08M), respectively. These are aside from the farm mechanization projects such as 1 unit Mini 4WD tractor, 1 unit grain silo, 2 units pump and engine set, 1 unit thresher, 1 unit collapsible dryer case, 3 units electric pump, multiplier farm as well as assorted palay and vegetable seeds.

Other municipalities and cities like Vigan City received from DA a one unit mobile dryer worth Php3.7M and a mechanical corn planter worth P998,000.00. The municipality of Sto. Domingo was the recipient of 1 unit rice seed storage through the BORPARLUNA Irrigators Association in the amount of P3.6M while the City of Candon received 1 unit hand tractor and 1

unit collapsible dryer case. In like manner, the municipalities of Burgos, Narvacan, San Esteban, Santiago and the Provincial Government of Ilocos Sur through the Office of the Provincial Agriculturist were the recipients of various palay and vegetable seeds for distribution to the farmers of Ilocos Sur.

On the other hand, the municipalities of Tagudin and Galimuyod were among the recipients of a multiplier farm which covers the distribution of native goats, breeder goats,

chickens and native pigs.

Along with these farm inputs, machineries and equipment, DA has also turned-over fishery projects such as tilapia fingerlings and motorized bancas through the Office of the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources.

Aside from awarding and turning-over DA projects, the Farmers' Forum was highlighted with the conduct of a Raffle Draw for the delight of the audience. Prices such as carabao with implements, pump and engine sets, native swine and breeder goats are at stake to the lucky farmers.

With all these programs and projects given to the farmers, farmer-leaders like Mr. Rudencio Laya, the MAFC Chairman of Sta. Maria, Mr. Benjamin Dagdag, the Chairman of the Burayok ti Pinsal Irrigators Association, Ms. Editha Umipig, Manager of the Burgos-Sta. Maria Irrigators MPC and Balballasioan Barangay Chairman Darlito Santiago expressed in their testimonies their sincerest gratitude to the Department of Agriculture for bringing these agri-development programs and projects to their association that ultimately help to attain progress and development in their groups' members.

Meanwhile, underscoring how he wanted to help the Filipino farmers become more progressive, Secretary Alcala reported that the average age of Filipino farmer is becoming younger from 57 to 43 years old. "An indication that younger Filipinos are getting interested in the agriculture sector," Sec. Alcala said. He attributed the reduction in age of farmers with the DA's program on farm mechanization, hence, he vowed to complete the set of machineries that the Burgos-Sta. Maria Irrigators MPC already have by providing 1 unit of corn planter to the members of the association.

With all these moves of Sec. Alcala in making the lives of the farmers better, farmers are then hopeful for the sustainability of these projects for the improvement of their lives as a farmer and into their community as well.#####

Sikat Saka Program

DA strategizes Sikat Saka Program to elicit higher reception by farmers



Despite the massive information dissemination campaign of the Agricultural Training Institute (ATI) on the Sikat Saka Program to the members of Irrigators Association in Ilocos Region, the Land Bank of the Philippines (LBP) still failed to maximize the funds intended for the Sikat Saka Program for Region I.

Mr. John Ramirez, LBP's Ilocos Sur Lending Center Account Officer reported this during the Sikat Saka Program's Assessment and Planning Workshop held at the DA Conference Room, San Fernando City, La Union just recently.

Sikat Saka is a credit assistance program of the Department of Agriculture to rice farmers in support to the DA's Food Sufficiency Program with an end goal of boosting farmers' productivity and income in partnership with the Land Bank of the Philippines (LBP) and Agricultural Credit Policy Council.

In his report to the members of DA's Sikat Saka Team, Mr. Ramirez said that only farmers from the provinces of Ilocos Norte and Pangasinan from Region I has availed of the program.

As of CY 2015 report, LBP in Region I has only released a total of Php21,268,613 with Ilocos Norte receiving Php13,711,718 benefitting 181 farmer-borrowers and the province of Pangasinan with Php7,556,895 for 112 farmer-borrowers who availed of the loan to finance their rice farming activities.

In a report made by Mr. Bienvenido Masbang of ATI, the agency was able to conduct 11 batches of community-based briefing and credit worthiness seminar in 11 municipalities in the region that was participated in by around 1,084 farmers.

Out of the 1,084 farmers who attended the briefing, only 28 percent of this total number participated in the program.

"There must be something wrong or missing link why farmers were not able to embrace the program," said Mr. Cesar Ulpindo, LBP's Ilocos Sur Lending Center Branch Manager.

Lauding the experiences of Pangasinan and Ilocos Norte provinces where farmers have higher reception towards the Sikat Saka program, Mr. Ulpindo requested Ms. Norma Lagmay, the Provincial Agriculturist to share their strategies on how they were able to carry out the program despite resistance of other farmers to join so that the other provinces may replicate in their own areas.

Sharing the approaches and strategies in successfully working out the Sikat Saka Program in Ilocos Norte, Ms. Lagmay identified the essence of teamwork as the key of the province in increasing farmers' participation in the Sikat Saka Program.

According to Ms. Lagmay, prior to the on-set of rice cropping season, her group together with the inter-agency focal persons met to set

their targets especially in identifying how many farmers must be invited in the briefing about the Program.

Other than the Provincial inter-agency meeting that her group conducted, a meeting together with the president of the Irrigators Association that was predominantly identified by the National Irrigation Administration and the Municipal Agriculturists in the province was also conducted to familiarize the farmers about the implementing guidelines of the Sikat Saka Program.

Striving for a better turn-out on the implementation of the program, Dr. Paz L. Mones, DA's Rice Program Focal Person called on the need to strategize things if only to create greater awareness and participation to among the intended beneficiaries of the program.

She called on the need for a conduct of briefing regarding the program selecting properly the farmers who are receptive and willing to participate in the program.

"We have limited resources so we need to choose quality participants in the briefing and credit worthiness seminar and proceed to other areas," Dr. Mones said.

She likewise emphasized the need to have a follow-through session after the community based briefing and credit worthiness seminar had been conducted for the IA members to be better informed about the benefits that they could derive in availing of the program and must have inculcate in their minds the process and guidelines in availing of the program.

In encouraging the farmers to participate in the program, she encouraged the Agricultural Extension Workers to emphasized with the farmers the value of establishing good track record especially in availing of government projects since this shall serve as the basis of availing of future projects especially on the provision of farm machineries and equipments under the DA's Farm Mechanization Program.

As to the issue of difficulty in filling-up of forms and documents as one of the identified reasons why most farmers was not able to embrace the Sikat Saka Program, Dr. Mones cited the importance of strengthening the involvement of the LGUs especially in helping farmers to accomplish the forms to enable farmers to participate in the program.

She also vowed to provide financial assistance for the conduct of 4 meetings for each of the provinces within a year with a maximum of 50 participants for each meetings if only to elicit positive response from the members of irrigators association.

Meanwhile, to complete the strategies in working out the Sikat Saka Program, the NFA Provincial Managers present in the meeting requested the Land Bank of the Philippines to provide them the lists of farmer-borrowers for them to follow through with their Palay Procurement Program.###



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Regional Livestock Program maps activities for 2016 and 2017

Leading the direction for the Livestock Sector in the FY 2016 and 2017, the Department of Agriculture-Regional Field Office I under the Livestock Banner Program conducted its 2016 and 2017 Planning Workshop on January 18, 2016 at the DA-Conference Room in San Fernando City, La Union.

Participated in by the various operating units which include among others the Research and Development Group, Agribusiness and Marketing Assistance Division, Provincial Research and Extension Centers, Regulatory Division, Integrated Laboratories, Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Division as well as Information Group, the two-day planning workshop produced as a blueprint to implement programs and projects towards achieving higher production and income of the livestock raisers in the region.

In her Remarks during the Opening Program, Dr. Annie Bares, the Field Operations Division Chief of DA-RFO I stressed the importance of preparing quality proposals from the operating units to utilize the Php59M total budget allocation for 2017.

Of the total Php59M fund allocation of the Livestock Program in the Region for CY 2017, Dr. Bares said that 50% or Php 29.5M is intended for Production Support services (PSS), 18% or P10.6M for Extension Support, Education and Training Services (ESETS) and 10% or Php5.9M is allocated for Research and Development. The rest of the chunk of the budget is allocated for the development of the stations which is 22% or an equivalent of about Php13M.

To promote transparency and accountability in the sector, Dr. Bares also informed the group about the distribution of the 2016 budget with a total amount of P59, 644. Bulk of the fund allocation for 2016 according to Dr. Bares was intended for the production support services of the livestock sector which is 55%. Next to PSS is the ESETS with a fund allocation of 26% followed by the Agriculture and Fishery Modernization which is 16%. The R&D Program and Marketing Development Projects were allocated with P1.8 M (3%) and P600,000 (1%) of the total budget, respectively.

With the given budgetary allocation, Dr. Bares emphasized that the management of the Livestock Program has given priority for the development of the stations so as to make them a show window of the technologies and breakthroughs developed through research.

She also reiterated the DA management's instructions on the early preparation of Purchase Requests by each of the Operating Units to avoid issues brought by with the upcoming election period where government procurement activities are banned.

In the same event, Engr. Eduardo Gonzales, RTD for Research and Regulations in his message underscored the need for the Livestock sector to make an inventory of the total livestock and

poultry population that will serve as a good benchmark in mapping the necessary assistance and technical services that the sector would offer to its clientele.

He likewise emphasized the essence of giving priority assistance to the backyard raisers who really are in dire needs of the DA's assistance.

With the present challenges that the sector is facing especially on climate change where most of the backyard raisers are vulnerable, Dir. Gonzales finds the need to identify these affected backyard raisers so that necessary interventions shall be given to them. In so doing, Dir. Gonzales stressed the need to identify the area with the most populated livestock in the region. This shall be done with the assistance of the province as well as municipalities in the region.

He called on the sector's initiative so that new programs like the Native Animal Development Program shall be known to the beneficiaries in the municipalities of the region thereby encouraging their active involvement in the program.

Considering the manpower resources of the Livestock Sector, Dir. Gonzales deemed it necessary to intensify the sector's manpower development program since they were already left behind when it comes to the level of educational attainment.###



DA markets agri-fishery products in a trade fair

Helping farmers in finding potential markets for their agri-fishery products, the Department of Agriculture-RFO I through the Agribusiness Marketing Assistance Division (AMAD) conducted a three-day Regional Agri-Fishery Trade Fair at the CSI Mall, Dagupan City, Pangasinan.



AMAS Director Bernadette San Juan enjoins the exhibitors and participants of the three-day trade fair to support locally produced products in the market.

Started on February 22, 2016 at the CSI Ground Floor, the Opening Program was graced by AMAS Director Bernadette San Juan and DA-RFO I's Regional Executive Director Valentino C. Perdido.

In her message, Dir. San Juan underscored the importance of conducting such an activity as this would serve as an avenue for the farmers to mingle with possible buyers and create networking and linkages with the traders while giving them the opportunity to sell their products.

He lauded the AMAD group for organizing such activity as this would benefit not only the farmers but the entrepreneurs as well who are in need of raw materials in carrying out their own small business enterprises.



Finding this activity as beneficial, a total of 18 small business enterprise owners participated in the trade fair and were able to display and sell their products.

Fresh to processed mangoes, dried fish, the famous bagnet and sukan iloco, sugar cane vinegar as well as chicha corn, cassava and potato chips were all displayed in the trade fair for the delight of the buyers. The three-day trade fair total income generated was pegged at Php515,000.

In her overview of the activity during the Opening Program, Ms. Wilhelmina Castañeda, Chief of the AMAD inspired the participants of the trade fair with information on the many opportunities that they could derive from joining the activity.

Aside from strengthening market promotion of the region's fresh and processed agri-fishery products, the trade fair provides the farmers/producers/processors a chance to meet potential buyers and collaborate with other line agencies to develop their products.

"By encountering with business partners, raw materials suppliers shall enhance their products, thus increasing investment opportunities thereby contributing to the growth and progress of the rural economy," Ms. Castañeda said.

Meanwhile, to make the trade fair more worthwhile, DA-AMAD invited speakers/lecturers for a technical and product presentations to provide the exhibitors more updates and breakthroughs in so far as agri-fishery products business marketing and entrepreneurial activities are concerned.

To make the activity more fun and interesting, DA-AMAD conducted a contest on Best Booth to select from among the exhibitors as well as Top Grosser. Best Booth was the ASAP OA, the most attractive booth among the exhibitors, while the Top Grossers were the owners of Dapuyen Vigan Delicacies, ASAP OA and CIJ Farm products.###

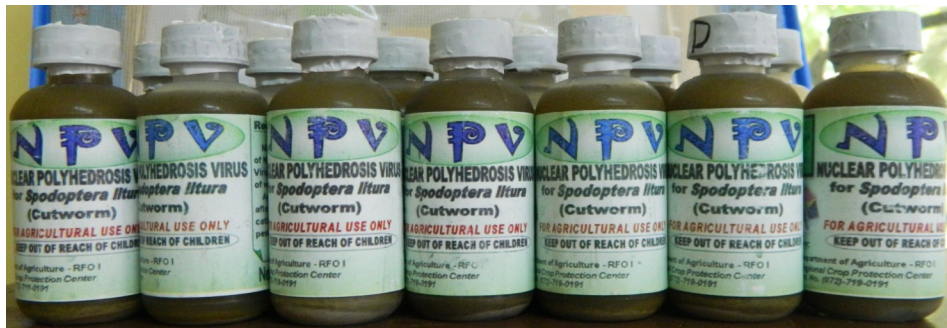


Nuclear Polyhedrosis Virus



Mangpaksiat ti Arabas

Ti "Nuclear Polyhedrosis Virus (NPV)" ket maysa a kita ti gagangay a *virus* iti aglawlaw. Daytoy ket mangpataud ti sakit kadagiti peste nga igges a kas iti Arabas nga agkakaan ken agdaddadael kadagiti mula a kardis, soybean, pagay, mais, kamatis ken tarong. Ti igges a makapangan ti NPV ket agsakit aginggana a matay iti uneg ti 3-5 nga aldaw. Agarup (80% - 98%) ti gun-daway a matay dagiti Arabas nga agsakit gapu ti NPV.



Panagpaado ti NPV babaen iti panagtakaran ti Arabas

1.) Agsukimat ti itlog iti arabas kadagiti bulung ti mula nga mabalin a pakasakaran, ikulung agingga agpissa.



2.) Inaldaw a pakanen ti bulung ti kamote dagiti Arabas sipud kapispissa aginggana mamitlo nga aglupos.



3.) Iti maikatlo a panaglugpos, pakanen iti bulung ti kamote a napasuyutan ti NPV



4.) Saggaysaen nga alaen dagiti natay nga arabas a gappuanan ti *virus*. Urnungen iti nadalos a botelya ken isurat ti bilangda.



napasuyutan ti NPV

4.) Saggaysaen nga alaen dagiti natay nga arabas a gappuanan ti *virus*. Urnungen iti nadalos a botelya ken isurat ti bilangda.
5.) Dagiti kasapulan ti panagaramid:



- Nadalus a danum
- Alcohol
- Napino a pagsagatan
- Botelya a pagkargaan

6.) Kalpasanna, kasapulan a 15 nga arabas wenno 60ml ti maipisuk iti tunggal botelya. Idulin iti Refrigerator no saan pay nga maaramat.



7.) Ikanaw ti kaibatugan ti



This agri-update topic is contributed by the:
Regional Crop Protection Center (RCPC) 1
Ilocos Integrated Agricultural Research Center (ILIARC)
DMMMSU Cmpd., Sapilang, Bacnotan, La Union

CORNER



Galad ti NPV



- ♦ Pagsakitenna dagiti Arabas a makapangan ti mula nga addaan *virus* aginggana nga aglungsot ti nagunegna
- ♦ Agbibitin dagiti Arabas a maakaran iti *virus*
- ♦ Nalaka a matay no masirayan ti init wenno *UV light*

Pagsayaatan

- ♦ Nasamay nga aramaten a pangpaksiat ti Arabas
- ♦ Saan a makadadael ti salun-at ti tao ken dinguen
- ♦ Nalaka a paaduen para ti sumarsaruno a panagpasuyot (*spray*)
- ♦ Nalaklaka a pangpaksiat ti peste nga Arabas no maidasig iti panagusar ti sabidong.

Panagusar



- ♦ 10 a botelya (60 ml) ti NPV iti tunggal ektarya ti maminsan a panangiyaplikar
- ♦ Dua a daras nga iyaplikar iti tunggal panagmula
- ♦ Ikanaw ti kaibatugan ti maysa a botelya iti 16 a litro ti danum

- ♦ Iyaplikar ti NPV iti naladaw a paset ti malem tapno maliklikan nga masirnaatan ti init.
- ♦ Kalpasan ti 3-5 nga aldaw a panagpasuyot, sukimaten dagiti natay nga igges a gapuanan ti NPV, urnungen. Ipisuk iti nadalus a botelya ket idulin iti *Refrigerator* tapno aramaten iti sumaruno a panagpasuyot.

Masalimetmetan

Wagas ti Panangpaksiat ti Peste	Dagup ti Gastos tunggal Ektarya	Gatad ti masalimetmetan
NPV	398.00	2,002.00
Insektisidyo	2,400.00	—

Dagiti Nagaramat ti NPV ditoy Region I



Ilocos Agri posts positive

frm page 1

As a result of a sustained effort in support to Organic Agriculture, out of the targeted area of 13, 533 hectares of conversion to Organic Agriculture, which is 5% of the total production area of 340,000 hectares in Region I, 17.32% or 2,344.38 hectares were already converted with 3,838 organic farming practitioners as of CY 2015.

Likewise, a notable accomplishment of the DA in the region for CY 2015 supporting Organic Agriculture is the approval of a Second Party Certification by the Ecoland Organic Certification Services for the DA-RFO 1's Pangasinan Research & Experiment Center. The research center serves as demonstration farm for producing certified organically-produced crops.

Other DA programs and projects aimed at further strengthening the agriculture sector were likewise successfully pursued during the year which translated to more assistance and benefits to farmers and fisherfolk in the region.####

Region 1 hosts Mango

frm page 2

Mendita, Sales Representative of Yara Philippines Company, during a product presentation in Congress, this material was banned in the country since this is a component in making explosive items like bombs.

He then called for the support of all mango stakeholders in the campaign to revisit RA 9156 in collaboration with the Department of Agriculture and House of Congress. He also asked the mango contractors and growers to support the company in the liquidation of the imported volumes of this material including identification of the dealers since these are among the requirements in the issuance of import permit.

Relative to this, Mr. Eduardo Amor, one of the mango stakeholder participant proposed for the crafting of a resolution to be signed by the congress participants requesting the President of the Philippines to intervene

Pangasinan farmers receive

frm page 1

commencement of the procurement works for the project.

Alcala also informed that DA in partnership with the seed producers will continue on providing high quality seeds as planting materials for the whole Province of Pangasinan. Also, with the establishment of the Rice Processing Center in Umingan, Pangasinan Alcala said that this will assure quality supply of rice for the people.

During the Forum, farmers mostly inquired from the Secretary availability of programs and projects that will respond to their common needs for inputs such as seeds, fertilizer subsidy, and request for post-harvest equipment and facilities.

Awed by the positive response of the crowd, Sec. Alcala provided additional assistance in the form of a raffle draw for 15 heads of carabao and 15 heads of goat (buck) that was given as grant to the lucky farmer-winners. Also given away through the raffle were 4 units knapsack sprayers, 10 units pump and engine sets, 50 units farmalite and 3 sets of native piglets where 1 set is composed of 1 male and 2 female piglets.

The Secretary, together with DA Undersecretary for Field Operations USEC Emerson U. Palad, were assisted during the visit by Local officials of Pangasinan headed Governor Amado Espino and Umingan Mayor Eldred Tumbocon, members of the Regional Management Council of DA-Region I headed by DA-Regional Executive Director Valentino C. Perdido.###

in the House of Representatives in amending or making reconsideration about this regulation as stipulated in RA 9156.

Generally, the Congress participant were more than glad to have heard information and discussion on the better and brighter prospect that await the Mango Industry in the succeeding days. These include the opening of more processing plants in the country with 50 tons capacity a day. Cebu and the Ilocos Region are among the sites.###



DAR helps promote PRDP



“Kung ako ‘yong Proponent Group, bakit ko pa palalagpasin ang opportunity? Pwede namang in-kind ang equity?” said DAR Regional Dir. Homer P. Tobias during one of the promotional consultations for the Philippine Rural Development.

The Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) Regional Office 1 initiated a region-wide campaign to promote the Philippine Rural Development Project (PRDP) among its personnel and DAR-assisted farmer associations and cooperatives from January 19-22, 2016.

DAR Regional Dir. Homer P. Tobias, who spearheaded the campaign, and is a member of the Regional Project Advisory Board (RPAB) in Region I sees PRDP as an avenue for farmers to avail more government assistance. According to Dir. Tobias, with the PRDP and DAR having the same set of clientele – the farmers, the Project is a perfect complement of the Department’s programs.

In particular, Dir. Tobias encouraged the farmers to propose under the Small Livelihood Project (SLP) of the PRDP.

As of November 2015, the National Project Coordination Office (NPCO) has allowed the proposal of SLP in the Ilocos Region to mitigate the effects of Typhoon Lando among farmers. Contrary to the regular enterprise subprojects, the SLP can be proposed by any eligible association or cooperative in support to the priority commodities of Region I.

Under the SLP, the farmers’ associations and/or cooperatives may avail a P1 million enterprise and/or P800,000 infrastructure to address the damages incurred during Typhoon Lando.

The PRDP is a six-year national agri-fishery development project by the national government through a loan from the World Bank. However, SLP proposals will only be funded until 2016. With a total fund of Php 27.4 billion, the Project aims to build climate-resilient infrastructures and market-oriented and sustainable enterprises.

The PRDP employs counter-parting scheme among the Department of Agriculture, the Provincial or Municipal Governments and the Farmer Associations and Cooperatives.

This scheme aims to encourage the local government units to invest in agriculture and for the farmers to sustain a progressive and profitable agri-fishery enterprise. Also, unlike other government projects, PRDP has no fund allocation for provinces or municipalities. PRDP funds projects according to the promptness and completeness of proposals.

At the end of the promotional campaign, the DAR Region 1 committed to assist the completion of more Small Livelihood Projects (SLPs) in the Region. ###

WINNING BIDDER OF LA UNION 1ST PRDP-FMR PROJECT UNDERGO GEOTAGGING TRAINING



To ensure the transparency and carry out an accurate monitoring on the progress of the project in preparation for its ground implementation, the Goldrich Construction and Trading uses the Applied Geotagging Technology (AGT) for the first time during the Geotagging Training with Luzon A PSO, RPCO 1 and the Provincial Government of La Union held on March 4, 2016 at the DA-Region 1 Conference Room. *(next page)*



Grievance Redress Mechanism Training-Workshop



With the impending implementation of infrastructure and enterprise subprojects under the Philippine Rural Development Project (PRDP) in Ilocos Region, the Regional Project Coordination Office 1 (RPCO1), Provincial Planning Management and Implementation Units (PPMIUs) and proponent Local Government Units (LGUs)

attended a training-workshop on Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) facilitated by the Luzon A Project Support Office (PSO) on 22-23 March 2016 at Kahuna Resort, San Juan, La Union.

The GRM is a process by which issues and concerns of Project Affected Persons (PAPs) are addressed. PAPs include those who are directly or indirectly

affected by the implementation of PRDP subprojects. They include, for instance, persons who donated parcels of land to pave a way for a road rehabilitation or construction.

The GRM process is similar to how the *Katarungang Pambarangay* handles issues and conflicts of the constituents. Upon complaint, there will be mediation, summons, filing of affidavit and counter-affidavits before the *Lupon* will render a decision. During the workshop, the trainees participated in a role play wherein they were immersed in handling complaints amidst project implementation.

Included in the GRM process is the posting of tarpaulins, which contain contact number and emails for filing issues or complaints, in the subproject area of implementation.

During the training-workshop, the Social and Environmental Safeguards (SES) Unit of the PRDP was also reintroduced and thoroughly discussed among participants. Luzon A Project Support Office (PSO) SES specialist Emmanuel Aragonese and Peter Gonzales.####

WINNING BIDDER OF LA UNION....

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Goldrich is the Lowest Calculated Responsive Bidder for the Rehabilitation of Balebec-Basca Farm-to-Market Road (FMR) located in Naguilian and Aringay, La Union worth P91,870,000.00. Construction of the FMR is expected to start within the first semester of 2016.

As the winning contractor, Goldrich is required to regularly submit to the Regional Project Coordination Office (RPCO 1) a weekly accomplishment report that includes geotagged images of their activities such as clearing and grubbing, removal of structures and obstruction, excavation, embankment, sub-grade preparation, compaction equipment and density control strips, among others. On a monthly basis,

they are also required to geotag their accomplishment in the construction of the FMR at every 50 meter distance.

Geotagging is an innovation of the Mindanao Rural Development Project and is now used in the Philippine Rural Development Project to ensure transparency and accountability in subproject implementation.###



InfoACE holds 1st Semester Coordination Meeting

Setting up 'The Medium is the Message', this is how Mindanao PSO Deputy Project Director Consolacion E. Satorre emphasized the role of the InfoACE in putting across information that are vital in the success of project implementation for PRDP.

In her welcome message during the meeting, she explained how important it is to use a very good medium to promote the impact of the project to the community and the people. Hence, as communicators, the challenge of the InfoACE lies not just on what the message is all about but how to get these



Mindanao PSO Deputy Project Director Consolacion E. Satorre giving her welcome message to the InfoACE group.

messages/information across consistently and effectively that will encourage people to respond, take action and actively participate.

The group likewise identified IEC advocacy needs in

preparation for the 2nd World Bank Implementation Support mission and crafted a unified Style Guide that will be used in the production of info materials and other communication tools for PRDP.###

Technical Writing & Basic Photography workshop empowers implementers for PRDP in Region I



The Philippine Rural Development Project (PRDP) require a long process of data gathering, documentation of activities and preparation of various reports before one subproject can be endorsed for approval.

Recognizing the need to empower the implementers on how to capture relevant images, important activities and be able to come up with well-written reports, the Ilocos Information, Advocacy, Communication and Education (InfoACE) Unit conducted a Seminar-Workshop on Basic Photography and Technical Writing participated by selected Provincial Project Management and Implementation Units (PPMIU) and Regional Project Coordination Office 1 (RPCO 1) staff members from 27-19 January 2016.

Among the highlights of the Seminar-Workshop is the lecture on process documentation. This type of documentation focuses on the impact of development projects like the PRDP. Mr. Jaime Manalo IV,

(next page)



Ilocos Engineers train for MTQC



Engr. De Leon and Engr. Dizon of DPWH Region 3 Quality Assurance and Hydrology Division expertly answered the queries of the engineer participants during the Materials Testing and Quality Control Training-Workshop

In anticipation of the implementation of various subprojects under the Philippine Rural Development Project (PRDP) in Ilocos Region, the Regional Project Coordination Office 1 (RPCO1) gathered the provincial and municipal engineers of proponent local government units (LGUs) to undergo a training-workshop on Materials Testing and Quality Control at Prime Asia Hotel, Angeles City, Pampanga, last 18-22 April 2016.

During project implementation, the materials engineer of the contractor will test the quality of the materials to be used in the construction. The results of the tests performed by the contractor's materials engineer will be verified by the materials engineers of the proponent LGUs and the RPCO1's rural infrastructure engineers. The results of the tests will likewise be geotagged and will be attached to requests for payment.

Engineers Sean Bernard G. de Leon and Stanley S. Dizon served as resource

speakers during the MTQC training-workshop. Both are materials engineers of the Quality Assurance and Hydrology Division of the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) of Region 3.

They emphasized that sampling is the blood life of testing the quality of materials used in infrastructures. Other vital concerns highlighted during the workshop were the importance of materials testing, quality control (aggregates), procedure on design mix, quality control in concrete construction and Item 311 or the portland cement concrete pavement.

During the activity, the participants also went to DPWH Region 3 laboratory for a hands-on workshop. They performed Field Density Test and Universal Testing (where compression and tensile stress of reinforced steel bars are measured) with the experienced engineering technicians of DPWH Region 3. The laboratory of the DPWH Region 3 is among the highest rated in Luzon.

The pilot infrastructure subproject in Ilocos

Region, which is the Rehabilitation of the Balebec-Basc Farm to Market Road (FMR), is set to begin construction within April 2016. For Ilocos Sur, the Rehabilitation of the Tubigay-Baracbac-Nagcullooban FMR will undergo re-bidding. Meanwhile, the infrastructure subprojects of the provinces of Ilocos Norte and Pangasinan, and the municipalities of Currinao, Paoay and Manaoag are awaiting the issuance of the No Objection Letter 1 (NOL 1) from the National Project Coordination Office (NPCO).
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Technical Writing & Basic Photography (from page 15)

head of the PhilRice Development Communication Division who facilitated the writing seminar-workshop, shared his experiences on process documentation of development projects implemented by PhilRice in Mindanao.

The participants were also refreshed on how to do clear and effective writing particularly on reports, communication letters and proper editing among others through writing exercises prepared by Mr. Manalo.

Meanwhile, Mark Jeffrey Sison, a Photography Instructor and award-winning freelance photographer taught basic photography skills to PRDP staff members like adjusting aperture, equalizing exposure, fixing the manual setting, and using variations of shutter speed. To gauge their capability to capture good images, the participants were asked to have an actual photo shoot after the topic discussion where their captured images were presented for critiquing by the speaker.

In the future, the Ilocos InfoACE Unit eyes to engage the farmer beneficiaries of the project in documenting the impact of the PRDP in their lives.####