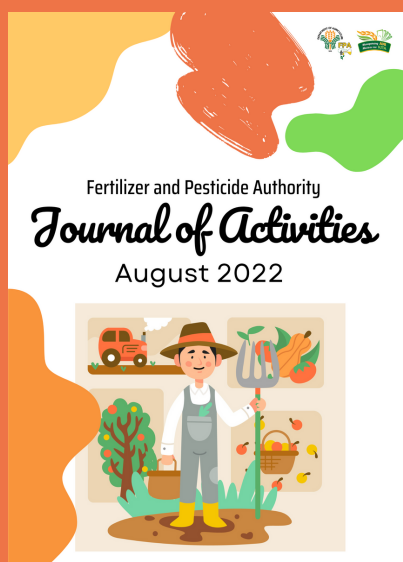


Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority

Journal of Activities

August 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, NCR, and the Central Office Divisions.

This showcases the different activities of FPA in implementing its core mandates as provided for under Presidential Decree 1144.

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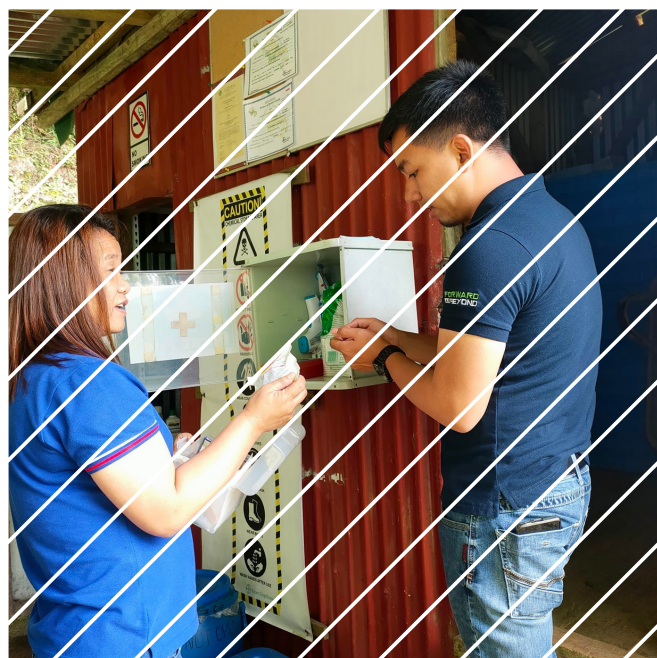
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ENFORCING FPA'S MANDATE IN THE FIELD



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

CORDILLERA ADMINISTRATIVE REGION (CAR)

FPA RFU CAR - August 16, 2022

25 bottles in 500ml of unregistered pesticide were seized from unlicensed establishment in one of the municipalities of Benguet. A case was filed to the owner of the establishment for violating sections 8 & 9 of the PD 1144 on the same day at the National Prosecution Service, Office of the Provincial Prosecutor, La Trinidad, Benguet.

This is a collaborative activity of FPA-CAR with CIDG-PFU Benguet, Baguio-Benguet-Mt Province Agricultural Association, Inc. (a duly recognized Dealers- Distributors' Association), and concerned LGUs of the municipality where the accused is located.



FPA RFU CAR - August 22, 2022

Ms. Rowena Billig monitored the field trial as per approved EUP # F-3838 at Nangayangan, Madaymen, Kibungan. Data gathering was completed by the FPA Accredited Researcher, Dr. Jesson Del-amen.

FPA RFU CAR - August 23, 2022

FPA-CAR headed by Regional Officer Rogelio B. Tanguid continually coordinates with various agencies like the PNP specifically CIDG in the enforcement of the PD 1144 to protect the human health and environment against the risks inherent of fertilizer and pesticides.



FPA RFU CAR - August 31, 2022

Good housekeeping inspection at Bayer Cropscience, Inc.'s field development station on experimental pesticides at Ambassador, Tublay, with Bayer Cropscience, Inc. staff Mr. Reyjones Miclat and Mr. Adrian Galao.

CAGAYAN VALLEY

FPA RFU 2 - August 8, 2022

Joint operatives of the DA FPA Cagayan Valley, CIDG (Criminal Investigation and Detection Group) Santiago City Field Unit (Lead Unit), RSOT CIDG RFU2 Isabela, NICA (National Intelligence Coordinating Agency) 2, NISU12 and the NS Continental Distribution Inc and Alicia MPS against fake fertilizer sellers in Isabela and the entire Cagayan valley dubbed "Oplan Mega Shopper". The said suspects, for the second time, were caught selling more than 140 bags of fake "Sunrise 14-14-14" and "Sunrise 16-20-0".



CENTRAL LUZON

FPA RFU 3 - August 2, 2022

The FPA R3- Nueva Ecija and DA RFO 3- Regional Soils Laboratory conducted collection of fertilizer samples for the different handlers in the province of Nueva Ecija.

Ms. Robilyn O. Sarmiento, FPA- Nueva Ecija, Ms. Rosalie T. Lazamana, Chief Regional Soil Laboratory, Mr. Justin Estabillo-Soils Laboratory staff and Feljun Rajojos- DA RFO3 staff, collected fertilizer samples from partner merchants under the DA Fertilizer Discount Voucher program in Nueva Ecija.



FPA RFU 3 - August 4, 2022

FPA Tarlac and Provincial Agriculture Office Tarlac conducted monitoring and fertilizer sample collection last August 4, 2022 to all participating dealer/merchants for this wet season fertilizer subsidy project for the local farmers of Tarlac.

FPA Provincial Officer Dennis S. Mallari led the group with Ms. Jennifer Guillermo (Rice Coordinator) and Ms. Ivy Joyce Sabado.

BICOL REGION

FPA RFU 5 - August 23-26, 2022

Fifty-three (53) fertilizer and pesticide dealers were inspected during a Clean-Up Drive (CUD) operation on August 23-26, 2022, in the Province of Camarines Sur (first and second district).

Out of the 53 dealers, FPA Bicol Region found eighteen (18) unlicensed dealers. The unlicensed dealers were issued with Notice of Violations (NoVs) and required them to attend the Accredited Safety Dispenser (ASD) training, which is a pre-requisite in obtaining an FPA license to operate as dealers.

On the other hand, compliant dealers were commended and encouraged to be partners of FPA in ensuring the safety of the fertilizer and pesticide users. Also, they are informed to avoid purchasing off-specification products from companies with suspension orders.

During the said enforcement activities, the FPA RFU V personnel also made a courtesy call to the Office of Municipal Agriculturist, Municipality of Pasacao, and discussed the different FPA-Bicol activities. In addition, the team also distributed the Balanced Fertilization Strategy (BFS) handbook and FPA Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials.

The team was headed by Regional Officer Mr. Gabriel B. Atole, FPA-Cam. Norte Provincial Officer Engr. Cris L. Legaspi, FPA-Albay Provincial Officer Mr. Winsor L. Nueva, FPA-Cam. Sur and Catanduanes Provincial Officer Engr. Christopher M. Nuñez, FPA-Masbate Provincial Officer Mr. Rodney P. Conda and FPA-Sorsogon Provincial Officer Engr. Ardon Ryan E. Nee-Estuye.



WESTERN VISAYAS

FPA RFU 6 - August 17-18, 2022

Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority - VI conducted site inspection in Universal Robina Corporation - La Carlota Distillery, La Carlota City, Negros Occidental and Victorias Milling Company, Inc., Brgy. Purisima, Manapla, Negros Occidental for their renewal application for issuance of certification allowing the safe re-use of wastewater for fertilization purpose, pursuant to Section 22.C of R.A. 9275 otherwise known as the Philippine Clean Water Act of 2004.



CENTRAL VISAYAS

FPA RFU 7 - August 16-19, 2022

30 fertilizer and pesticide dealers were inspected during a Clean-Up Drive operation/enforcement activity in the Province of Bohol on August 16-19, 2022.

The dealers with minor violations were given verbal warning and recommendations for compliance. Meanwhile, all unlicensed dealers were given Notice of Violation (NOV) and were advised to attend the Accredited Safety Dispensers (ASD) Training which is one of the requirements to secure an FPA license.



ZAMBOANGA PENINSULA

FPA RFU 9 - August 3, 2022

FPA Zamboanga Peninsula (Region IX Team) conducted Clean-up Drive Operation in Zamboanga Sibugay Province. The team is spearheaded by Regional Officer Mr. Alex S. Paalisbo together with the four Provincial Officers. The team visited and monitored different dealers of agricultural pesticides and fertilizers in the Province.



FPA RFU 9 - August 24, 2022

FPA Provincial Officer of Zamboanga Sibugay Mr. Charlie Limbag, witnessed and assisted the pullout of product Pyro Ultra 8.5 EC. A total of 30 bottles (1000 ml) and 38 bottles (500 ml) of the said product were pulled out by the Sales Representative of the company.



FPA RFU 9 - August 25, 2022

25 boxes (18 boxes 1000 ml and 7 boxes 500 ml) of a certain herbicide product were pulled out at distributor's warehouse in Pagadian City, Zamboanga del Sur.

Witnessed by FPA IX Regional Officer Alex Paalisbo and Provincial Officer of Zamboanga del Sur Michael Tuico.

DAVAO REGION

FPA RFU 11 - August 5, 2022

Led by Deputy Executive Director - Pesticide Mr. Eric C. Divinagracia and Regional Officer Ms. Marrisa G. Napalit, the FPA team conducted a re-run activity of an Extrusion Plant that manufactures pesticide-impregnated polybags used for banana industry which is located in Brgy. Manay.



FPA RFU 11 - August 8-9, 2022

Two (2) Extrusion Plants that manufacture pesticide-impregnated polybags used for the banana industry were inspected by the FPA team led by Regional Officer Ms. Marrisa G. Napalit and Provincial Officer Ms. Cheery B. Agrade.

FPA RFU 11 - August 8-9, 2022

FPA RFU 11 conducted an inspection of a banana plantation conducted by Provincial Officer Rustom Gain A. Tanduyan.

The activity highlights on the ocular inspection of its chemical mixing facilities, the functionalities of the equipment, disposal of excess waste, the safety of the chemical handlers during chemical operations at the packing house, material safety data sheets, emergency equipment, and more.



SOCCSKSARGEN



FPA RFU 12 - August 3, 2022

FPA- Sultan Kudarat Provincial Officer Cherubin M Alonzo conducted monitoring and inspection of agricultural pesticide and fertilizer products at Lucky Lady Farm Developer AgriSupply at Poblacion, Columbio Sultan Kudarat on Wednesday, August 3.

This is to assure the farmers of quality and available agricultural pesticide and fertilizer inputs.

FPA RFU 12 - August 3, 2022

To assure the farmers of safe, quality and available fertilizers and agricultural pesticide products, FPA-SARGEN Provincial Officer Joey B. Pascua conducted inspection and monitoring in General Santos City on August 3.



FPA RFU 12 - August 4, 2022

FPA- South Cotabato Provincial Officer Ms. Jennie M. Basilio conducted monitoring and inspection of agricultural pesticide and fertilizer products in Polomolok, South Cotabato on Thursday, August 4.

This is a regular activity conducted by field officers to assure the farmers of quality and adequate supplies of agricultural pesticide and fertilizer inputs.

FPA RFU 12 - August 16, 2022

FPA North Cotabato Provincial Officer, Maricel P. Tabigue just conducted inspection to a local fertilizer manufacturer at Brgy. Maceboleg, Kidapawan City today, August 16, 2022.

The inspection was conducted in compliance with the application for certificate of product registration.



FPA RFU 12 - August 16, 2022



South Cotabato FPA-Provincial Officer Jennie M. Basilio conducted random sampling of fertilizer at Van Arianne-an FPA accredited dealer in Polomolok, South Cotabato

FPA RFU 12 - August 17, 2022

FPA SARANGANI Provincial Officer Joey B. Pascua conducted inspection and product monitoring as well as collection of fertilizer price and inventory at Raysmart Maitum Corporation located at Barangay Malalag, Maitum, Sarangani Province on Wednesday, August 17, 2022.

The activity was conducted to assure the farmers in the said municipality of adequate supplies and quality agricultural inputs.



FPA RFU 12 - August 19, 2022

FPA Deputy Executive Director for Pesticide, Eric C. Divinagracia spearheaded the initial on-site inspection for the research facility of Syngenta Philippines in Banga, South Cotabato on Friday, August 19, 2022.

The activity were assisted by FPA Regional Officer Alita C. Bornea and FPA-South Cotabato Provincial Officer Jennie M. Basilio together with the Syngenta Philippines Staff.

The activity was requested by Syngenta Philippines for their application of Experimental Use Permit IA (EUP IA)-covers compound formulations in the initial stages and development to be tested only within the company's research station. Data generated is used for research purposes only and is not intended for registration.



CARAGA

FPA RFU 13 - August 9-11, 2022

Due to higher cost of inorganic fertilizers, there were reliable reports that unscrupulous peddlers were doing their illegal business on selling fake fertilizers to dealers and/or directly to end-users. So, in order to mitigate and control this problem FPA Caraga has continued to conduct intensified monitoring and inspection to different fertilizer handler's establishment, and provide awareness to the public.

This was done in the province of Agusan del Sur on August 9-11, 2022.



FPA RFU 13 - August 23-24, 2022



FPA Caraga issued Stop Use Stop Move/Sales (SUMS) order to different fertilizer handlers who were found selling and storing off-specs inorganic fertilizers in the province of Agusan del Sur on August 23-24, 2022 during the Clean-Up Drive operations.

This campaign was initiated as part of the intensified monitoring to ensure that fertilizer products available to the public has conform to the quality standards set forth by the FPA.

And the above mentioned product failed to meet the required standard based on its guaranteed analysis.

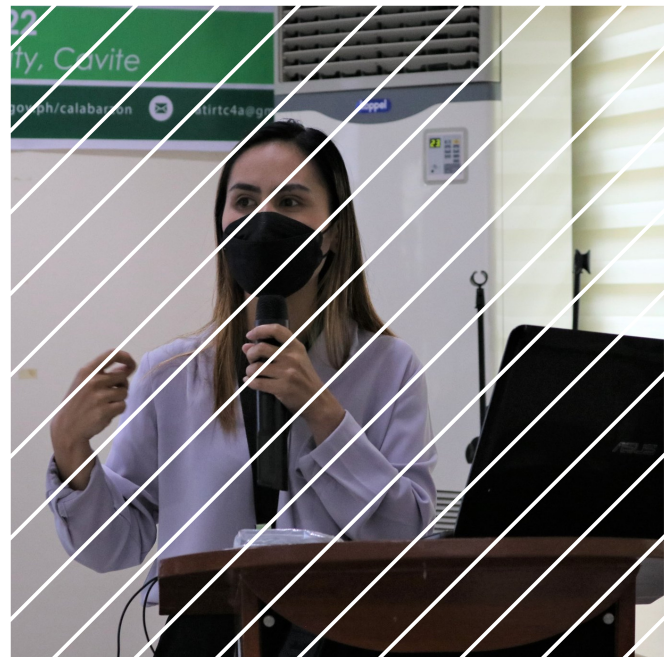
FPA RFU 13 - August 25, 2022



FPA Caraga visited Sumifru banana plantation in Tagbina, Surigao del Sur and conducted a meeting with the manager regarding the status of their operations.

The said plantation was under rehab after one year of rest and/or full stoppage of its operations due to damages of panama diseases (Fusarium wilt).

ACCREDITATION TRAININGS AND SYMPOSIA



Accounts on:

- Trainings, workshops, and other learning activities initiated by FPA
- Trainings with FPA Accredited Training Association (FATA)

CORDILLERA ADMINISTRATIVE REGION (CAR)

FPA RFU CAR - August 3, 2022

19 Agrarian Reform Beneficiaries (ARBs) attended the seminar on safe and effective use of fertilizer and pesticide products cum Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) orientation at Central Kapangan Barangay Hall last August 03, 2022.

The Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) - Benguet, as represented by Ms. Salinda Agustin organized and facilitated the activity. This is part of the Support Livelihood Services of DAR to strengthen their assisted groups of ARBs. FPA-CAR Provincial Officer Rowena F. Billig discussed the FPA concerns while Ms. Jun Ann Esteban, Kapangan LGU - OMAg GAP focal person oriented the participants on GAP's importance, purposes, and procedures.



FPA RFU CAR - August 4, 2022

DA-CAR organized a training on Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) on vegetables to capacitate farmers and Farmers Cooperatives and Associations (FCAs) in support to the implementation of Adaptation Mitigation Initiative for Agriculture (AMIA) projects. The activity was conducted in collaboration with LGUs of Buguias - OMAg and Benguet - OPAG.

Provincial Officer for Benguet Rowena F. Billig discussed safe and effective use of fertilizer and pesticides. Balanced Fertilization Strategy (BFS) was also emphasized during the discussions.

FPA RFU CAR - August 11, 2022

FPA-CAR supports the training on Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) on highland value crops by LGU La Trinidad, Benguet through its Office of the Municipal Agriculture (OMAg) headed by Acting Mun. Agriculturist Nida Dolo, on Aug. 10-11, 2022 at BSU Gladiola Center, Betag, LTB. FPA - CAR Regional Officer Rogelio B. Tanguid and Provincial Officer Rowena F. Billig attended the activity as speakers on safe and effective use of fertilizers and pesticides with emphasis on Balanced Fertilization Strategy (BFS).

37 farmers came from BSU - Agri-based Technology Business Incubator (ATBI); 6 participants were Barangay Agricultural Extension Workers (BAEW); and 1 participant was a member of P4MP.



FPA RFU CAR - August 23, 2022



FPA-CAR supports ATI-CAR during the conduct of the Training on Site Specific Nutrient Management Nutrient Expert for Maize at BSU- Gladiola Hall, Betag, La Trinidad, Benguet. FPA-CAR Provincial Officer Rowena F. Billig reminded the 19 AEWs on the safe and effective use FP products.

The AEWs, as catalyst of positive change specifically on the further development of the agricultural sector in their own areas, are very much willing to enforce such learnings together with their farmer-clients.

FPA RFU CAR - August 24, 2022

Thirty (30) field staff of BPI completed the Retooling on Chemical Handling Management by Baguio National Crop Research, Development and Production Support Center (BPI-BNCRDPSC) at Guisad, Baguio City.

FPA - CAR, represented by Provincial Officer Rowena F. Billig served as resource person.



FPA RFU CAR - August 30, 2022



FPA CAR attended the 1st Kiangnan Farmers and Fisherfolks Week Celebration on August 25, 2022 held at Open Gym, Poblacion, Kiangnan, Ifugao with the theme "Innovative Farming Towards Global Food Security".



FPA CAR Regional Officer Rogelio B. Tanguid and Provincial Officer Rodell C. Goha-od discussed the safe and judicious use of fertilizer and pesticide, and give updates on the current issues in the fertilizer industry to 347 participants (farmers and fisherfolks) from different barangays of Kiangnan, Ifugao.

ILOCOS REGION

FPA RFU 1 - August 23, 2022



FPA Ilocos Region headed by Mr. Joseph Andre John O. Martinez attended the RMC Special meeting conducted at 5th floor, Conference Room, DA Regional Office 1, Sevilla, San Fernando City, La Union.

The special meeting was called upon by the DA's Usec. for Operations and Chief of Staff, Doc. Leocadio S. Sebastian, Ph.D., CESO 1, and was attended by all Regional Executive Directors (REDs), Bureau Directors, Heads of DAs attached agencies and corporations and all heads of DA banner programs.

The agenda of the meeting include the following: 1) Strengthening Regional coordination, 2) Preparatory activity in the upcoming National Rice Technology Forum, and 3) Awarding of Provincial Agriculture and Fisheries Extension System (PAFES) learning sites.

During the event, it was emphasized that all DA heads were tasked to ensure close coordination among DA agencies throughout the Region and other Central-based agencies that are implementing programs and projects the conduct of regular meetings and clearly defined coordination mechanisms for the effective and efficient implementations of all programs/projects to achieve One-DA's objectives.

Furthermore, RED's may use RMC as modality for such coordination and shall serve as a collegiate body to resolve problems and issues encountered in the course of implementations of certain programs or projects.

CAGAYAN VALLEY

FPA RFU 2 - August 09, 2022



Merchants' meeting on fertilizer discount voucher conducted by DA-RFO 02 and FPA Region 02 at DA-SCRC, Iguig, Cagayan. It was attended by 63 fertilizer and pesticide handlers in Cagayan Province.

CENTRAL LUZON

FPA RFU 3 - August 11, 2022



Mango Inducer/ Contract Growers Seminar was conducted at San Roque, San Isidro, Nueva Ecija. In coordination with FPA Region III. Ms. Robilyn Sarmiento and Mr. Roel P. Valdez discussed several topics in relation to FPA's mandate and the role of every stakeholders in combatting illegal/off- spec products circulating around the area.

CALABARZON - MIMAROPA

FPA RFU 4 - August 8, 2022

FPA-Cavite Provincial Officer (PO) Allan Jade V. Rojo and Regional Officer (RO) Suzettie M. Alcaide served as resource speakers during the first day of a week-long training entitled “Capability Enhancement Course for Agriculture Extension Workers (AEWs): Approaches to Integrate Nutrient Management for Rice” on August 8, 2022, in Trece Martires City, Cavite. The said training was conducted by the Agricultural Training Institute IV-A (ATI IV-A) for twenty-five (25) AEWs in CALABARZON.

PO Rojo discussed the functions of the FPA and provided updates on the FPA’s policies, plans, and programs. Further, he explained the reasons for the increasing prices of fertilizers. He highlighted that the global fertilizer crisis is due to the rising prices of fuel, the Ukraine-Russian conflict, and the COVID-19 pandemic. Additionally, most fertilizer exporting countries prioritize their local distribution over exportation.

On the other hand, RO Suzettie M. Alcaide discussed the implementation of the Balanced Fertilization Strategy (BFS). BFS is a program initiated by the Department of Agriculture that pushes for the use of combined organic and inorganic inputs and other forms of strategy to attain the maximum potential of farmlands while promoting balanced fertilization in maintaining soil fertility.

RO Alcaide discussed the four strategies in BFS; 1. Soil Testing and Soil Fertility Map, 2. Integrated Nutrient Management, 3. Cropping System, and 4. Fertilizer Best Management Practices.

She emphasized the need to apply the 4Rs in fertilization: Right source, Right Placement, Right amount, and Right rate. This shall enhance soil health and productivity, prevent the decline in soil fertility, and improve fertilizer availability while minimizing the cost of production.

During the open forum, several issues were raised by the participants, such as the proliferation of fake fertilizers and off-specifications products, which are sold at a very high cost but with minimal or no effect on the crop. RO Alcaide discussed with the AEWs that FPA has already informed the public about these fake fertilizers. “We are strictly monitoring and working closely with the fertilizer handlers to address the issues,” RO Alcaide said.

Moreover, FPA issued a suspension order to local fertilizer manufacturers who are found to be non-compliant with FPA rules and regulations, specifically, those who have products that are below the minimum declared guaranteed analysis. These local manufacturers are now ordered to recall or pull out their products in the market and provided with other corrective actions that they should undertake.

RO Alcaide asked the AEWs to help FPA inform the public to report and refrain from patronizing the alleged fake products and off-specs products to combat its proliferation.



FPA RFU 4 - August 24-25, 2022



As part of the Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority's mandate to educate the agricultural sector on the use of fertilizer and pesticide products, FPA RFU-IV held a training on Accredited Safety Dispenser (ASD) for fertilizer and pesticide dealers last August 24-25, 2022 at El Pueblo Rhizort, Mahal na Pangalan, Calapan City, Oriental Mindoro.

The training was attended by 95 participants, 83 from Oriental Mindoro and 12 from Occidental Mindoro. The said training is one of the requirements for acquiring an FPA dealership license.

ASD's responsibilities include advising buyers/end-users on the safe use, handling, and storage of fertilizer and pesticide products, keeping records of fertilizer and pesticide product sales and disposition, making them available for inspection by FPA, and ensuring that only FPA-registered fertilizer and pesticide products are dispensed.

The topics discussed during the training include FPA governing rules and regulations, general information about pesticides, safe handling of pesticides, Integrated Pest Management (IPM), recognition and first aid management of pesticide poisoning cases, soils, fertilizer, safe handling of fertilizer, and good housekeeping.

The activity also served as an avenue to update the FPA stakeholders on the current policies and issuances of the Agency, especially those related to fake and off-specification fertilizer products.

Regional Officer (RO) Suzettie Alcaide reminded the dealers to be cautious about purchasing fertilizer products and ensure that their supplies will only come from legitimate distributors to ensure quality products. She also emphasized that as licensed dealers, they should serve as a partner of FPA to ensure strict implementation of FPA rules and regulations.

Further, she appealed to always protect the interest of the farmers in doing their business. "If we will sell fake and ineffective products to our farmers, the tendency is that they will not probably get a good yield and they will go bankrupt, which will eventually discourage them from planting for the next cropping season, and if that will happen, your business will also be affected as a consequence. It is a domino effect, so please, let us protect our farmers, our consumers, and the Philippine agriculture industry," Ms. Alcaide said.

RO Alcaide was accompanied by her team composed of , Mr. Dexter Oliver O. Leynes, Mr. Froilan T. Bañaga, Mr. Allan Jade V. Rojo, Mr. Mark Nicky S. Larga and Ms. Georlene P. Orbista, Agriculturist II of Oriental Mindoro, Occidental Mindoro, Cavite, Laguna and Marinduque, and Batangas, respectively. Additionally, Mr. Engracio "Bong" Baral, Operations Manager of Zeal Ecological Nature (ZENCOR) Corp., also serves as a speaker on pesticide safe handling as part of their product stewardship program.

CENTRAL LUZON

FPA RFU 5 - August 17-18, 2022

Training on Accredited Safety Dispenser (ASD) of fertilizer and pesticide was conducted by FPA-Bicol at Albay Provincial Agriculture Office (APAO), Cabañan, Camalig. It was attended by 28 prospected fertilizer and pesticide dealers from Albay, Camarines Sur and Sorsogon who wants to secure their FPA dealership license and be knowledgeable on the safe handling and dispensing of fertilizer and pesticide products.



FPA RFU 5 - August 19, 2022



During her welcome message, OIC-Provincial Agriculturist Rosalinda B. Belodo said, “ASD training is essential to dealers for them to have a knowledge on fertilizer and pesticide products that they are selling to the farmers.”

FPA Bicol Regional Officer Gabriel B. Atole introduced the Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority to the participants and briefly discussed the reasons behind the fertilizer price hike. He also emphasized the role of ASD personnel as frontline to farmers purchasing fertilizer and pesticide products.

The topics discussed by the Provincial Officers (POs) during the first day were all about pesticides: General Information on Pesticides and its Label, Pesticide Safe Handling, Storage and Transport, Pesticide Poisoning and First Aid, Understanding Integrated Pest Management Concept, and Insecticide Resistance Management. Furthermore, on the second day, the topics were about fertilizers: Soil, Fertilizer, and Plant Growth, Types of Fertilizer and Plant Growth Promoters, Balanced Fertilization Strategy (BFS) Program, and Fertilizer Handling and Storage.

FPA RFU 5 - August 23, 2022

The FPA Bicol in collaboration with the Department of Agriculture Regional Field Office V (DA-RF05), Bicol Medical Center-Poison Control Center and Camsur Multi-Purpose Cooperative conducted the “Pesticide Training 101: Pesticide Safe Handling, Poison Prevention and Management” at CDA Bldg., Airport Road, Pili, Camarines Sur.



CENTRAL VISAYAS

FPA RFU 7 - August 25, 2022



Thirty (30) participants from different municipalities in the Province of Bohol attended the Accredited Safety Dispensers (ASD) training on August 24, 2022, held in Reynas the Haven and Gardens, Tagbilaran City.

ASD training is one of the requirements for the License to Operate (LTO) as a dealer. It refers to an individual who attended the 2-day training conducted by FPA and passed the examinations administered by the Regional Field Units (RFUs). They must be present at the store during business hours to properly dispense fertilizer and pesticide products to farmers and supervise, advise, and assist buyers on the safe handling and storage of agricultural inputs.

Regional Officer (RO) Arnulfo L. Arausa, Jr. gave an overview of the training, and emphasized the important roles of an ASD in maintaining the quality of the needed inputs and providing helpful information to farmers regarding fertilizers and pesticides' effective and efficient use.

During the morning session, Provincial Officer (PO) Andy Cornell Bornillo talked about the Agency's mandate and the regulations governing the fertilizer and pesticide industries. While soil, fertilizer, and plant growth were discussed by Ms. Adoracion Dela Cruz - Chief of DA-APCO Bohol laboratory services. Meanwhile, PO Sunday Flores explained the fertilizer, soil conditioners/amendments, specialty fertilizers, and plant growth promoters. Finally, Mr. Robert Leano, Area Manager of Atlas Fertilizer Corporation, shared inputs about fertilizer handling and storage.

In the afternoon session, RO Arausa shared the general information on pesticides. While PO Jesus Muring discussed pesticide safe handling, storage, and transport. Moreover, Ms. Lyra Pangan Adlaon, R.N., discussed the topic on pesticide poisoning and first aid. Lastly, the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) concept was discussed by Mr. Ian Egam - DA SAAD Provincial Coordinator.

Towards the end of the activity, FPA Region VII gave out informational materials that would serve as references to the participants.

EASTERN VISAYAS

FPA RFU 8 - August 15, 2022



FPA Region VIII presented an update, trend, and outlook on fertilizer; and the concept of Balanced Fertilization Strategy (BFS) to 31 local farmer technicians (LFTs) at the Training of Trainers (TOT) on Modernized Rice Crop Production.

Provincial Officer (PO) Eric C. Castanas discussed the Agency's mandates and functions. He spoke about the current state of fertilizer in the region, as well as the recent price and the reason for keeping the price at a high level. PO Castanas emphasized the importance of BFS and how it can minimize production costs while improving soil health and crop production.

BFS is a program that includes the FPA and other DA agencies involved in farming. BFS is a recognized 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 conditions that leads to soil health building (BSWM, 2020).

He also explained the role of FPA in BFS, including the Fertilizer Watch System (FWS), which is implemented to generate and disseminate data to strengthen the agency's awareness campaign efforts to encourage farmers to use FPA-registered fertilizer brands in the market. Within FWS are the monitoring quality, fertilizer product information, and the data consolidation.

ZAMBOANGA PENINSULA

FPA RFU 9 - August 05, 2022

FPA Regulatory updates and Harmonized Field Promotion Approach of Agricultural Pesticide Products and Product Stewardship. Attendees by Pesticide Companies Field Technicians and Sales Representatives.



FPA RFU 9 - August 8-12, 2022

FPA RFU IX discussed the current fertilizer situation in the country and promoted the Balanced Fertilization Strategy (BFS) during the Agri-Fishery week held last August 8-12, 2022, at Tabina, Zamboanga Del Sur.

Regional Officer (RO) Alex Paalisbo led the presentation regarding the increasing fertilizer prices. In his discussion, he emphasized that the global crisis is due to the rising prices of fuel, the Ukraine-Russian conflict, and the COVID-19 pandemic. Moreover, most fertilizer exporting countries prioritize their local distribution over exportation.

It is worth noting that the country has been for a long-time a net importer of fertilizers. About 90% of the country's needs for fertilizer are mostly imported from China, Indonesia, and Malaysia. In addition, some are being imported from Qatar, Canada, Korea, and the Middle East, while local production accounts for only 10% of the country's fertilizer supply.

To address the issue, the Department of Agriculture promoted the BFS. BFS is a program that includes the FPA and other DA agencies involved in farming. The idea of the program is to institutionalize the use of organic and inorganic fertilizers and other forms of strategies (i.e., green manuring or cover cropping, individual farm soil fertility maps, diversifying and improving cropping system, etc.) to attain the maximum potential of farmlands while maintaining soil structure and fertility.

The said strategy applies the 4Rs in fertilization: Right Source, Right Placement, Right Amount, and Right Rate to help enhance soil health and productivity, prevent the decline in soil fertility, and improve fertilizer availability and costs.

Additionally, the team discussed the safe and judicious use of pesticides and taught the participants how to properly use the pesticides to prevent contamination and poisoning.

The Agri-Fishery week was spearheaded by the Municipal Government of Tabina, Zamboanga Del Sur, Mayor Anthony Dayondon, through the Office of the Municipal Agriculturist, Mr. Joy Patian. A total of 200 farmers from different barangays attended the said event.



ZAMBOANGA PENINSULA

FPA RFU 9 - August 16, 2022

FPA Region 9 conducted information drive to around 80 farmers who attended the Farmers Day celebration organized by the LGU of Liloy, Zamboanga del Norte on August 16, 2022. The activity aims to educate the farmers on the different programs under the Department of Agriculture including the Balanced Fertilization Strategy (BFS).

Mr. Dionn Bohol, FPA Provincial Officer, encouraged the participants to continue producing quality harvest through the effective and safe use of FPA registered agricultural inputs. He also informed them of the reasons behind high prices of fertilizers, which was observed to be their primary concern during the activity.

He suggested the application of BFS as an effective alternative to acquiring plant nutrients by not solely relying on inorganic fertilizers to lessen production cost.

"BFS applies the concept of 4Rs in fertilization: Right Source, Right Placement, Right Amount, and Right Rate to help enhance soil health and productivity, prevent the decline in soil fertility, and improve fertilizer availability and costs," Bohol explained.

Culminating the activity was the distribution of farm inputs (knapsack Sprayers, fertilizers, and seeds), and trade fair of local agri products, among others.

Also present during the activity were Center Dir. Alicia Rose Nebreja of the Agricultural Training Institute (ATI) Region 9, Zamboanga Mr. George Vallente from APCO, Mr. Ronaldo Barote of the Municipal Agriculture Office (MAO), a representative from the Philippine Crop Insurance Corp. (PCIC), Hon. Feliciano Bolando of the Committee Chairman on Agriculture, Agricultural Pesticide Company (TagChem Dragon) and Animal Veterinary and Feed Companies.

The Agri Trade Fair Week was held from August 15- 22, 2022 in celebration of the 71st Araw ng Liloy.



NORTHERN MINDANAO

FPA RFU 10 - August 02, 2022

FPA Northern Mindanao conducted an Accredited Safety Dispenser (ASD) training for 62 individuals at the Garden Party Venue, Malaybalay City, Bukidnon, last August 02, 2022.

Regional Officer (RO) Ma. Sonia C. Calleja led the presentation regarding the reasons for the increasing fertilizer prices. In her discussion, she highlighted that the global fertilizer crisis is due to the rising prices of fuel, the Ukraine-Russian conflict, and the COVID-19 pandemic. Additionally, most fertilizer exporting countries prioritize their local distribution over exportation.



It is worth noting that the country has been for a long-time a net importer of fertilizers. About 90% of the country's needs for fertilizer are mostly imported from China, Indonesia, and Malaysia. In addition, some are being imported from Qatar, Canada, Korea, and the Middle East, while local production accounts for only 10% of the country's fertilizer supply.

RO Calleja also discussed the recognition of pesticide poisoning and emphasized that pesticide handlers should be alert to the early stages of signs and symptoms of poisoning and immediately and completely remove the source of exposure, such as contaminated clothing (ASD Manual).

Provincial Officer (PO) Christie D. Lim presented the Agency's mandate and highlighted the powers and functions of FPA as stipulated under Section 6 of PD 1144. While PO Charles Joseph C. Follosco discussed the soil, fertilizer, and plant growth.

Moreover, Ms. Cathy Sumagaysay from Syngenta Philippines Inc. discussed the safe handling and basic information about pesticides. She briefly explained the steps of efficient, effective use of pesticides and the importance of reading the label during buying, mixing, applying, and disposing of pesticides as part of their product stewardship and responsible care program.

The training is a prerequisite for acquiring License to Operate (LTO) as fertilizer and pesticide handlers.

The participants are expected to process their licenses in the next succeeding days to the FPA Regional Office.

FPA RFU 11 - August 02, 2022

FPA Davao del Norte advocates on the safe and judicious use of crop protection products to 75 rice farmers during the Bayer Crop Science field activity. An awareness program with the farmers hosted by the BAYER Crop Science together with FPA was conducted in Brgy. Maniki, Kapalong, Davao del Norte.

The activity centers on the introduction of Bayer's Drone Spraying Application in which was attended by seventy-five (75) rice farmers/participants who witnessed the program. Moreover, as the FPA team gave its message of remarks during the program, Regional Officer Ms. Napalit reached out to these farmers by providing a brief message and setting-up technical know-how on the safe farming practices. This includes the awareness of the farmers on the proper handling and storage of farm inputs, giving them heads-up to always pay attention on the pesticide product label by following the Pre-Harvest Interval (PHI), Maximum Residue Limit (MRL), Re-entry Period, use of PPEs, and Good Housekeeping Practices as a whole. The FPA also updated the farmers on the recent price hike of fertilizers in the market and cited some reasons for its price increase.

Lastly, the FPA calls up the farmers to always and only patronize Agricultural Input Products that are only registered by the FPA and to only purchase those products from FPA-Licensed Dealers/Distributors, and to be aware of the fake fertilizers and pesticides that may be circulating and encourages everyone to report immediately to FPA if found.

Equipped with new ideas as taught during the program, the FPA encourages everyone to always consider farm productivity with safety and to help promote the practice of safe and judicious use of Crop Protection Products to its constituents.



FPA RFU 11 - August 04, 2022

41 Mango Contractors and Growers attended the 4th wave of FPA Davao Region's (RFU 11) Mango Contractors Training held at the Municipal Gymnasium, Padada, Davao del Sur.

The training is designed to lecture handlers on the correct use of potassium nitrate as mango flower inducer and develop the awareness on the safe and judicious use of fertilizers and pesticides (Fertilizer Regulatory Policies and Implementing Guidelines, p. 72).

Ms. Napalit also discussed the PD 1144, including the creation, duties, responsibilities, and rules & regulations while Provincial Officer Mr. Rustom Gain Tanduyan tackled the EO 522 of the PNP-FEO, MC 93-05 covering the FPA rules and regulations governing the mango industry, and acquisition of use of nitrates.

Lastly, Provincial Officer Ms. Imelda Rasay discussed the recognition & first aid management on pesticide poisoning cases. The Team also emphasizes the education on Balanced Fertilization Strategy (BFS). Agway Chemicals Corp. discussed the remaining technical topics, including plant nutrition, the correct use of mango flower inducer, cultural practices, insect pests, disease management, pesticide information, classification, safe use in mango production, Mode of Action (MOA) Classification, IRAC and FRAC. FPA XI collaborated with Agway Chemicals Corp. to conduct the Training. The newly trained participants will now be eligible to apply for a License to Operate (LTO) as Mango Contractor.



FPA RFU 11 - August 11-12, 2022

A two (2)-day Training on Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) in Banana was conducted by the DA PhilGAP XI in partnership with FPA Davao del Norte's Provincial Officer Ms. Cheery B. Agrade at Den's Cafe in Panabo City.

Ms. Agrade, as Resource Speaker discussed to the Forty (40) participants who are working in the Banana Industry the 2 of 4 modules of PhilGAP (Environmental Management; Worker's Health, Safety, and Welfare). Proper use and handling of agricultural inputs, proper wearing of PPEs, importance of Pesticide Label information including first aid management in case of accidental poisoning, Maximum Residue Limit (MRL), Pre-Harvest Interval (PHI), Re-entry Period, Empty Pesticide Container Triple-Rinsing, Disposal, etc.



FPA RFU 11 - August 23, 2022



Sixty-nine (69) members and officers of the Fertilizer and Pesticide Dealers Association of Davao Inc. (FAPDADI) have attended the Assembly meeting at Heroben Hotel which highlighted the FPA updates and more. The Assembly was programmed with the presence of Deputy Executive Director - Pesticide Mr. Eric C. Divinagracia, Regional Officer Ms. Marrisa G. Napalit, Provincial Officer Ms. Cheery B. Agrade, and the rest of the FAPDADI Officers and its members.

During the program, Ms. Agrade updated the Dealers on the FPA's Regional and Provincial Profiles, reminded the attendees on FPA's rules in product registration, and licensing of handlers. Moreover, Ms. Napalit discussed about the reasons of fertilizer price hike, and the importance of using the Balanced Fertilization Strategy (BFS). She also tackled all the Memoranda issued by the FPA about Fake and Off-specs Fertilizers, and the Agency's order for the issuance of Stop Use, Move, Sale Order (SUMS) to the violators.

Furthermore, Mr. Divinagracia reminded the dealers to patronize only fertilizer and pesticide products from licensed suppliers or distributors. He then thanked all the dealers for the continued support rendered towards FPA in positively carrying its mandate. And lastly, Mr. Divinagracia sited that participants should give any feedback which will help FPA to improve its services to all.

FPA RFU 12 - August 10, 2022



Led by FPA Regional Officer, Alita C. Bornea commenced the Accredited Safety Dispenser (ASD) Training today, August 10, 2022 held at Palm Pavilion, Tacurong City.

FPA Deputy Executive Director for Pesticide, Mr. Eric C. Divinagracia also graced the activity. He encouraged the participants of the ASD training to always conduct their business with integrity, compassion, and the farmer's plight in mind.

Seventy-four (74) prospected fertilizer and pesticide dealers from Region XII, Zamboanga City, and Davao Region who want to secure their FPA License to Operate as Dealer were participated in the said activity.

Also joined the activity were the technical representatives of Syngenta Philippines and Yara Fertilizer Corporation. The activity aimed to be able the participants to have knowledge on the safe handling and dispensing of fertilizer and pesticide products.

FPA RFU 12 - August 23, 2022



FPA-North Cotabato Provincial Officer Maricel P. Tabigue conducted lecture on the safe and judicious use of agricultural pesticides including Gabay sa Tamang Paggamit Ng Abono during the Philippine Good Agricultural Practices (PhilGAP) Training in Banana which held in Midsayap Cotabato today, August 23, 2022.

Thirty (30) banana farmers and big farm land owners from the Municipalities of Tulunan, Mlang, Midsayap, Alamada and Makilala were participated and gained knowledge on the said activity.

The said training was organized by the Department of Agriculture Regional Field Unit-XII through its Regulatory Division.

FPA RFU 12 - August 30, 2022



On August 30, 2022, FPA XII headed by Regional Officer Alita C. Bornea with FPA North Cotabato Provincial Officer Maricel P. Tabigue in collaboration with the Syngenta Philippines represented by Stewardship Manager Ms. Catherine Palomo-Sumagaysay conducted safe use training to 121 farmer members of Minapan Farmers Association.

The training was organized to educate the farmers of safe and judicious handling, usage, and storage of agricultural pesticides.

FPA RFU 12 - August 31, 2022



FPA XII represented by Provincial Officers Cherubin M. Alonzo and Jennie M. Basilio were invited to discuss the Safe and Judicious Use, Handling and Storage of Fertilizer and Pesticide to 11 farmers during the Philippine Good Agricultural Practices (PhilGAP) Training which was organized by the Regulatory Division of DA RFU-XII.

The activity aims to ensure food safety and assure the quality of agricultural produce while keeping high regard for environmental protection and farm workers' health, safety, and welfare by following good agricultural practices.

The activity was conducted on Wednesday, August 31, 2022 at Agua Frio Resort and Hotel, Koronadal City.

CARAGA

FPA RFU 12 - August 26, 2022



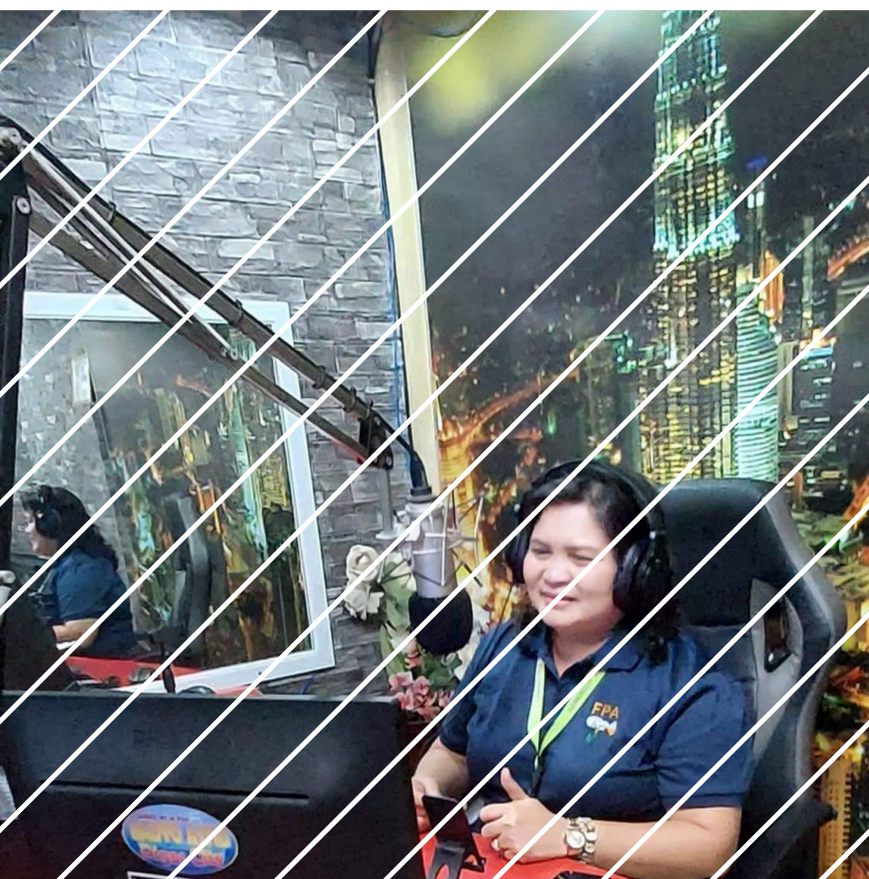
FPA Caraga conducted a seminar on the safe and judicious use of pesticides, Balanced Fertilization Strategy (BFS), and reminded the participants on the sale of fake, off-specs fertilizer grades. The activity was conducted last August 26, 2022 at Brgy. Muritula, San Luis, Agusan del Sur.

FPA RFU 12 - August 30, 2022



FPA Caraga conducted an awareness education campaign on the use and sale of fake, adulterated and/or substandard inorganic fertilizer grades circulating in the region last August 30, 2022. The activity was in collaboration with the DA LGU of La Paz, Agusan del Sur.

PUBLIC INFORMATION



Accounts on:

- Interactions of FPA Officials with farming communities
- Informing the public of FPA activities and the regulations on fertilizer, pesticide, and other agri-chemicals

FPA RFU XI - August 03, 2022



FPA Region XI and Croplife Regional Action Network (CRAN) X met with the City's Agricultural Office (CAO) for possible collaboration on the proposed Empty Pesticide Container (EPC) retrieval project on August 3, 2022, at the City Agriculture's Office Conference Hall.

For the CAO to have a clearer picture of the proposed project, FPA and CRAN discussed the highlights from the previous meeting conducted last July 15, 2022.

Some of the points discussed in the previous meeting include:

- challenges for the implementation of the EPC retrieval project;
- creating a team that includes the FPA, Croplife Philippines, Local Government Units, particularly the City/Municipal Agriculture's Office and City Environment and Natural Resources Office (CENRO); and

- tapping the Department of Environment and Natural Resources - Environmental Management Bureau (DENR-EMB) for the legalities and other concerns on the implementation of the project.

The team also discussed their initial plans for the implementation of the EPC retrieval projects, to wit:

- contact Brgy. LGUs and CAO technicians since they will be in-charge in training the farmers in their respective areas;
- create a Technical Working Group (TWG) composed of the different government agencies, including the LGU and other chemical companies;
- create a master list containing necessary information like name, address, chemicals used, and land area; and
- establishment of temporary storage (structure) for EPCs following the EMB standards.

The meeting was attended by the FPA team headed by Regional Officer (RO) Marrisa Napalit, Provincial Officer (PO) Rustom Gain Tanduyan, Ms. Catherine Sumagaysay from Syngenta, Mr. Lizter Anasco from CB Andrews, and Mr. Edgardo Haspe (OIC of the City Agriculture's Office) and the rest of the CAO personnel.

CAO will introduce the project during their Solid Waste Management Board (SWMB) meeting for their approval. The group, including the FPA and CRAN, will also be conducting a seminar-workshop for the agricultural technicians in September as part of plans to implement the EPC retrieval project.

FPA RFU XII - August 09, 2022

FPA Deputy Executive Director for Pesticide, Mr. Eric C. Divinagracia together with the FPA Regional Field Unit XII headed by FPA Regional Officer Alita C. Bornea met the CropLife Regional Action Network (CRAN) SOCCSKSARGEN Members headed by CRAN SOCCSKSARGEN President Mr. Dion Jake Cacho in Koronadal City, South Cotabato today, August 9, 2022.

The activity aims to brief the CRAN members of the FPA Policies specifically on the implementation of proposed expiration date on the pesticide labels, Mode of Action, and product Stewardship programs of the pesticide companies.

Additionally, it aims also to update the activities of CRAN SOCSARGEN in the region.



FPA RFU XII - August 11, 2022



Led by FPA Regional Officer Alita C. Bornea, the FPA Regional Field Unit-XII convened for the regional meeting at FPA Regional Office, Koronadal City, South Cotabato on Thursday, August 11, 2022.

The meeting focused on the fertilizer sampling, issuing of Stop Use, Move, and Sale (SUMS) order, and the Memo Circulars issued by FPA Office were also discussed.

Additionally, the schedule for the upcoming Clean-Up Drive (CUD) operation and Accredited Safety Dispenser (ASD) Training in the province of Sarangani and City of General Santos City were also included.

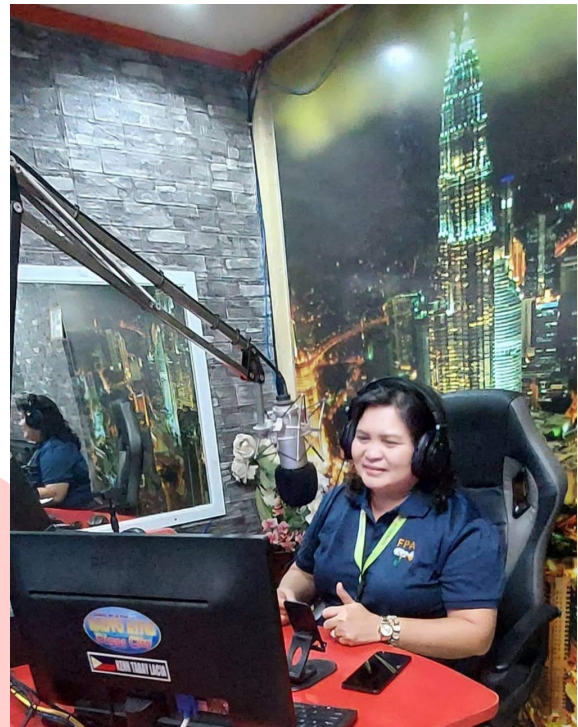
FPA RFU XII - August 12, 2022

As FPA continues its commitment to provide awareness on the safe and judicious use of agricultural inputs, Provincial Officer (PO) Imelda Rasay discussed the safe, proper, and judicious use of crop protection during her guesting at DXKL 97.5 Radyo astig on August 12, 2022.

During the live broadcast, Ms. Rasay highlighted the importance of Good Agricultural Practices (GAP), which include proper environmental management to safeguard workers' health welfare. In addition, proper use and handling of agricultural inputs, proper wearing of PPEs, and the importance of pesticide label information were emphasized.

She also reminded the listeners to always put the safety of the community as a top priority. "There should always be an equilibrium that would benefit both the safety of the community and agriculture without harming the health of the people," Ms. Rasay said.

The next episode on the safe and judicious use of fertilizers and pesticides will be broadcast on September 09, 2022.



FPA RFU XII - August 17, 2022



FPA Regional Officer (RO) Alita C. Bornea attended the 2nd Regional Management Committee (RMC) Meeting at Greenstate Convention Center, Koronadal City, South Cotabato on Wednesday, August 17, 2022.

RO Bornea started the presentation with a quick facts on fertilizer usage/requirement per commodity per year in the region. Additionally, she discussed the current fertilizer price and inventory updates by Province and by Municipality. She stressed that FPA is monitoring the fertilizer price and inventory every week.

Furthermore, on the quality monitoring, the lack of testing facility or laboratory for fertilizer analysis in the region is a hindering factor for now. With this, FPA XII and DA XII both agreed to discuss the problem with their laboratory personnel to find ways in fast-tracking the analysis in regards to fertilizers, seeds, and the like.

FPA RFU XII - August 22, 2022



FPA Region 12 headed by Regional Officer Alita C Bornea attended the preparatory meeting for the conduct of Food Safety Forum at DA Conference Hall, Carpenter Hill, Koronadal City earlier today, August 22, 2022.

The meeting was initiated by Department of Agriculture Regional Field Unit-XII headed by OIC-Regional Executive Director Dennis Arpia and attended by other attached agencies including FPA.

The meeting aimed to secure the smooth implementation of the said activity.

The Food Safety Forum will be held on September 13, 2022 at Agua Frio Garden Resort, Koronadal City. Expected participants will be coming from different farmer group practicing, GAP, GMP, HACCP, Halal, and Organic Farming. Additionally, resource persons will be coming from agency member on Food Safety.

FPA RFU CAR - August 23, 2022



FPA-CAR headed by Regional Officer Rogelio B. Tanguid continually coordinates with various agencies like the PNP specifically CIDG in the enforcement of the PD1144 to protect the human health and environment against the risks inherent of fertilizer and pesticides.

FPA RFU CAR - August 25, 2022



Provincial Officer (PO) Rowena F. Billig participated in the "Writeshop on Plant Food Safety at Tublay, Benguet last August 25, 2022. The activity was facilitated by Bureau of Plant Industry - Plant Product Safety Services Division.

FPA RFU VII - August 30, 2022



Bohol Technician's Association (BTA) conducted its quarterly meeting on August 30, 2022 with Deputy Executive Director for Pesticide Eric C. Divinagracia. The agenda of the meeting was focused on the election of the new set of officers and the future programs and projects of the association.

FPA RFU XI - August 30 - September -2, 2022



A total of 39 examinees (20 ARCOs and 19 CPA-Exterminators) from different firms took the ARCO and CPA online examination held at the FPA Regional Office, Granland Business Center., R. Castillo St., Davao City

Electronic mediums such as FPA-issued computers were used by the examinees to ensure the exam's security and confidentiality. Moreover, examinees were prohibited from using smartphones and taking pictures. The exams were organized into three different sessions (morning, noon, and afternoon).

ARCO and CPA are accreditations issued by FPA for those individuals/employees of an FPA-licensed handler who engages in chemical business with the capacity and responsibility to safely manage the handling of pesticides and to be globally competitive. Results of the online exam will be posted on the FPA website and through their respective email as well.

OTHER ACTIVITIES



FPA Central Office - August 16, 2022



The Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority maintained its ISO 9001:2015 QMS Certification as a result of the surveillance audit on August 16, 2022.

The certifying body, TUV Rheinland Philippines, Inc., conducted the onsite assessment at the FPA Central Office in Quezon City.



The scope of certification covers the provision of services for issuing licenses, registration, and permits on fertilizer, pesticide, and other agricultural chemicals. For this surveillance visit, processes of the FPA Top Management, Internal Quality Audit (IQA) Team, Pesticide Regulations Division (PRD), Fertilizer Regulations Division (FRD), Human Resource Section (HRS), Laboratory Services Division (LSD), and Planning, Management, and Information Division (PMID).

During the closing meeting, the audit team leader Ms. Rhene Rose Zara, together with co-auditor Mr. Hilario Capili, commended the Agency's efforts to continually improve its system and processes by citing four (4) positive findings and four (4) opportunities for improvement. Overall, no nonconformities were raised either with minor nor major.

"We want to extend our appreciation and gratitude to all our hard-working employees who made this possible and to our valued stakeholders for their constant support," Dr. Mula said.

With the continuation of certification, the agency is again recognized by the standard-setting body for its commitment to providing customers with the highest level of products and services within the organization's policy and objectives.

The initial ISO 9001:2015 recognition was achieved in October 2018, covering one core function: issuing licenses, registrations, and permits on fertilizer through the Fertilizer Regulations Division (FRD). This was successfully maintained and expanded the scope of its ISO 9001:2015 recertification after passing the remote assessment by the certifying body last October 2021.

Quality Management System Committee (QMSC) Chairperson and Officer-in-Charge, Dr. Myer G. Mula, headed the FPA Management Team with Deputy Executive Director for Pesticide, Mr. Eric C. Divinagracia, Divisions Chiefs, and QMSC Secretariat.

FPA Central Office - August 26, 2022



The FPA received a Certificate of Compliance from the Presidential Communications Operations Office (PCOO) for fulfilling the FOI requirements as provided under Executive Order No. 2, series of 2016 signed by President Rodrigo Roa Duterte on July 23, 2016.

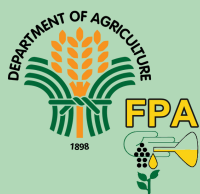
The same requirement was also stipulated under Section 5.5 b of Memorandum Circular No. 2019-1, issued by the Inter-Agency Task Force on the Harmonization of National Government Performance Monitoring, Information and Reporting Systems.

The achievement was attained after the FPA submitted its (1) FOI Agency Manual that details the internal FOI guidelines and defines the roles and responsibilities of designated agency personnel (FOI Champion, Decision- Maker/s and Receiving Officer/s) to handle FOI requests; (2) the Agency Information Inventory that provides the scope and limitations of the types of information which can be requested from the agency; (3) the FOI Standard Form which is the standard form for all FOI requests submitted to agencies covered under Section 2 of the EO; and, (4) the Standard FOI Registry which serves as the basis for measuring agency performance and compliance alongside FOI analytics.

The FOI program is being enforced in all government agencies and public institutions based on the constitutional right to information as stated in Section 28, Article II of the 1987 Constitution on the “state policy to full public disclosure of all its transactions,” except for sensitive information and matters affecting national security.

The FOI, as a government mechanism, allows Filipino citizens to request any information about the government transactions and operations, provided that it shall not put into jeopardy privacy and matters of national security. eFOI, on the other hand, is the online FOI platform that is available to select agencies, providing an alternative avenue for Filipinos to file their requests for information. The FOI rules and exceptions also apply to the eFOI platform.





Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority

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