As a safety measure to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in the workplace, an Infrared Temperature Walkthrough Detector was installed at the FPA Central Office that will immediately monitor body temperatures of employees and visitors upon their entry to the office. The FPA acknowledges the industry partner who donated the equipment and the FPA Region III for coordinating the delivery and acquisition of said equipment.
To protect the farmers from illegal dealers and distributors of fertilizers and pesticides, the FPA Region III team composed of Provincial Officers P. Valdez, June Ryan De Leon and Romeo Val Suguitan conducted a clean-up drive activity to the new dealers and old returning handlers at Angat Bulacan on July 1, 2020.
WORKPLACE SAFETY AGAINST SPREAD OF COVID-19

JULY 2, 2020

The FPA Regional Office 7 underwent disinfection on July 2, 2020 through the initiative of the Department of Agriculture Regional Office 7.
FPA Provincial Officer Imelda Rasay provided technical assistance during the conference initiated by the Digos City Agriculture Office and Brgy. Soong, Digos City to address the complaint raised by Mr. Glenn M. Ferrer, Chairman of Digos City Integrated Farmers Association (DCIFA), on the health and environmental hazards caused by the mango spraying operation of a local farm owner.

On the same day, the FPA representative also provided TA during the dialogue initiated by the local government of Digos to address the aerial spraying operation raised by vegetable farmer Mr. Ramon Angelino (complainant) against the MAVBCO (Mindanao Agri Ventures Banana Corp., Inc.) Plantation Manager Manuel Dumagan. The meeting was attended by Community Development Officer Elmeleria Nalla through the office of the PB Igpit, a technician from the City Agriculture Office, and Committee Chair of the Agriculture, Health and Environment.
As part of FPA’s mandate to educating the public on the proper handling and judicious use of fertilizers and pesticides, FPA-XII Provincial Officer-Sultan Kudarat, Mr. Cherubin M. Alonzo conducted a Fertilizer and Pesticide Safety Dispenser (ASD) orientation on June 19 and 25, 2020 at the DA-RCPC Bo. 2, Tacurong City, Sultan Kudarat. The orientation is a prerequisite to applying for Dealership License.
FPA REGION VII SUPPORTS RICE RESILIENCY PROJECT
JULY 9, 2020

To ensure the quality of fertilizers to be distributed to the beneficiaries of the Rice Resiliency Project (RRP) of the Department of Agriculture, the FPA Region VII team conducted an inspection/random weighing and random sampling of Urea (46-0-0) fertilizers.
FPA Provincial Officer Imelda Rasay provided technical assistance during the Matanao Municipal Agriculture and Fisheries Council (MAFC) quarterly meeting held at Brgy. Igpit, Digos City, Davao Del Sur. The meeting was attended by the personnel from DA RFO XI and RAFC XI, MAO and SB Pasaol from LGU Matanao.

The FPA representative informed the participants regarding the safe and judicious use of agricultural products and relevant FPA updates. After which, safety materials were distributed to the 27 barangay AFC attendees.
Coping with the challenges of the new normal, the FPA Davao Region attends CropLife’s live webinar via Zoom on July 10, 2020 for the webinar on Mode of Action Labelling.
In fulfillment of FPA’s mandate to educating the public on the proper handling and effective use of fertilizer and pesticide, an orientation briefing was conducted as a pre-requisite in applying for FPA License to Operate as Dealer while observing minimum health safety standards. This was held at DA-CEMIARC, Amas, Kidapawan City and Koronadal City on June 19 and July 6, respectively. A total of 12 participants successfully attended the activity and committed to attend the Accredited Safety Dispenser (ASD) training once the health crises was stabilized. The activity was spearheaded by Regional Officer Alita C. Bornea with the assistance of Provincial Officers Maricel Tabigue, South Cotabato Jennie Basilio and Joey Pascua.
FPA Executive Director Willy Roldan together with Researcher Henry Dupoh Jr. accompanied the German Group during their field visit for the bioefficacy testing of fertilizer on July 15, 2020 at Bgy. Bangyas Calauan Laguna
PRODUCT QUALITY AND ADHERENCE TO SAFETY

JULY 16, 2020

Provincial Officer Cherubin Alonzo conducted fertilizer sampling for confirmatory laboratory analysis to assure quality of fertilizers to farmers.
NEWLY APPOINTED EMPLOYEES UNDERGO VIRTUAL ORIENTATION

JULY 20, 2020

The newly appointed FPA employees underwent virtual orientation on 20 July 2020, in compliance with the Civil Service Commission (CSC) Memorandum Circular No. 14, s. 2018 or the 2017 Omnibus Rules on Appointments and Other Human Resource Actions, Revised 2018 (ORA-OHRA). FPA Executive Director Wilfredo Roldan extended his congratulations and advised them to live with FPA’s mandate and to commit themselves to work towards food sufficiency and productivity.
To keep the safety of employees from the threat of COVID-19, work has been suspended at the FPA Central Office for the extensive cleansing and disinfection of the office building. The FPA stakeholders were advised to send their issues and concerns through online channels.
ENFORCING FPA’S MANDATE IN THE FIELD
JULY 23, 2020

FPA-XII Regional Officer Alita C. Bornea and Provincial Officers Joey B. Pascua and Jennie M. Basilio conducted monitoring of EUP in the research station of Syngenta Philippines located at General Santos City on July 23, 2020, while following the new normal practices such as body temperature check, wearing of mask, social distancing, etc. As required by law, pesticide products, chemicals, and biorational intended for registration shall be tested for efficacy under local conditions in experimental stations with valid permit from FPA.
COPING WITH THE CHALLENGES OF THE NEW NORMAL

JULY 23, 2020

Provincial Officer Rowena Billug served as speaker-facilitator during the Accredited Safety Dispenser (ASD) training held at Al's Cafe and Rest., Poblacion, La Trinidad, Benguet on July 21-22, 2020. Five participants attended the training.
COPING WITH THE CHALLENGES OF THE NEW NORMAL

JULY 27, 2020

FPA Regional Field Office XI team headed by Regional Officer Mr. Jinny Louie Ale conducted an ASD orientation to the three new ASD apprentices at the FPA RO-XI Office on July 27, 2020. The office continues to observe new normal practices amid the coronavirus pandemic.
PROTECTING THE FPA WORKFORCE AGAINST COVID-19

JULY 30, 2020

In an effort to detect and contain possible cases of COVID-19 infection and to protect the FPA Workforce, the FPA Central Office employees underwent a COVID-19 RAPID ANTIBODY TESTING on July 30, 2020.

In observance of physical distancing, the FPA Personnel have been grouped per batch. Each batch stayed in their respective holding area and were advised when to proceed on the testing location. To further implement physical distancing and contactless registration, each personnel were required to fill out the Case Investigation Form provided prior to the testing schedule.
FPA Region I Provincial Officer Noel Marcos Tablada attended the distribution of farm inputs to Batac City Mango Stakeholders at the Batac Imelda Cultural Center, Batac City, Ilocos Norte, thru the initiative of City Mayor Engr. Albert D. Chua and the City Agriculture Office. Farm inputs including Ca(NO3)2 as a registered Mango flower inducer were given for free by the Department of Agriculture in support to the Ilocos mango industry for better yield intended for either export or local consumption.