In compliance with the government's workplace safety standards, the FPA Davao Region continues to provide public service during the GCQ by establishing precautionary measures to ensure the safety of employees and clients. Safety reminders such as wearing of face mask, stepping into foot bath, use of disinfectants, and social distancing are being observed.
ENFORCING FPA’S MANDATE IN THE FIELD

JUNE 2, 2020

The FPA Region III conducted an inspection of the Universal Harvester Inc. fertilizer warehouses in Orion and Mariveles last June 2, 2020. The team also provided technical assistance to stakeholders in the process of getting their food pass and IATF IDs.
The FPA Region III team conducted random weighing of fertilizer, fertilizer stock inventory, F/P price monitoring, product quality, validity of license, practice of good housekeeping in various establishments in the municipalities of Sn. Felipe and Candelaria, Zambales on June 01 and 05, 2020.
The Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority Region 3 headed by OIC Regional Officer Romeo Val Suguitan Jr. with the assistance of Provincial Officer Ram-bel P. Valdez and June Ryan De Leon, inspected dealers/stores and warehouses of JAT Agrifarm Enterprises Inc. (formerly Baliwag Marketing), Bulacan Province on June 5, 2020 amid the COVID-19 public health crisis.
FPA SUPPORTS RICE RESILIENCE PROJECT (RRP)
JUNE 8, 2020

FPA Region 7 headed by Regional Officer Arnulfo L. Arausa, Jr. had a dialog with DA 7 Regional Executive Director Atty. Salvador D. Diputado regarding the purchase and distribution of fertilizer (Urea) for farmer beneficiaries of the Rice Resiliency Project (RRP). It was agreed that the FPA will be providing assistance in the sampling and random weighing of fertilizers to ensure the quality of inputs.
Ms. Jennie Marasigan Basilio, the newly appointed Provincial Officer for South Cotabato of the FPA-Regional Field Unit XII took her Oath of Office officiated by FPA Executive Director Wilfredo C. Roldan through virtual meeting on June 1, 2020 at FPA-XII Office, Koronadal City, South Cotabato.
To assure the public of fertilizer and pesticide supply amid the coronavirus pandemic, the FPA Caraga team conducted a two-day clean-up drive operation in various F/P establishments, and provided lectures on insecticide resistance management (IRM) and the safe & judicious use of pesticides for GAP certification for the VPO farms in Agusan del Sur on June 9 - 10, 2020.
To continuously inform the public of FPA's mandate and the efficient and responsible use of f/p, the FPA Region 7 team had a radio guesting at 103.9 DYDL FM Radyo Bol-anon.
ENFORCING FPA’S MANDATE IN THE FIELD
JUNE 13, 2020

The Provincial Officer of Tarlac Province conducted monitoring and inspection in the towns of San Clemente, Victoria, Tarlac City and Sta Ignacia. It was observed that the stakeholders observe IATF workplace safety protocols amid the coronavirus pandemic, store hours were limited to 5 hrs a day from 7 to 12 pm which started on May 15, and the stores are allowed to operate until 4pm in the afternoon.

Also, there were no increase on prices of fertilizer and pesticides monitored and a total of 1100 fertilizer subsidy was delivered in the Municipality of Camiling last June 11, 2020.
To ensure workplace safety against the spread of COVID-19, the DA RFO III & FPA Regional Field Office III underwent disinfection on May 30, 2020.
The Provincial Officer of Nueva Ecija I assisted various handlers in their F/P License renewal, monitored prices on the different fertilizer grades, and stock inventory of fertilizer on different distributors and manufacturers; conducted F/P Warehouse inspection; and, served as mediator between LGU-Palayan City Traffic Officer and Area Distributor’s Driver (Atlas FMC, Sta. Rosa, N.E.) due to violation of Covid-19 traffic ordinance.
ENFORCING FPA’S MANDATE IN THE FIELD
JUNE 17-18, 2020

To assure adequate, safe and affordable supply of fertilizer and pesticides for use by farmers, the Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority -XII team headed by Regional Officer/Supervising Agriculturist Alita C. Bornea together with Provincial Officers Jennie M. Basilio and Joey Pascua conducted an inspection and monitoring of Fertilizer and Pesticide Prices and Inventory in various FPA licensed Dealers in the municipalities of Polomolok, Tupi and Koronadal City, South Cotabato on June 16-18, 2020. The team also conducted the same activity in the municipalities of Alabel and General Santos City on June 23-25, 2020.
ENFORCING FPA’S MANDATE IN THE FIELD

JUNE 17, 2020

The FPA Region VII team conducted an initial visit, technical briefing, and consultation with the different Municipal Agriculture Office in the Province of Bohol in preparation for the delivery of fertilizers under the Rice Resiliency Project (RRP).
FPA Provincial Officer Rowena Billig attended the Benguet Provincial IATF meeting held at the Ben Palispis hall, Benguet Provincial Capitol, La Trinidad, Benguet on June 17, 2020. On the issue of suspending the permits of chicken dung dealers as a preventive measure against spread of COVID-19, the FPA representative explained that chicken dung is not considered fertilizer and it is not covered by FPA regulation. It is rather a raw material for compost / soil conditioner.

During the previous Benguet IATF meeting, the DA-CAR representative pronounced that fresh chicken dung is an essential agricultural product, thus its transport/delivery should not be hampered during the health crisis.

A separate forum will be conducted for further deliberation of the matter.
In line with the procurement activities of the DA-CAR on the purchase of agricultural inputs particularly fertilizer and agricultural pesticides, FPA CAR Provincial Officer Rowena Billig provided technical assistance in the importance, use, validity, authenticity & other features of the license to operate (LTO) and product registration certificates being issued by FPA to fertilizer and pesticide handlers. These documents are being required by the procuring agency as attachments to the bid documents.

The two DA-CAR officers realized that there is a need for further exchange of knowledge regarding technical matters on fertilizer and pesticide products. Thus, the need for more coordination and collaboration between DA and FPA.
The FPA CAR attended the DA-CAR and Department of Agriculture Regional Management Committee (DAREMANCOM) Members meeting with DA Secretary William D. Dar.

Secretary Dar inquired if there are complaints regarding the prices of fertilizer in CAR areas. He was informed that as of the period, there were no complaints received except for the request of farmers to lower prices of fertilizers and pesticide. He explained to the group that there were complaints from other regions regarding fertilizer prices since DA lowered the cost of the procured urea (46-0-0) fertilizers based on the national average price from PSA and FPA. Secretary Dar answered a query from a handler in Benguet regarding their participation on the procurement programs of DA. Accordingly, the local handlers may participate in the bidding process within the region but not in the national level.

Further, he encouraged that the DA should continuously promote the utilization of balance fertilization and use of organic / compost fertilizers together with inorganic fertilizers.
The FPA Region II held its monthly meeting for June with the following agenda:

1. Assessment of physical and financial report for the month of June 2020 and for the first semester;
2. Preparation, finalization and submission of IPCR and DPCR; and,
3. Other matters
ADDRESSING STAKEHOLDER CONCERNS ON FERTILIZER PROCUREMENT PROCESS, PRICE MONITORING

JUNE 25, 2020

Department of Agriculture (DA) Assistant Secretary Noel Reyes and Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority (FPA) Executive Director Wilfredo Roldan of the Inter-Agency Task Force (IATF) – Task Group on Food Security hold a virtual presser at the DA Central Office in Diliman, Quezon City on June 25, 2020. Dir. Roldan explained that FPA’s role in the procurement of fertilizers for the Rice Resilient Project is to regularly monitor prices of fertilizers, and to assure the quality and supply of such inputs through the agency’s regulatory mandate.
The FPA Davao team headed by Regional Officer Mr. Jinny Louie T. Ale conducted a warehouse inspection and plantation audit at the Freshan Fruit Produce and JPP Farms in Governor Generoso, Davao Oriental on June 24, 2020. The team also provided technical assistance on their application as new/renewal as institutional user and warehouse for fertilizers and pesticides.
Through online interview, FPA Executive Director Wilfredo Roldan answered the questions asked by a team from the Philippine Competition Commission for the conduct of their rapid market study on the Philippine agro-chemicals/pesticide industry (“Project”), which aims ‘to better understand the industry’s structure and practices and identify potential constraints to competition.’ The FPA also provided the necessary data needed by the PCC.
FPA CAR Provincial Officer Rowena Billig provided technical assistance during the Focus Group Discussion (FGD) regarding the plan of the Office of the Municipal Agriculture- La Trinidad, to try new fertilizer and pesticide products offered by Philkor Trading. This was held at the Cordillera Consortium Agriculture and Aquatic Resources Research Development (CorCAARRD) Office on June 30, 2020.

The FPA representative explained that Philkor Trading needs to apply first for experimental use permit (EUP) as a requirement for product registration and licensing.

The activity was attended by La Trinidad Trinidad Municipal Agriculturist – Felicitas Ticbaen and Senior Agriculturist Nida D. Organo), CorCAARRD representative Ms. Teresita Mangili, Ph.D., and Philkor Trading owner Ms. Clergy Agpas Mataag with Korean Agriculturist.