

Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority

Journal of Activities

November 2021



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Introduction

The Journal of Activities (JOA) is a monthly publication of the Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority (FPA) that depicts the monthly activities of the agency. It contains articles from FPA Regions 1 to 12, CAR, CARAGA, and NCR.

The activities comprise, but are not limited to, meetings attended by FPA Officials, seminars and webinars conducted by the regions for information distribution to farmers and other stakeholders, inspections of fertilizer and pesticide storehouses and distributors, etc.

Enforcing FPA's Mandate in the Field

November 2, 2021



FPA-Bicol Regional Officer Mr. Gabriel B. Atole, Provincial Officer Engr. Cris L. Legaspi, and Sales Representative of Northern Prime Trading Corporation Mr. Ernesto T. Laguardia collected fertilizer samples of Turbo Prime Complete Fertilizer at E.A. Reyes Agricultural & Poultry Supply, Mambulo Nuevo, Libmanan, Camarines Sur as part of product quality monitoring.

Public Information

November 3, 2021

FPA-Bicol Regional Officer Mr. Gabriel B. Atole and FPA-Albay Provincial Officer Mr. Winsor L. Nueva, attended the Provincial Agricultural and Fishery Council (PAFC) Albay – Full Council and Sectoral Meeting with the Municipal Agriculture and Fishery Council (MAFC) and Sectoral Chairmen of Albay.

During the meeting, Mr. Atole discussed the different functions, activities, and targets of FPA-Bicol for CY 2022. He also explained the continuous increase of fertilizer prices and the alternatives/strategies to mitigate the impact of the high cost of fertilizers on farmers.



Public Information

November 4, 2021



FPA 13 conducted an orientation for the newly hired provincial officer of Agusan Del Sur.

Further, FPA 13 paid a courtesy call to Provincial Agriculturist Armando "Matt" Valiente, who shared the challenges in agriculture food security and the significant increase of inorganic fertilizers.



Public Information

November 4, 2021

FPA-CAR Regional Officer, Mr. Rogelio B. Tanguid and Provincial Officer for Benguet & Baguio City, Mrs. Rowena F. Billig acted as resource speakers during the Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) training on Mango at Municipal Building, Poblacion, Itogon, Benguet. The activity was organized and funded by the LGU- Itogon through its Office of the Municipal Agriculturist, headed by Dr. Prudencio Pedro. Each of the twenty (20) mango growers and flower inducers who participated in the activity were provided with an attendance certificate on GAP Training on Mango, which was signed by Dir. Wilfredo C. Roldan.



Witnessing the Updating of Pesticide's Shelf Life

November 5, 2021

The FPA team headed by Deputy Director for Pesticide Mr. Eric C. Divinagracia, Ms. Marrisa G. Napalit (Regional Officer), and the rest of the team witnessed the imprinting of the updated shelf life of pesticide products.



These pesticides have undergone laboratory analysis, reassessment of its active ingredient's efficacy and its stability before the reprinting. If the pesticide can pass the procedure and present a certificate of the reanalysis and other supporting documents from FPA-related laboratories, it will be available for reselling from a specific company. Once a pesticide is allowed for reselling, a new expiration date will be printed on the same label.

Executive Meeting with Industry Players

November 5, 2021

FPA 11 and Croplife Phils. Regional Action Team (CRAN XI) conducted an exclusive meeting with the Deputy Executive Director for Pesticide Mr. Eric C. Divinagracia in Davao City.

Some of the topics discussed included extensive guidelines on the expiration of pesticide products, refreshing the knowledge and know-how on the MOA labelling market, and clear and precise guidelines on the disposal and retrieval of empty pesticide containers from end-users during the meeting.



Public Information

November 5, 2021

Dr. Myer G. Mula, Deputy Director on Fertilizer, graced the DAREMANCOM 2021 Performance Evaluation and FY 2022 Integrated Work and Financial Plan Preparation Workshop, chaired by DA-CAR OIC-Regional Director Dr. Cameron P. Odsey. Each agency, including FPA-CAR, presented its accomplishments and targets categorized per DA as One Program's 18 strategies under the four pillars – consolidation, modernization, industrialization, and professionalism. Mr. Rogelio B. Tanguid, FPA-CAR regional officer, and Mrs. Rowena F. Billig, provincial officer for Benguet & Baguio City, attended the 3-day activity on November 3 to 5, 2021.



November 6, 2021

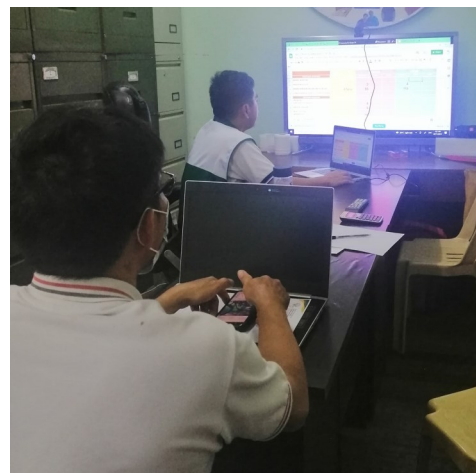
Mr. Jelmo More, Provincial Officer of Aklan, explained to the farmers the recent spike in fertilizer and pesticide prices and the actions done by the Department of Agriculture.

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November 8, 2021

FPA Region VI held its monthly regional meeting where they presented the current output and planning of the province. They also tackled the issues and concerns they encountered in the field.



Public Information

November 9, 2021

Accredited Safety Dispenser training held at FPA-CAR Regional Office, Shilan, La Trinidad, Benguet on November 8 to 9, 2021. Four individuals had completed the activity. A new application for a license to operate as a fertilizer dealer was received after the training.



FPA Region X Discusses Fertilizer Price Hike with Dealers

November 10, 2021



FPA Region X discussed with the dealers of Misamis Oriental the reasons affecting the price increase of fertilizers last November 9-10.

FPA-Bicol attends the RCEF-RFFA

November 11, 2021



Mr. Gabriel B. Atole, FPA-Bicol Regional Officer, attended the Rice Competitiveness Enhancement Fund – Rice Farmers Financial Assistance (RCEF-RFFA) Launching Ceremony & Awarding of Various Interventions held at the Albay Astrodome in Legazpi City on November 11, 2021.

Department of Agriculture Secretary William D. Dar and DA-RFO5 Regional Executive Director Rodel P. Tornilla led the ceremony.

During his speech, Sec. William D. Dar cited the reasons for the continuous increase in the price of fertilizers: 1) Big agricultural countries such as Brazil and India made an advance booking of fertilizer to meet their domestic demand. Further, China has allocated their local fertilizer production for their domestic use, resulting in reduced fertilizer exports to the Philippines; 2) Increase in freight cost affected by COVID-19 logistical issues and restrictions; and 3) High cost of raw materials used to produce fertilizers, such as natural gas.

Hence, to mitigate the impact of high prices of inputs to farmers, the Department of Agriculture is promoting the Balanced Fertilization Management Strategy to address problems on land degradation and decline in soil fertility through adjustments in the cropping and management of farming systems by means of cover cropping of short duration leguminous crops and introduce non-traditional fertilizers, and the microbial/biorational fertilizers.

Public Information

November 11, 2021

Last November 11, FPA Regional Officer Mr. Alex Paalisbo served as the Resource Person at the 107th Regular session of the Sangguniang Panlalawigan in the Province of Zamboanga del Sur. This is to bring attention to the developing difficulties confronting the agriculture industry, particularly the ongoing rise in fertilizer and agricultural input prices. He also emphasized that the international market was a factor in these challenges, and he offered suggestions for mitigating their effects.

Board Member Saniel also underlined the necessity of soil analysis in determining the exact and adequate amount of fertilizer to apply on each farm and the function of organic farming practices in producing fertilizer for farmers.

Ms. Lindley Herrera, the OIC-Provincial Agriculturist discussed how the scarcity of fertilizer supplies is causing the price increase.

Michael Tuico, FPA provincial officer, and representatives from the FPA were also in attendance.



November 12, 2021

The Board of Directors of the Regional Tripartite Wages and Productivity Board - Caraga, which includes the Department of Technology and Information (DTI), the National Economic Development Authority (NEDA), the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), and the Department of Agriculture, held a virtual meeting last November 12 with the FPA Caraga.



FPA Caraga explained the rapid spike in Traditional/Imported fertilizers during the virtual conference.

Public Information

November 12, 2021

FPA-Bicol Regional Officer Mr. Gabriel B. Atole and Provincial Officer Engr. Christopher M. Nuñez attended the following meetings: 1) Meeting with Vast Agro Solutions, Inc. Chief Administrator Mr. Antony Antonio and Bicol JL Agri Corp. Officials re: Issues concerning fertilizer and pesticide industry and possible collaborations with FPA-Bicol activities, 2) Meeting with DA-RF05 Bids & Awards Committee headed by BAC Chair & Regional Technical Director for Operations Ms. Luz R. Marcelino, together with the different DA Banner Program Representatives on the price of fertilizers in the region.



Public FPA Region VII attends RMC Meeting

November 15, 2021



FPA Region 7 represented by Provincial Officers Andy Cornell G. Bornillo and Sunday B. Flores attended the Regional Management Council (RMC) Meeting held in Crown Regency, Osmeña Blvd, Cebu City.

Enforcing FPA's Mandate in the Field

November 15, 2021

Last November 15, FPA Region X gathered fertilizer samples for quality control to ensure that standard quality expectations are met.



Public Information

November 16, 2021



Mr. Rogelio B. Tanguid, an FPA-CAR regional officer, and Mrs. Rowena F. Billig, a provincial officer for Benguet & Baguio City, had attended the Orientation on the Implementation of Food Safety and Hands-on Training of Pesticide Residue Testing on Fruits and Vegetables using Rapid Test Kit (RTK). The Regulatory Division of DA-CAR, headed by Mr. Ruben Dulagan, organized and funded the activity. A random sampling of vegetables was brought to the Benguet Agri-Pinoy Trading Center at La Trinidad. It will start by the year 2022. This is to establish baseline data to be referenced by DA and concerned agencies like FPA in the planning and implementation of programs and activities to ensure food quality. However, the RTK is limited to the detection of organophosphates and carbamates.

November 16, 2021



FPA-Bicol Regional Officer Mr. Gabriel B. Atole attended two equally important virtual workshops:

1) Training-Workshop on the Updating of FPA Operations Manual; 2) Planning-Workshop on the Preparation of the FY 2022 Integrated Work Plan with the Department of Agriculture -RF05.

November 17, 2021

LFPA-Bicol Regional Officer Mr. Gabriel B. Atole attended and presented the 2022 FPA Integrated Regional Workplan during the Department of Agriculture - Regional Management Committee (RMC) Meeting.



Facilitating Accreditation Related Activities

November 17, 2021

FPA Cagayan Valley facilitated the Certified Pesticide Applicator - Fumigator examination at the Regional Office of FPA last November 17.



Enforcing FPA's Mandate in the Field

November 17, 2021

The FPA Caraga conducted an inspection of a rubber nursery at Brgy. Sta. Cruz, Rosari, ADS last November 17.

It was found out that farmers were not following recommended use of pesticides to control the pest. Hence, FPA Caraga discussed the appropriate way of chemical application based on its product label.



Orientation Seminar on Regional Bantay Presyo Monitoring

November 18, 2021

DA R6 AMAD spearheaded the two-day activity on the Bantay Presyo Monitoring, which aimed to orient the Municipal and City Agriculture Officers in the Province of Iloilo. Further, Atty. Purita Heria presented the Implementing Rules and Regulations of R.A 7581, otherwise known as the Price Act. Moreover, Mr. Negre and Mr. Gelladula of FPA also discussed the FPA Price Monitoring Activity and the factors that contributed to the increasing fertilizer prices.



Product Quality and Adherence to Safety

November 19, 2021

FPA-Bicol conducted a clean-up-drive operation in the 5th District of Camarines Sur from November 16-19, 2021 to ensure the compliance of fertilizer and pesticide handlers/dealers under Presidential Decree 1144. Further, the office continuously monitors the quality of fertilizers through random weighing and



FPA Region IX joined the Palit Basyo Program

November 21, 2021

FPA Region IX participated in the Corteva Agriscience Palit Basyo program in Pagadian City last November 13. The program is an example of the company's product stewardship in the community, which involves retrieving pesticide containers from field workers.



Strengthening Engagements with FP Stakeholders

November 23, 2021

Following two years of physical contact limitations, FPA R6 has its first face-to-face consultation meeting with its partners in the private sector in response to the recent surge in agricultural commodity prices. Further, the Unified One Western Visayas Technicians Association will provide technical help to its partners in the private sector and educate them on the safe and judicious use of pesticides through the proposed "Baylo Basiyo" initiative.



Resolving Concerns of Stakeholders

November 19, 2021

FPA Region 6, represented by Mr. Ryan Gelladula, visited the farmers in Bolocaue, Miag-ao, Iloilo to personally explain the recent surge in fertilizer prices.



Public Information

November 21, 2021

FPA-CAR regional officer, Mr. Rogelio B. Tanguid and provincial officer for Benguet and Baguio City, Mrs. Rowena F. Billig were among the speakers during the Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) training at Parasipis, Tabaan Norte Tuba, Benguet. The training was organized and funded by the LGU-Tuba through its Office of the Municipal Agriculturist. FPA speakers delivered safe and effective use of fertilizer and pesticide products in line with the FPA rules and regulations. Twenty-five (25) farmers participated in the activity.



Ensuring Quality of Fertilizers and Pesticides in the Market

November 23, 2021

FPA Region 5, spearheaded by Mr. Winsor Nueva and Ms. Rosie Malazar, inspected the printing activities/rework of Bayer Crop Science, Inc. conducted at Naga Alta Agri Corporation (Naga City) and Bicol JL Agri Corporation (Pili, Cam. Sur) last November 25.



Updating the Knowledge of Industry Professionals

November 25, 2021

Last November 24 to 25, 2021, the FPA Region 3 spearheaded by Romeo Val R. Suguitan, Jr. - Regional Officer Kuyang Val with the Team Fpa Region III conducted 2-day Accredited Safety Dispensers (ASD) Training held at NEFVSC Conference Hall, CLSU, Science City of Munoz, Nueva Ecija. The objectives of said training are 1) to educate the new handlers in the proper handling of fertilizer and pesticide and 2) a mandatory requirement for a new Dealer in securing their LTO Licenses.

The activity was headed by FPA Executive Director Willy Roldan and the Deputy Director for Fertilizer, Dr. Myer G. Mula. The FPA Top Officials reiterated that Fertilizer and Pesticide handlers have a role in shaping the Agriculture Industry to protect and serve the farmers with their needs.

The handlers guide the farmers on the proper usage of fertilizer and pesticides. Lastly, the FPA personnel and handlers were encouraged to help each other working hand-in-hand for the betterment of the Agricultural sector.

A total of 21 participants from the different Fertilizers and Pesticides handlers in NE completed the said activity.



Public Information

November 25, 2021



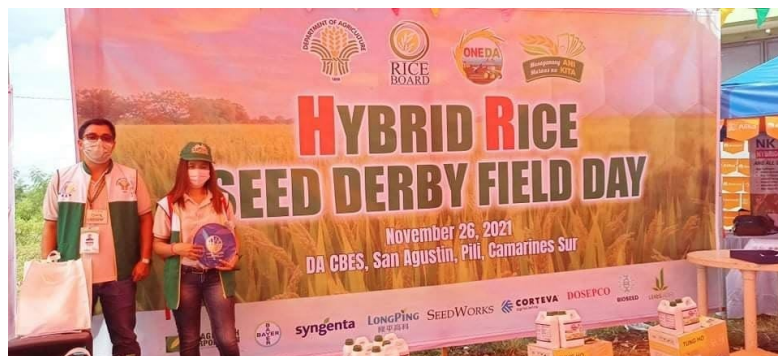
FPA 11 affirms its support for the Philippine Commission on Women's (PCW) 18-day Campaign to End Violence Against Women and Children (VAWC) with the theme "VAW-free community starts with Me." The focus for this year will be "Filipino Marespeto; Safe Spaces, Kasali Tayo," which advocates against catcalling and raises awareness about the Safe Spaces Act (RA 11313).

Public Information

November 26, 2021

In line with the National Rice Awareness Month celebration, FPA-Bicol represented by Engr. Christopher M. Nuñez and Ms. Rosie T. Malazar attended the Hybrid Seed Derby Field Day last Nov. 26. The event aimed to showcase localized packages of high-yielding and profitable hybrid rice cultivation-harvesting technologies. Furthermore, it aimed to present the adoption of farmers on technology, improve the productivity of local rice farms and increase food sufficiency, address the pressing concerns on food availability, accessibility, and affordability.

The said activity was attended by DA-RFO5 officials, including Regional Technical Director for Operations Ms. Luz R. Marcelino, Field Operations Division Chief Dr. Mary Grace DP. Rodriguez, Regional Rice Program Focal Person Mr. Earl Vincent Vegas, and Regional Seed Coordinator Mr. Anacleto B. Esplana. SL Agritech Corporation, Corteva Agriscience Philippines, and SL Agritech Corporation are also involved. The activity also included Bayer CropScience, Inc., Leads Agricultural Products Corporation, and Syngenta Phils., Inc.



Facilitating Accreditation Related Activities

November 26, 2021

Cebu Provincial Officer Mr. Sunday B. Flores facilitated the examination for Certified Pesticide Applicator held last November 26 at FPA Regional Office 7.



Enforcing FPA's Mandate in the Field

November 26, 2021

To ensure the quality and availability of fertilizers, FPA Region 7 conducted routine warehouse inspection, stocks inventory, and random weighing and random sampling to different fertilizer Area Distributors in Region 7 last November 26.



Public Information

November 30, 2021

FPA Region 7 successfully conducted a Stakeholders meeting in Tagbilaran City on November 29, 2021, with Dir. Eric C. Divinagracia - Deputy Executive Director for Pesticide as the guest speaker.



Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority

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