



FERTILIZER AND PESTICIDE AUTHORITY

ATLAS GRANULATION PLANT-1 sojirz

JOURNAL OF ACTIVITIES

JANUARY 2022





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 13, CAR, 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.



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ENFORCING FPA'S MANDATE IN THE FIELD



Accounts on:

- Ensuring the quality and safety of products
- Monitoring handlers, products, and programs related to fertilizer and pesticide
- Collaborating with other agencies to provide better service to the people

RFU 11 inspects Field Station in Davao del Sur January 6, 2022



FPA Davao Region, spearheaded by Ms. Marissa G. Napalit, inspected the experimental field station of end-user last January 6 at the Padada Trial Hub Crop Protection, Padada, Davao Del Sur. The activity aims to check and validate the experimental site as a prerequisite for issuing a certificate/license by FPA. Also present in the inspection were Provincial Officer Ms. Imelda Q. Rasay, Deputy Director for Pesticide Mr. Eric C. Divinagracia, and representatives from the Pesticide Regulations Division (PRD) Ms. Kriz Anne Joy Miguez and Mr. Jayar Rivera.



RFU 11 examines warehouses at Davao City for proper storage of pesticides

January 6, 2022

FPA Davao Region conducted inspection of warehouses in Davao City with Regional Officer Ms. Marrisa G. Napalit, and Provincial Officer Mr. Louie T. Palarao last January 7 in Matina Pangi, Davao City.

The said on-site inspection focuses on pesticide storage, organization, order, and proper housekeeping, among other things. The activity was carried out to ensure that FPA standards are followed by all handlers and as a requirement for their annual renewal as an FPA licensed handler.

RFU CAR COLLABORATES WITH PARTNER AGENCIES IN PROPER WASTE DISPOSAL OF PESTICIDE CONTAINERS

January 7, 2022



FPA-CAR collaborated with Croplife Philippines and Benguet PLGU with the hauling of 6.5 tons of empty containers from Benguet.

As pesticides are hazardous chemicals, it is mandated by DENR that such waste should be disposed of in a proper manner to avoid potential risk on the environment and health.

RFU 10 SCHEMES FOOD SECURITY AND LOGISTICS WITH DA AND OTHER AGRI-AGENCIES

January 12, 2022

RFU 10 held a meeting with DA RFU 10 and other affiliated agencies that highlighted the interventions and programs to ensure seamless delivery and food sufficiency throughout the region that was affected by Typhoon Odette. The Food Security and Logistics Committee was also established to effectively implement and monitor the objective in accordance with the national goals for a food secure Philippines.

FPA Northern Mindanao contributed by analyzing the reasons for the increase in fertilizer costs and citing the agency's planned initiatives in dealing with the rising price of fertilizers. The meeting introduced the "Balance Fertilization Strategy" to address land degradation issues and soil fertility, as well as the roles of agricultural SUCs and other associated agencies in reducing the rising cost of fertilizers.



ENFORCING FPA'S MANDATE IN THE FIELD

RFU 11 OBSERVES FAPDACI GENERAL ASSEMBLY

January 8, 2022

Fertilizer and Pesticide Dealers Association of Compostella Valley Inc (FAPDACI) reports its growth in members during the 2nd General Assembly of the association. FAPDACI grew to its current number of 68 since its establishment in 2018.

The purpose of forming the association was to create a strong and harmonious relationship among all dealers in the province, particularly in terms of FPA updates, information campaigns, and other topics mentioned at the General Assembly. The debate of prospective renaming of the association's name, creation of an association logo, and other methods to improve the association is one of the meeting's highlights.

The association also made its way to provide charity through its collected funds to help the victims of typhoon Odette in Visayas and Mindanao as part of the association's outreach program initiatives.



RFU 2 CONDUCTS WAREHOUSE INSPECTION IN ISABELA FOR COMPLIANCE CHECK

January 12-13, 2022

On January 12-13, the FPA Cagayan Valley conducted inspections and auditing of different fertilizer manufacturing plants and warehouses in Isabela province to monitor compliance of the said handlers and availability and supply of fertilizer in the region.

The team headed by Mr. Leonardo A. Bangad, Regional Officer, assessed the technological and technical capability of all local fertilizer manufacturers and the procedures and processes in their productions. The team also collected samples for quality checking.

The companies subject to this inspection include Payoga Kapatagan MPCFI, Farm-Tech Agri, Aljay Agro-Industrial Solutions, and GMG Agricultural Fertilizer Manufacturing.



RFU 11 ADMINISTERS INSPECTION OF BANANA PLANTATIONS IN DAVAO DE ORO

January 14, 2022

Last January 14, FPA Davao Region conducted a Banana Plantation inspection in the municipalities of Maco and Nabunturan in Davao de Oro with Regional Officer Ms. Marrisa G. Napalit and Provincial Officer Mr. Rustom Gain A. Tanduyan.

The activity highlights the ocular inspection of its chemical mixing facilities especially on the functionalities of the equipment, disposal of excess waste, the safety of the chemical handlers, and more. Also, the team inspected the warehouses of fertilizers and pesticides, its good housekeeping practices, and its order.

As part of their requirements for licensing with FPA, these inspection reports will serve as a pre-requisite for their renewal of a license to operate as Institutional Users of Fertilizers and Pesticides.



RFU 12 STEWARDS CLEAN-UP DRIVE OPERATIONS IN NORTH COTABATO

January 17-18, 2022

FPA RFU 12 spearheaded by Ms. Alita C. Bornea conducted a clean-up drive operation in the municipalities of Pigcawayan, Libungan, Midsayap, Pikit, Tulunan, Mlang, and City of Kidapawan on January 17-18.

About 131 Fertilizers and 104 Pesticides with a total of 234 F/P products were monitored and 24 FPA Licensed Establishments were inspected. Handlers with detected violations were issued a Notice of Violation (NOV) by the FPA team.

Monitoring of fertilizer prices and top-selling pesticides prices were also conducted. Invitation to attend Accredited Safety Dispenser Training has also been distributed to all handlers inspected without trained ASD representatives.

Some dealers have limited stocks of fertilizers due to the high prices. According to Ms. Arlyn, "*Medyo matumal ngayon ang benta namin sa abono dahil sa nagmahal na ang presyo nito. Ang ibang suki namin ay nagpalit na ng ibang klaseng abono. Halimbawa mula sa urea, ngayon ay ammonium sulfate na ang binibili nila kaya medyo kaunti din ang benta namin.*" (Currently, our fertilizer sales have slowed down due to the price hike. Some of our customers switched to other types of fertilizer. For example, from urea, they changed to ammonium sulfate. Therefore, our sales also declined.)"

As per FPA XII fertilizer data, prices of six major fertilizers in the region are increasing towards the end of 2021, and continuously increasing as of January of the current year. The price of urea spiked up from the average price of Php 1,440 in September to Php 1,700 in October, and Php 2,276 by December 2021. RO Bornea explains the reasons for the fertilizer price hike and addressed the issue to the concerned personnel.

The two-day activity was in line with the FPA Mandate of assuring the agricultural sector of an adequate supply of fertilizer and pesticide at reasonable prices, protecting the public from the inherent risk in the use of pesticides, and educating the agricultural sector in the use of these inputs.



ENFORCING FPA'S MANDATE IN THE FIELD

RFU 7 INSPECTS MANUFACTURING PLANT IN TOLEDO CITY

January 19, 2022

The Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority (FPA) Central Visayas conducted a Manufacturing Plant inspection at Atlas Fertilizer Corporation in Sangi, Toledo City on January 19.

Spearheaded by Regional Officer Arnulfo L. Arausa, Jr., Provincial Officer Sunday B. Flores together with Atlas Personnel. The team also conducted a damage assessment brought by super typhoon Odette, the assessment is done to ensure safety before its Granulation Plant Re-operation.



RFU 11 OVERSEES INSPECTION OF BANANA PLANTATIONS IN DAVAO DE ORO

January 20, 2022

Four Banana Plantations in the municipalities of Nabunturan, Maragusan, and Maco in Davao de Oro on January 14, 19, and 20.

The inspection was directed by Regional Officer Ms. MARRISA G. NAPALIT and Provincial Officer Mr. RUSTOM GAIN TANDUYAN.

The said on-site inspection focuses on the checking of chemical mixing facilities, pesticide storage, arrangement, order, good housekeeping, and others. The activity was conducted to ensure that FPA standards in every handler are well observed and as a prerequisite for their annual renewal as Institutional User with FPA.





RFU 10 COLLABORATES WITH F.A.S.T TO IMPROVE LABORATORY CAPABILITIES

January 21, 2022

The FPA Northern Mindanao collaborates with the F.A.S.T (The First Analytical Services and Technical Cooperative) Laboratories to be one of our harmonized laboratories and partner in providing reliable test results to our valued clients.

This is to address the increasing demand for confirmatory analysis of our fertilizers and pesticide. The FPA encourages more laboratories capable of fertilizer/pesticide analysis to undergo the FPA laboratory harmonization process.

FPA laboratory harmonization program is being established to support the agency's monitoring and regulatory activities on the testing of fertilizers and pesticides.

RFU 11 CONDUCTS MONITORING ACTIVITY ON DOLOMITE AND LIME MANUFACTURING PLANT IN DAVAO CITY

January 26, 2022



Monitoring and Inspection of Manufacturing Plant of Dolomite and Lime was conducted by FPA Davao with Regional Officer Ms. Marrisa G. Napalit and Provincial Officer Mr. Louie T. Palarao in Brgy. Gatungan, Bunawan, Davao City last January 26.



Dolomite and lime have been regulated by FPA as soil amendments used to neutralize soil acidity for agricultural use. Hence, dolomite and lime manufacturing plants like this should be monitored to ensure compliance.

The inspection was conducted as a prerequisite for license renewal with FPA as Manufacturer.

UPDATING THE KNOWLEDGE OF INDUSTRY PROFESSIONALS



Accounts on:

- Training, workshops, and other learning activities initiated by FPA
- Meetings of FPA Officials for discussions and planning of FPA activities



RFU 12 HOLDS A REGIONAL MEETING FOR 2022

January 3, 2022

FPA RFU 12 conducted the regional meeting as commencement for the year 2022.

The activity was attended by FPA Provincial Officers in the region with Ms. Alita C. Bornea, FPA Regional Officer (RO) who led the said activity.

Schedule of Activities for the Fiscal Year 2022 were discussed which includes: Accredited Safety Dispenser (ASD) of Agricultural Fertilizer and Pesticide Trainings and Clean-up Drive Operations.

"Let us continue working even harder this year for us to enlist greater accomplishments by delivering services to our beloved clientele and the Filipino Farmers amidst pandemic," RO Bornea said.

The meeting was conducted on January 3, 2022, at FPA Regional Office, Koronadal, South Cotabato



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RFU CAR CONDUCTS TWO BATCHES OF ASD TRAINING

January 18–21, 2022



Two batches of training on Accredited Safety Dispenser (ASD) of Fertilizer and Pesticides cum stakeholders' forum were conducted by FPA CAR Regional Officer Rogelio B. Tanguid and Provincial Officer Rowena F. Billig at ATI-CAR, BSU Compound, La Trinidad, Benguet, and at Jea's Building Loo, Buguias, Benguet, respectively for the field personnel of agro-chemical companies.



The two batches of training were completed through collaboration with the Cordillera Agricultural Research and Extension Organization (CAREO) of the agro-chemical companies field personnel operating within Benguet, Baguio City, and nearby provinces; ATI-CAR; and Municipal Local Government Unit of Buguias.

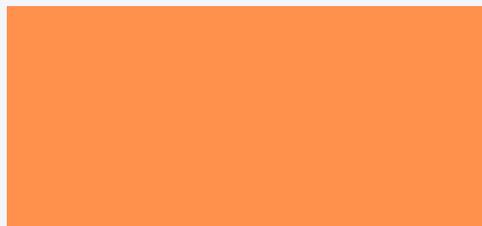
RFU CAR ENABLES TEN INDIVIDUALS DURING ASD TRAINING

January 24–25, 2022

Training on Accredited Safety Dispenser (ASD) of Fertilizer and Pesticide for ten (10) individuals from eight potential and existing dealers at FPA CAR Regional Office was conducted by FPA-CAR Regional Officer Rogelio B. Tanguid and Provincial Officer Rowena F. Billig last January 24–25. Five new applications for fertilizer and pesticide dealerships are expected within February to March 2022 from the participants.



PUBLIC INFORMATION



Accounts on:

- Interactions of FPA Officials with the people from their respective areas and community
- Informing the public of FPA activities and current status of fertilizer, pesticide, and other agri-chemicals

RFU 5 JOINS INFORMATION CAMPAIGN REGARDING FERTILIZER PRICE HIKE

January 7, 2022

Due to various calls from farmers regarding the price hike of fertilizer, FPA-Bicol Regional Officer Mr. Gabriel B. Atole was invited to the radio program of DZGB “Aramon Niato” hosted by Mr. Mario Dela Cruz last January 7, 2022.

Mr. Atole discussed the attributes to the current price hike of fertilizers as follows: 1) liberalization of fertilizers; 2) the country as a net importer of fertilizers; 3) strengthened global fertilizer demand; 4) increased prices of raw materials, and 5) increase transport and logistical costs. Also, he presented that FPA proposed eight strategic interventions to address the concern of high fertilizer prices.

Mr. Mario Dela Cruz said that the City Government of Ligao, in the Province of Albay already passed a resolution to subsidize fertilizers for the benefit of their farmers. Thereafter, Mr. Atole elaborated that a holistic approach is needed to mitigate the effect of fertilizer price hike in crop production, farmers can also help by not burning their rice straw and allowing it to decompose in their rice land that will serve as organic fertilizers



RFU 5 LAYS OUT FPA'S EIGHT STRATEGIES TO ADDRESS FERTILIZER PRICE INCREASE

January 10, 2022

FPA-Camarines Sur Provincial Officer Engr. Christopher M. Nuñez served as a resource person in the regular session of the Sanggunian Bayan of Minalabac last January 10, and discussed the reasons for the price hike of fertilizers.

Nuñez presented the attributes to the current price hike of fertilizers. In addition, he discussed the eight strategic interventions FPA proposed to address the concern of high fertilizer prices, to wit: 1) Government needs to increase farmers fertilizer subsidy by 25% from the initial grant of Php 1,000.00; 2) Government to provide a subsidy of at least 60-70% of the prevailing price on traditional and non-traditional fertilizers; 3) Government must encourage Farmers' Federations and Associations to import fertilizers, subsidize cooperatives/associations by providing loan on zero interest; 4) Government to provide soft loan assistance, or in other forms, to Philphos to fully operate to increase local production by 20% or more in the market; 5) Government should introduce a Price Guide Indicator at various import price levels; 6) FPA to constantly monitor and conduct surveillance on stock inventory and local pricing; 7) FPA shall also strengthen its awareness campaign efforts to educate farmers to use cheaper FPA registered fertilizer brands in the market that has the same efficacy as the known brands, and 8) FPA will also promote the use of Balance Fertilization Strategy.



RFU 5 DELVES INTO NEW FARMING TECHNOLOGY

January 17, 2022

Mr. Atole attended the meeting on the 14th National Rice Technology Forum on January 17 via online platform.

The event showcased the use of drone seeder and drone sprayer for fertilizer and pesticide application in 110 hectares' rice area at San Ramon, Bula, Camarines Sur. The said activity was spearheaded by DA-RFO5 National Rice Program in coordination with the Rice Board, PhilRice, Philscat, FPA-RFU5, and San Agustin San Ramon Agrarian



RFU 11 INITIATES CONSULTATION WITH THE FARMERS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE LGU

January 17, 2022

A surge of prices in Agricultural Inputs has alarmed the Locals in Banaybanay, Davao Oriental. To address and provide awareness to the locals of Banaybanay, Hon. Mayor Adalai Lopez together with FPA in the presence of Ms. Marrisa G. Napalit and Provincial Officer Ms. Junette A. Cano conducted a special consultation meeting with the farmers of the municipality.

The focus of the meeting is to provide awareness and strategies to address the continuous increase of prices especially the fertilizers. FPA also on the other hand discusses the reasons for the price increase through the help of the "explainer" issued by the FPA Central Office.

The meeting was conducted on January 17, attended by the Irrigators Association, Farmers Cooperatives, and Fisher Folks Cooperatives at Banaybanay Municipal Activity Center, Banaybanay, Davao Oriental.





PUBLIC INFORMATION

RFU CAR TALKS ABOUT FERTILIZER PRICE HIKE WITH MPBC-DZWT

January 21, 2022

FPA-CAR Regional Officer Rogelio B. Tanguid and Provincial Officer Rowena F. Billig guested at MPBC – DZWT, Baguio City during the live radio broadcasting of Radio Broadcaster Rose Marechan on her segment, Completos – Recados Public Service. FPA personnel was requested to answer queries from the farmers regarding price increases. Alternatives were also presented.

RFU 5 EXPLAINS BFS DURING ATI ANNIVERSARY

January 27, 2022



FPA Bicol Regional Officer, Mr. Gabriel Atole was invited as a resource speaker on Balanced Fertilization Strategy during the 35th Anniversary of Agriculture Training Institute (ATI) on January 27, 2022.

Atole discussed the soil and its importance, soil fertility, status of soil fertility, plant nutrient elements and its functions, fertilizer and its classification, inorganic and organic fertilizer, the advantage of organic matter, and other sources of fertilizer nutrients such as inorganic foliar fertilizer, natural farming inputs, and green manuring.

He also emphasized the Balanced Fertilization, a form of site-specific nutrient management to improve fertilizer use efficiency and refers to the application of plant nutrients in optimum quantities in the right proportion through the appropriate methods at the time suited for a specific crop and agro-climatic condition that leads to soil health building (BSWM, 2020).

Dependence on inorganic fertilizer will be reduced thereby decreasing fertilizer cost with the adaptation of balanced fertilization through the use and/or combination of inorganic fertilizers and organic materials readily available in the farms without sacrificing the yield and at the same time enriching the soil.

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