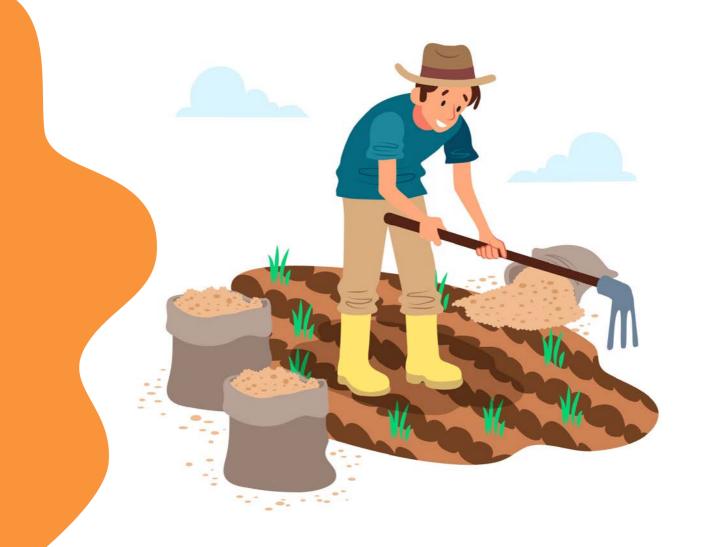
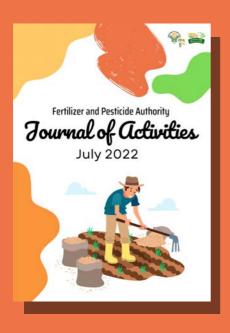


Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority

## Tournal of Activities

July 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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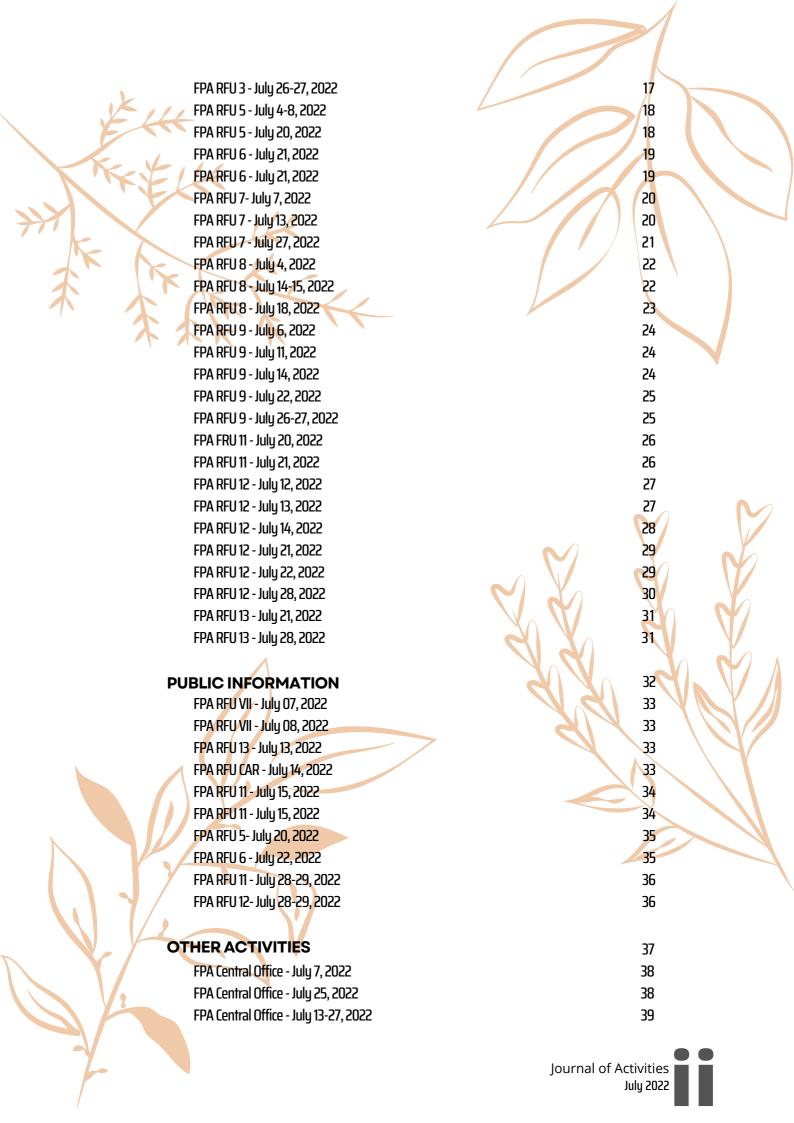






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## ENFORCING FPA'S MANDATE IN THE FIELD





#### 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 - July 13, 2022**

FPA Provincial Officer Rowena Billig monitored Experimental Use Permit #EUP-P-23-00123 at Balili, La Trinidad Benguet. This is in compliance to product (fertilizers and pesticides) registration.



#### FPA RFU CAR - July 14-22, 2022

FPA - CAR conducted fertilizer random sampling on July 14 to 22, 2022 in the Provinces of Kalinga (Rizal and Tabuk City) and Apayao (Conner).

FPA - CAR PO Engr. Agusto M. Nagayang (FPA Provincial Officer for Kalinga, Abra and Apayao) together with DA APCO - Kalinga Staff Engr. Aldwin M. Colangao and OPAg - Kalinga Staff Engr. Fidel D. Agsaoay collected fertilizer samples from different fertilizer dealers to be submitted at FPA Central Office for laboratory analysis to verify their moisture and nutrient content.





#### FPA RFU CAR - July 26-28, 2022

To ensure that no fake, downgraded and adulterated fertilizer products in the market, FPA Provincial Officer Engr. Agusto M. Nagayang conducted an unannounced random sampling to all available grade and brand of granulated fertilizer products to licensed and unlicensed fertilizer dealers in the Province of Apayao and Kalinga.

Fertilizer samples collected were submitted to Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority - Central Office for quality monitoring.



#### **CAGAYAN VALLEY**

#### FPA RFU 2 - July 13, 2022

The FPA Cagayan Valley conducted a region-wide fertilizer (all brand) sample collection to monitor and check fertilizer quality being sold in the market.





#### FPA RFU 2 - July 19- 20, 2022

The FPA Cagayan Valley conducted Clean - Up Drive Operations in the provinces of Isabela and Nueva Vizcaya to monitor and inspect fertilizer and pesticide handlers' store and their products.





#### **CENTRAL LUZON**

#### **FPA RFU 3 - July 5, 2022**

On July 5, 2022, Bulacan Provincial Officer, Roel P. Valdez conducted continuous assessment of Fertilizer Plant/ Manufacturing Plant namely Agrimate Fertilizer Manufacturing of San Ildefonso, Yara Philippines and Masagana Farm Agri ventures Inc. of Pandi. The strict compliance of every fertilizer manufacturers in different aspects are cited in order to avoid issues of Off-specifications in every products out in the market.



#### **FPA RFU 3 - July 12, 2022**

FPA Provincial Officer Roel P. Valdez witnessed the correction of packaging materials (sack) of International Chemicals Industries Inc. of Guiguinto, Bulacan.



#### FPA RFU 3 - July 14, 2022

FPA Bulacan Provincial Official Officer conducted series of inspection at Oria Agrotech Inc., Norzagaray and Planter's Products Philippines, Baliuag, Bulacan.



#### FPA RFU 3 - July 27, 2022

FPA Bulacan Provincial Officer Mr. Roel P. Valdez conducted warehouse assessment and discuss several matters relating to the transition of activities from BAI to FPA at Shaglani Trading Corporarion, Bocaue, Bulacan. The aforesaid entity engages in importing products from India intended for agricultural usage.



#### CALABARZON - MIMAROPA

#### **FPA RFU 4 - July 3, 2022**

FPA Region IV conducted Clean-Up Drive in the provinces of Batangas and Laguna. The municipalities visited were Lipa City, Sto. Tomas City, Talisay and Laurel in Batangas Province and municipalities of Sta. Maria, Mabitac and Siniloan in the province of Laguna. A total of fourteen (14) dealers including four (4) unlicensed dealer and 128 fertilizer and pesticide products were monitored.

The team was headed by Ms. Suzettie M. Alcaide, Supervising
Agriculturist – FPA Region IV, Ms. Georlene P. Orbista, Mr. Mark Nicky
S. Larga, and Mr Edmar C. Bundalian, Agricultuist II of Batangas,
Laguna and Quezon, respectively.

The team issued Notice of Violations to unlicensed dealers and dealers with minor violations such as expired products on display, licensed not properly displayed, non-compliance to good house keeping and incomplete spill kit.



#### FPA RFU 4 - July 20, 2022

Mr. Jayar Rivera and Ms. Gabrielle Maranga of PRD together with the FPA RFU-IV Provincial Officer assigned in Cavite, Mr. Allan Jade V. Rojo, conducted a plant audit at a licensed repacker of agricultural pesticide last July 20, 2022 located at Suntrust Ecotown, Brgy. Sahud Ulan, Tanza, Cavite.





#### **BICOL REGION**

#### FPA RFU 5 - July 18-21, 2022

Forty-seven (47) fertilizer and pesticide dealers were inspected during the Clean-Up Drive (CUD) Operations on July 18-21, 2022 in the province of Albay.

Out of the 47 dealers, FPA Bicol Region found nineteen (19) unlicensed dealers. The unlicensed dealers were issued with Notice of Violations (NoVs) and required them to attend the Accredited Safety Dispenser (ASD) training on August 17-18, 2022 in Albay.

It is worth noting that most of the unlicensed dealers were located in far-flung vegetable areas surrounding Mt. Mayon. "Our team will strengthen the information campaign on the policies and guidelines of FPA, particularly on the requirements. We will do our best to extend our services in the far-flung areas to assist them in becoming fertilizer and pesticide dealers," Mr. Atole said.

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.

During the said enforcement activities, the team also made a courtesy call to the Albay Provincial Agriculture Office (APAO) and discussed the different FPA-Bicol activities. In addition, they also distributed 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-Albay Provincial Officer Mr. Winsor L. Nueva, FPA-Cam. Sur and Catanduanes Provincial Officer Engr. Christohper M. Nuñez, FPA-Cam. Norte Provincial Officer Engr. Cris L. Legaspi, FPA-Masbate Provincial Officer Mr. Rodny P. Conda and FPA-Sorsogon Provincial Officer Engr. Ardon Ryan E. Nee-Estuye.



#### **CENTRAL VISAYAS**

#### **FPA RFU 7 - July 1, 2022**

FPA Central Visayas Provincial Officers Sunday Flores and Jesus Muring conducted price monitoring and inventory to dealers in the Province of Cebu.



#### **FPA RFU 7 - July 15, 2022**

FPA Regional Officer (RO) Arnulfo Arausa Jr. and Provincial Officer (PO) Andy Cornell Bornillo conducted random fertilizer sampling at the Department of Agriculture – Agriculture Program Coordinating Office (DA-APCO) last July 15, 2022.

The samples were sent last July 18, 2022 to the FPA Analytical Services Laboratory in Quezon City for NPK and moisture content analyses.



#### ZAMBOANGA PENINSULA

#### FPA RFU 9 - July 5-6, 2022

FPA Provincial Officer Michael P. Tuico of FPA Zamboanga del Sur conducted a regular monitoring and inspection to licensed dealers and warehouses in the municipalities of Molave and Midsalip.



#### FPA RFU 9 - July 11-13, 2022

FPA Zamboanga Peninsula lead by Regional Officer Mr. Alex S. Paalisbo conducted a Clean-Up Drive operation in the Province of Zamboanga del Sur together with the four(4) Provincial Officers.

Municipalities of San Miguel, Molave, Mahayag, Dumingag, Midsalip, Sominot, Labangan and Pagadian City were visited and handlers of agro-chemicals and fertilizers were inspected and monitored to ensure that they adhere to FPA guidelines.

Some dealers were found with violations like no ASD certificate, non-compliance to good housekeeping and some with outdated/expired products. The violators were given Notice of Violations.



#### **DAVAO REGION**

#### FPA RFU 11 - July 19-20, 2022

FPA Region XI Team inspected a total of twenty-one (21) F/P handlers and establishment during its Clean-up Drive Operation in Davao Oriental.

Out of 21, one handler (1) was found compliant while the rest of the handlers were given Notice of Violations (NOVs) described as "No FPA License to Operate (LTO) as Dealer and Dealer-Repacker"



#### FPA RFU 11 - July 26, 2022

FPA team conducted a Banana Plantation inspection located in Pantukan and Maco, Davao de Oro with Regional Officer Ms. Marrisa G. Napalit and Provincial Officer 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 during chemical operations. Also, the team inspected the warehouses of fertilizers and pesticides, and their good housekeeping practices. In general, FPA audits its major functions such as the organizational aspect, occupational health, industrial hygiene, farm, safety and security, and environmental protection.



#### FPA RFU 12 - July 6, 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 - July 18, 2022

FPA Sultan Kudarat Provincial Officer, Cherubin Alonzo and FPA-SARGEN Provincial Officer, Joey B. Pascua conducted fertilizer sampling for confirmatory analysis.

#### FPA RFU RFU 12 - July 20, 2022

FPA North Cotabato Provincial Officer, Maricel P. Tabigue inspected, monitored and conducted sampling in Kidapawan, North Cotabato.

SARGEN-FPA Provincial Officer, Joey Pascua conducted random monitoring of fertilizer and agricultural pesticide products including prices and inventory at KDJ Agri Trade in General Santos City





#### **CARAGA**

#### **FPA RFU 13 - July 12, 2022**

FPA Caraga monitored the manufacturing production site in Rosario, Agusan del Sur.



#### FPA RFU R13 - July 14, 2022

FPA Caraga officers Engr. Jeyson Atillo and Joseph Recto Canda conducted an actual inventory on the retreaved stocking of pesticides products from different dealer's stores in Agusan del Norte and Surigao del Norte



## ACCREDITATION TRAININGS DAND 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 - July 6, 2022

FPA-CAR Regional Officer Rogelio B. Tanguid and Provincial Officer Rowena F. Billig provided lectures on safe and effective use of fertilizers and pesticides in support to the training on Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) for highland vegetables that was organized, conducted and funded by DA-CAR with the Benguet Provincial Agriculture Office and City Veterinary and Agriculture Office of Baquio City.





#### **FPA RFU CAR - July 12, 2022**

FPA CAR conducted GAP training to 20 farmers from Baguio City. Regional Officer Rogelio Tanguid and Provincial Officer Rowena F. Billig discussed the safe and effective use of fertilizer and pesticide products cum BFS.

#### **FPA RFU CAR - July 14, 2022**

Provincial Officer Rowena Billig discussed safe and effective use of FP products during the G.A.P. training for the Federation of Benguet Farmers Cooperative at ATI-CAR, BSU compound, Balili, LTB.





#### **FPA RFU CAR - July 15, 2022**

FPA CAR served as one of the resource speakers during the Good Agricultural Practice (GAP) training last July 14, 2022 at St. Joseph Inn and Restaurant, Poblacion, Sagada, Mt. Province.

Provincial Officer (PO) Rodell C. Goha-od discussed safe and judicious use of fertilizer and pesticide wherein it highlights the risks inherent on using fertilizer and pesticide in the environment, worker's health and the consumer.

FPA - Balance fertilization strategy (BSF) program was also discussed to mitigate reliance on inorganic fertilizer while addressing the plight of farmers due to rising cost of fertilizer.

BSF is the application of site-specific nutrients to the soil in optimum quantities in the right proportion through appropriate methods at a right time suited for specific crops.

The activity was funded and organized by High Value Crops Development Program (HVCDP), DA - CAR, OPAg - Mt. Province and OMAg - Sagada, Mt. Province.





#### **FPA RFU CAR - July 21, 2022**

35 Buguias farmers attended the Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) training last July 21, 2022. FPA-CAR Provincial Officer Rowena F. Billig discussed the safe and effective use of fertilizer and pesticide products.





#### **FPA RFU CAR - July 30, 2022**

FPA-CAR represented by Provincial Officer Rowena F. Billig discussed the safe and effective use of fertilizer and pesticide products to farmers of Lubas, La Trinidad at Lubas Brgy. Hall.

#### **ILOCOS REGION**





#### FPA RFU 1 - June 13, 2022

rovincial Officer (PO) Noel M. Tablada discussed the safe handling of pesticides and spray calibration during the DA-PhilRice's RCEF – Rice Extension Services Program (RESP) on July 28, 2022, at PhilRice Gallery, NTA Bldg., Brgy. Tabug Batuc City, Ilocos Norte.

PO Tablada discussed the importance of safe handling of pesticides emphasizing the following points:

- Pesticides are formulated to be toxic
- Pesticides can be dangerous if they are misused and handled wrongly
- Safe and effective handling and use of pesticides should be the concern of everyone
- Minimizing exposing oneself and the environment to the unwanted effects of pesticides

He also discussed the concept of calibration. Calibration is the process of determining the amount of spray solution delivered by specific equipment. This can be expressed on a "per minute" or "per unit area" by a spray man or individual who will be using the same equipment when applying pesticides in the field. This is important because this is part of calculating the desired dilution rates to meet a recommended dosage.

A total of thirty-five (35) participants attended the training. They comprised agricultural extension workers (AEWs) and farm school owners from Region I.

#### **CAGAYAN VALLEY**

#### FPA RFU 2 - July 21, 2022

More than 100 dealers attended the merchants meeting on July 27, 2022 at DA- NVES, Bagabag, Nueva Vizcaya facilitated and conducted by DA and FPA Region 02.

The aim of the meeting is to encourage the dealers to support the DA programs and activities.





#### **FPA RFU 2 - July 21, 2022**

FPA RFU 02 conducted the Accredited Safety Dispenser (ASD) training for fertilizer and pesticide handlers at DA - CVRC, San Felipe, Ilagan, Isabela.

#### FPA RFU 2- July 26-27, 2022

FPA Cagayan Valley conducted ASD training at Tapaya, Bagabag, Nueva Vizcaya. This training is a prerequisite for a license to operate as fertilizer and pesticide dealer.



#### **CENTRAL LUZON**



#### FPA RFU 3 - July 26-27,2022

The Department of Agriculture - Bureau of Plant Industry, Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority, and RCPC conducted a two-day seminar on Good Agriculture Practice and Proper use of Chemicals on fresh okra for the global market for japanese okra last July 26-27,2022 at La Majarica Hotel, Tarlac City.

A total of 276 farmers and four exporters (reen Star ,Produced Phols , Hi Las , Jel Farms , AAMC ) attended the said training.

The training is pre-requisite for the accreditation of farmers to export their okra produced to Japan.

#### **CENTRAL LUZON**

#### FPA RFU 5 - July 4-8, 2022

FPA-Bicol Regional Officer Mr. Gabriel B. Atole and FPA-Camarines Sur Provincial Officer Engr. Christopher M. Nunez served as resource speakers during the "Training of Trainers (TOT) on Pest and Nutrient Management" conducted by DA-PhilRice Bicol on July 4-8, 2022 at Carmel Agri-Learning Farm, Binanuahan, Pili, Camarines Sur.

They discussed the safe handling of pesticides & sprayer calibration, organic and inorganic fertilizer material, and fertilizer requirement computation.

The said TOT is part of PhilRice RCEF Extension Services Program which is participated by 40 owners/cooperators and trainers of RCEF Learning Sites/Farm Schools in Camarines Sur.



#### FPA RFU 5 - July 20, 2022



FPA - Camarines Sur Provincial Officer (PO) Engr. Christopher M. Nunez discussed the safe handling of pesticides and spray calibration during the Rice Specialists' Training Course (RSTC) organized by DA-PhilRice last July 20, 2022, at DA-PhilRice Bicol Station, Batang, Ligao City, Albay.

He discussed the basic concepts of agricultural pesticides, including the types, classifications, hazards, risk exposure, and general information on pesticide labels. He also included in his presentation the safe handling during transport and storage, disposal of empty pesticide containers, effective use of agricultural pesticides, and the proper use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and first aid treatment.

The last part of the discussion was the sprayer calibration. Engr. Nunez emphasized the benefits and importance of ca<mark>libration on the commonly used 16-liter tank capacity knapsack sprayer. Some factors that affect the calibration include the travel speed, spray pressure, swath width, nozzle discharge, and tank capacity.</mark>

To conclude the activity, participants were given exercises to assess whether they fully grasped the sprayer calibration principles. The participants calculated the application rate per hectare, number of knapsack loads per ha, spraying duration in a particular region, and pesticide quantity for each tank load.

The RSTC is designed to develop a new generation of rice specialists who are not just technically competent but fully equipped to support the implementation of the RCEF Extension Services Program (RESP) implementation.

A total of twenty-nine (29) participants participated in the training. They were composed of agricultural extension workers (AEWs) and farm school owners from Masbate, Sorsogon, and Albay Provinces.

#### **WESTERN VISAYAS**

#### FPA RFU 6 - July 21, 2022



Syngenta Phils., Inc. conducted a two-day activity on Public Information through Product Stewardship to the sugarcane farmers of Binalbagan and Hinigaran, Negros Occidental. FPA Provincial Officer Francis Felimon Villamon reminded the participants to use the products safely since they are handling hazardous product. He emphasized that when doing their duties, they should wear Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).

#### FPA RFU 6 - July 21, 2022





FPA Provincial Officer Francis Felimon Villamon together with the pesticide industry representative Mr. Frankniel Billones discussed the safe and judicious use of pesticide and the technical overview for corn production to the Agricultural Extension Workers (AEWs) of Aklan and Capiz organized by the Agricultural Training Institute (ATI) in Kalibo, Aklan.

#### **CENTRAL VISAYAS**



#### **FPA RFU 7 - July 7, 2022**

Regional Officer (RO) Arnulfo Arausa, Jr., assisted by Provincial Officers Andy Cornell Bornillo and Jesus Muring, conducted a training on the proper use of fertilizer and pesticide for 109 lowland vegetable farmers from Brgy. San Isidro, Mabini, Bohol and Brgy. Taytay, Getafe, Bohol on July 6 and 7, 2022.

During the training, FPA Officers highlighted the importance of fertilizers and pesticides and the proper use of these inputs, which can increase crop yield and improve crop quality.

On the other hand, RO Arausa, Jr. encouraged the farmers to practice the Balanced Fertilization Strategy (BFS). 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.

FPA Central Visayas (RFU 7) distributed 109 information kits, including the Gabay sa Tamang Paggamit ng Abono at Pestisidyo, to guide the participants on the proper application these inputs.

Also present in the activity is Mr. JP Sanchez of DA SAAD and Mr. Michael Ligutan of Enasia Import Export Corporation.

#### FPA RFU 7 - July 13, 2022

A total of 546 highland farmers of Cobkawa Multi-Purpose Cooperative of Sitio Tagaytay, Brgy. Adlaon and Brgy. Sudlon, Cebu City attended the safe and judicious use of fertilizer and pesticide training.



#### **CENTRAL VISAYAS**

#### FPA RFU 7 - July 27, 2022



FPA Region VII conducted an orientation on the Balanced Fertilization Strategy (BFS) to 48 sweet corn and vegetable farmers in Sitio Luyo, Barangay Adlaon, Cebu City, on July 27, 2022.

Regional Officer (RO) Arnulfo Arausa, Jr. gave an overview of the activity and stressed the importance of BFS and how it can minimize production costs while improving crop quality.

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.

Provincial Officer (PO) Andy Cornell Bornillo emphasized 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.

On the other hand, PO Sunday Flores discussed the Agency's mandates and functions. PO Flores also reminded the farmers that they should buy fertilizers and pesticides from the FPA licensed dealers only to ensure the quality of the product.

Lastly, PO Jesus Muring shared the proper and safe handling of pesticides. "Pesticides help us produce more food and reduce food waste. However, it can be dangerous if misused," PO Muring said.

#### **EASTERN VISAYAS**



#### FPA RFU 8 - July 4, 2022

On July 4, 2022, Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority (FPA) Mr. Gary De La Cruz, Provincial Officer of Eastern Samar, and John Mar Nosura, Provincial Officer of Northern Samar, were invited as resource speakers for the Rice Specialist Training Course anchored by Phil Rice Bicol held at the Farmers Training Center, UEP Compound, Catarman, Nothern Samar.

Thirty (30) people attended the training, including farm school owners, agricultural technologists, and DA-RFO8 personnel.

Provincial Officer (PO) De La Cruz discussed the proper use and handling of pesticides and sprayer calibration. His main points are how pesticide products are labeled and classified based on toxicity and risk.

In addition, he went through the dos and don'ts of pesticide usage and the precautions to take in the event of an emergency. Another topic that was discussed was spray calibration. PO De La Cruz explained how to calibrate a sprayer properly to avoid chemical underdosing or overdosing.

On the other hand, PO Nosura discussed the concept of the Balanced Fertilization Strategy (BFS). BFS is a current program of the Department of Agriculture, which involves the application of both inorganic and organic fertilizer depending on the nutrients needed by the soil. It is also one of the long-term solutions to address the rising prices of fertilizer globally.

RFU VIII continues to partner with other attached agencies of the Department of Agriculture to continuously educate the farmers on the proper use of fertilizer and pesticides.

#### FPA RFU 8 - July 14-15, 2022



RFU VIII conducted an Accredited Safety Dispenser (ASD) training to 25 farmers last July 14-15, 2022, at La Paz Municipal Agriculture Office.

Mr. Francis Salvador B. Costas, Regional Officer (RO) of Region VIII, explained the FPA's mandate. "FPA envisions an improved quality of life through increased farm incomes, productivity, and food production using safe and appropriate fertilizer and pesticide inputs. To achieve this, our Agency implements policies, rules, and programs to ensure that the fertilizers and pesticides sold in the market are safe and at reasonable prices," Mr. Costas stressed.

Further, the team discussed to the farmers the safe storage and disposal of fertilizers and pesticides, the recognition of pesticide poisoning and administration of first aid to victims, and the duties of an Accredited Safety Dispenser.

The team stressed the following responsibilities of an ASD to wit:

- advise the buyers/farmers on the safe use, handling, and storage of fertilizer and pesticide products
- keep records of the sale and disposition of agricultural products
- ensure that only FPA-registered products are dispensed
- monitor the business transactions regarding fertilizer and pesticide products

The activity is conducted in collaboration with the Office of the Municipal Agriculturist to encourage farmers to form a cooperative and become fertilizer and pesticide dealers. Additionally, being a member of a cooperative qualifies farmers for the fertilizer voucher program administered by the Department of Agriculture.

#### **EASTERN VISAYAS**

#### FPA RFU 8 - July 19, 2022

Provincial Officer (PO) Eric Castañas explained the reasons behind the fertilizer price increase and the Balanced Fertilization Strategy (BFS) during the Local Farmers Technicians (LFT) on Integrated Nutrient Management with the emphasis on Balanced Fertilization Strategy (BFS) in rice farming organized by the Agricultural Training Institute (ATI) last July 19, 2022, at Villaconzoilo Farm, Jaro, Leyte.

PO Castañas discussed that 90% of inorganic fertilizers are imported from China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Qatar, Canada, Korea, Saudi Arabia, and Belarus. Only 10% were taken from the country's local manufacturers.



Moreover, he presented the reasons for the skyrocketing prices of fertilizer. In his presentation, he highlighted that the global fertilizer crisis is due to the rising costs of fuel, the Ukraine-Russia conflict, and the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Department of Agriculture implemented the BFS program as an alternative solution to address the issue. PO Castañas explained that BFS 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.

He also emphasized 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.

A total of 31 LFTs from the province of Leyte attended the training.

#### **ZAMBOANGA PENINSULA**

#### FPA RFU 9 - July 6, 2022

FPA Provincial Officer of Zamboanga del Norte Mr. Dionn Mark M. Bohol discussed the Balanced Fertilization Strategy (BFS). The said strategy 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.



# THAT I FOT BOOK Sales Sales

#### FPA RFU 9 - July 11, 2022

Ten (10) Agro-chemical field workers of Vast Agro Solution, Inc. was given an orientation on the Agency's mandate at the FPA Regional Office Pagadian City.

Also discussed in the orientation is the application and disposal of empty pesticide containers.

They were also reminded to help educate farmers to follow what is written on the label of each pesticide product and to avoid off-label promotion so that misuse will be avoided.

#### FPA RFU 9 - July 14, 2022

In support and commitment to "One DA Reform Agenda" in transforming Philippine Agricuture, the FPA attended the invitation of the Phil. Fiber Industry Development Authority ( PhilFIDA) to be the Speaker on one of its session in Abaca Field School in R.T. Lim Zamboanga Sibugay.

The activity was attended by 25 farmers.



#### **ZAMBOANGA PENINSULA**

#### **FPA RFU 9 - July 22, 2022**

FPA Zamboanga Peninsula conducted a seminar on Regulatory Updates on Guidelines, Regulations, and Harmonize Field Promotion Approach for agro-chemical field workers on July 22, 2022, at Springland Resort in Pagadian City, Zamboanga del Sur.

The activity aims to promote the safe and responsible use of agricultural pesticides and orient the agro-chemical companies on the Agency's mandate.

A pre-test and post-test were also initiated to assess the participant's level of understanding. "Upon checking the results, we are proud that the participants were able to dissect the information discussed in the training. We are hoping this will be an avenue to help our farmers achieve an abundant harvest by strengthening the promotion of the proper and safe application of pesticides," RO Paalisbo said.

The training was attended by 45 personnel from different agro-chemical companies operating in the region.





#### FPA RFU 9 - July 26-27, 2022

FPA Region IX conducted an Accredited Safety Dispenser (ASD) training for 21 participants held at Springland Resort, Lumbia District, Pagadian City Zamboanga del Sur, on July 26-27, 2022.

Provincial Officer (PO) Charlie Limbag discussed the FPA mandates, functions, guidelines, and first aid management, while PO Michael Tuico presented the soil fertilizer and plant growth. On the other hand, PO Dionn Mark Bohol gave a lecture on fertilizer handling and storage, MoA labeling, insect resistance management, reasons behind the fertilizer price increase, and the Balanced Fertilization Strategy (BFS). Further, PO Paulyne Kim Alfuente discussed pesticide safe handling and transport.

Regional Officer (RO) Alex S. Paalisbo expressed his profound appreciation to the participants who attend the training. "As trained personnel, you must also ensure the safe and efficient use of agricultural inputs and provide your customers with helpful tips. Therefore, give value to the farmers and build rapport, and sales will follow," RO Paalisbo said during his closing remarks.

All the participants who attended the training passed the ASD examination. They are expected to submit their ASD requirements to the Regional Office in the next succeeding days.





#### **DAVAO REGION**

#### FPA RFU 11 - July 20, 2022

A Training on Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) on selected crops (cacao, banana, coffee, and vegetables) was conducted by the DA PhilGAP XI with FPA Davao del Sur Provincial Officer Ms. Imelda Q. Rasay at the Office of the Provincial Agriculturist's Training Hall, Digos City, Davao del Sur.

Ms. Rasay, discussed to the thirty (30) participants the 2 modules of PhilGAP emphasizing on Environmental Management, Worker's Health, Safety, and Welfare. Proper use and handling of agricultural inputs, the importance of label information including first aid management in case of accidental poisoning were also included in the discussion







#### FPA RFU 11 - July 21, 2022

A total of thirty-seven (37) attended the Acc<mark>redited Safety Dispenser (ASD) training last July 21, 2022 at Rexy Gel's Place, Dahican, Mati City, Davao Oriental.</mark>

FPA Davao Region encourages dealers to watch out for the scores to be posted on the FPA Davao Region's page. A set of IEC brochures (Gabay sa tamang paggamit ng abono at pestisidyo) were given to the ASD Participants as well.

Sultan Kudarat-FPA Provincial Officer Cherubin M. Alonzo discussed the mandates of FPA and promoted the Balanced Fertilization Strategy (BFS) program to lessen the dependency on the imported fertilizers.

The activity was conducted in coordination with the City Government Unit of Tacurong, City Agriculturist Office, and Philippine Crop Insurance Corporation (PCIC), during the PCIC Indemnity Check Awarding Program at Sports and Cultural Center, Tacurong City, today.

A total 200 farmers attended the activity.

#### FPA RFU 12 - July 12, 2022



#### FPA RFU 12 - July 13, 2022





SARGEN-FPA Provincial Officer (PO) Joey B. Pascua conducted a lecture on the Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority's (FPA) mandates to sixteen (16) corn farmers from General Santos City and Sarangani Province. He highlighted that the FPA assures the public of a safe and adequate supply of fertilizer, pesticides, and other agricultural inputs by providing quality services in issuing licenses, registrations, and permits.

Additionally, PO Pascua discussed soil, fertilizer, and plant growth. He emphasized that combining inorganic and organic fertilizer results in better crop growth.

Balanced Fertilization Strategy (BFS) was also promoted to lessen the excessive use of inorganic fertilizers and other inputs in agricultural production that may lead to soil deterioration, affect soil health, decrease sustainability, and in the long run, may create negative impacts on crop yield.

In addition, he urged the farmers to submit soil samples to the DA-Soils Laboratory in the region to establish the condition of their farms and receive fertilizer recommendations. Moreover, he suggested that farmers utilize farm wastes such as decomposed straws, husks, leaves, grasses, animal manure, green manuring, and other techniques to improve soil health and productivity and prevent the decline in soil fertility and reduce fertilizer costs and availability.

The activity was conducted at Venue 88 Resort and Events Place, General Santos City, in coordination with the Department of Agriculture Regional Field Office XII- Regulatory Division during the training on Philippine Good Agricultural Practices (PhilGAP) for Corn on July 13, 2022.

#### FPA RFU 12 - July 14, 2022



To educate the farmers on the use of agricultural pesticide inputs, South Cotabato FPA-Provincial Officer (PO) Jennie M. Basilio conducted a lecture on Proper Safe Use, Handling, and Storage of Agricultural Pesticides to sixteen (16) corn farmers from General Santos City and Sarangani Province on July 13, 2022.

PO Basilio emphasized in her lecture the health risk associated with pesticide residues in food. "Pesticides are toxic," she stressed.

To minimize these health risks, she tackled the Pesticide Management Guidelines for the Safe and Effective Use of Pesticides which include:

- using of FPA registered products from FPA registered outlets/establishments
- importance of reading, understanding, and following the directions found on the product label
- wearing of proper Personal Protective Equipment (PPEs)
- triple rinsing of empty pesticide containers after use
- recording of farm activities, fertilizer, and pesticide usage and applications, and the product used

Moreover, to prevent residues in vegetables and fruits, Pre-Harvest Interval (PHI) and the right dosage, which contained in the pesticide label, must be observed. PHI is the minimum time between the last pesticide application and when the crop can be harvested.

The activity was conducted in coordination with the Department of Agriculture Regional Field Office XII-Regulatory Division during the Philippine Good Agricultural Practices (PhilGAP) for corn training at Venue 88, Mabuhay, General Santos City.

#### FPA RFU 12 - July 21, 2022

FPA Regional Field Unit-XII headed by Alita C. Bornea, FPA Regional Officer together with the Agway Chemical Corporation conducted Mango Contractor Training in General Santos City.

Forty-five (45) mango growers from Sarangani and General Santos City gather together to enhance their skills on the proper use of potassium nitrate as mango flower inducer and develop the awareness of the safe and judicious use of fertilizers and pesticides.



#### **FPA** RFU 12 - July 22, 2022

In coordination with the Green Crop Agri Ventures Corporation (GCAVC), the FPA RFU-XII and Bayer CropScience Philippines organized training on the safe and judicious use of pesticides for the 58 chemical handlers of GCAVC in Mlang, Cotabato, last July 22, 2022.

Provincial Officer (PO) Maricel P. Tabigue discussed the FPA's mandates and its strategic thrusts and functions. "FPA being a technical regulatory Agency, is mandated to assure the public with adequate supplies of fertilizers and pesticides at reasonable prices. We also aim to educate the people on how to use these agricultural inputs properly," PO Tabigue said.

PO Jennie M. Basilio lectured on the importance of the safe handling of pesticides. She emphasized that pesticides are formulated to be toxic, and they can be dangerous if misused and mishandled. She also highlighted the following:

- All pesticides intended for commercial use in the Philippines shall be registered with FPA.
- Pesticide management focuses on maximizing the benefits of the chemical while minimizing its harmful effects.
- Importance of properly wearing Personal Protective Equipment (PPEs)
- Pre-Harvest Interval (PHI), Maximum Residue Limits (MRL), and hazards of chemical residues to the human body.
- Triple rinsing and proper disposal of empty pesticide containers.

Mr. Allen Jay Ponce of Bayer CropScience Philippines also presented the product stewardship program.



In addition, PO Joey B. Pascua explained the current fertilizer price situation and the reasons behind the increasing prices of fertilizers and emphasized that the Covid-19 and gas shortage significantly impacted the price trend. He also promoted the Balance Fertilization Strategy (BFS) program, which could reduce dependency on inorganic fertilizers.

The GCAVC management expressed their gratitude and commended the FPA team and Bayer CropScience Philippines for organizing the activity.

#### FPA RFU 12 - July 28, 2022





Fifty-six (56) mango contractors and growers in South Cotabato and Sultan Kudarat participated in the Mango Contractors Training held in Agricultural Training Institute Regional Training Center 12 (ATI-RTC12), San Felipe, Tantangan, South Cotabato last July 28, 2022.

The activity aims to trained Mango handlers on the correct use of potassium nitrate as mango flower inducer and develop the awareness of the safe and judicious use of fertilizers and pesticides.

Provincial Officers (PO) Cherubin Alonzo and Jennie M. Basilio of the Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority (FPA) discussed the PD 1144, including the creation, duties, and responsibilities of FPA. They also tackled EO 522 covering the FPA rules and regulations governing the mango industry, acquisition of use of nitrates, and recognition & first aid management on pesticide poisoning cases.

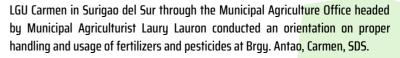
The activity was conducted in coordination with the Agway Chemical Corporation who sponsored the said training.

The newly trained participants will be eligible to apply for a License to Operate (LTO) as Mango Flower Inducer

#### **CARAGA**









Engr. Yzredin O.Baconguis, Provincial Officer of FPA Caraga served as the resource person for the event that was actively participated by 38 vegetable farmers and Brgy. Agriculture Workers. Topics on safe and judicious use of fertilizer and pesticides were discussed to educate the sector on the proper use of these inputs.

#### FPA RFU 12 - July 28, 2022



FPA Caraga in collaboration with DSWD conducted the alternative Accredited Safety Dispenser (ASD) training at Br<mark>gy. New Salem,</mark>
Bayugan City.

Mr. Abraham Ligan, Provincial Officer of Agusan del Sur facilitated the training and attended by the 22 members of the New Salem's Women Association beneficiaries of SLP - DSWD livelihood assistance program.

#### 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 VII - July 07, 2022**

FPA Provincial Officer Sunday Flores was invited as one of the resource speaker during the Technician's Training & Seminar initiated by Visayas Pest Control Operators & Managers Association (VISPCOMA) on July 7, 2022 @ Hotel Pier Cuatro, Cebu City



#### **FPA RFU VII - July 08, 2022**

DCDM Marketing Incorporated conducted farmers meeting in Barangay Katipunan, Carmen, Bohol on July 8, 2022.

During the meeting RO Arnulfo Arausa, Jr. explained the importance of reading the product label and following the reccomended dosage to prevent/delay the development of Pesticide Resistance. "Pesticide Resistance is the decreased pesticide that was previously effective at controlling the pest" RO Arausa said.

Moreover, RO Arausa also reminded them to always use Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to prevent/minimize pesticide exposure.





#### **FPA CARAGA- July 13, 2022**

FPA Caraga together with the DA RFU 13 personnel headed by RED Engr. Ricardo Oñate and RAFC Chairperson/Farmer Director Christopher Lindo visited the organic fertilizer plant site. The team also met with Engr. Vivencio P. Ocite, Jr. to discuss the formulation of Team Abono in the region.

The activity was in collaboration with the Department of Agriculture and other attached agencies. The meeting was conducted at Sta. Cruz, Rosario, Agusan del Sur.

#### **FPA CAR - July 14, 2022**

Mr. Charles Nikko Limon of Regional Network Group Luzon (RNGL) sought clarifications from FPA- CAR as represented by Provincial Officer Rowena F. Billig, regarding the issues on fertilizers specifically on high price, quality, and relevant concerns.

Mr. Joseph Dati, a farmer-participant for the GAP training, shared his insights regarding the fertilizer issues to Mr. C.N.Lemon of RNGL.





#### **FPA RFU XI - July 15, 2022**



On July 15, 2022 Provincial Officer Ms. Imelda Rasay was invited by a local Radio Station DXKL 97.5 Radyo Astig in Digos City, Davao del Sur.

The United Top Agro Products co-sponsored the program with General Trade Manager Mr. Chito Eltagonde. The program's target is to reach out to farmers in the most distant areas and educate them on the appropriate crop protection methods in farming.

During the live broadcast, Ms. Rasay highlighted the FPA's mandates and functions as a regulatory agency. She also emphasized the safe and judicious use of crop protection, and shared the current trends on the fertilizer price hike. She also promoted the Balanced Fertilization Strategy (BFS) as an alternative solution to the rising prices of fertilizers.

Ms. Rasay also reminded the audience to always patronize agricultural products registered under FPA.









#### **FPA RFU XI - July 15, 2022**

FPA Region XI headed by Regional Officer Ms. Marrisa G. Napalit together with Croplife Regional Action Network (CRAN) X President Mr. Lizter Anasco conducted a blended meeting to discuss the updates on the retrieval project of Empty Pesticide Containers (EPC).

During the meeting, Ms. Napalit mentioned that retrieving EPC is not easy since EPC regulation applies to FPA and other regulatory government agencies, such as the Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).

EPC is considered hazardous waste to the DENR-EMB under R.A. 6969. Hazardous wastes are hereby defined as substances without any safe commercial, industrial, agricultural or economic usage and are shipped, transported, or brought from the country of origin for dumping or disposal into or in transit through any part of the territory of the Philippines.

Hazardous wastes shall also refer to by-products, side-products, process residues, spent reaction media, contaminated plant or equi<mark>pment, or other substances from manufacturing operations, and as consumer discards of manufactured products. (R.A. 6969, Sec. 5. h)</mark>

To harmonize the said project, Ms. Napalit suggested to create a sy<mark>stem composed of C</mark>roplife Philippines, FPA, and Local Government U<mark>nits (LGUs), particularly the City/Municipal Agriculture's Office and City Environment and Natural Res</mark>ources Office (CENRO).

Ms. Napalit included the LGU in this proposal as these LGUs were familiar with the agricultural practices in their localities. This will greatly help maximize the implementation of the EPC retrieval project (pilot project), particularly on the farmer's level. In addition, FPA and Croplife will also tap with DENR-EMB for other matters, including the legalities of the project.

Once the project becomes successful, this will serve as a game-changer not just in the product stewardship of pesticides but also for the farmer's awareness, education, and safety.

The meeting was held at Cafe Firenzo, Damosa, Lanang Davao City on July 15, 2022. The meeting was attended by Croplife Philippines members, which include Aldiz, Inc., BASF Phils., Inc., Bayer Philippines, Inc., Inc., C.B. Andrew Asia, Inc., Corteva Agriscience, FMC Philippines Inc., Jardine Distribution, Inc., Monsanto Phils., Inc., Sinochem Crop Protection Phils., Syngenta (Phils.) Inc. and UPL Philippines, Inc.

#### **FPA RFU V - July 20, 2022**

FPA-Bicol Regional Officer Mr. Gabriel B. Atole and FPA-Albay Provincial Officer Mr. Winsor L. Nueva made a courtesy call to Albay Provincial Agriculture Office (APAO), Officer-In-Charge Provincial Agriculturist Ms. Rosalinda B. Belodo and Officer-In-Charge Assistant Provincial Agriculturist Ms. Eleanor O. Daep on July 20, 2022 at APAO, Cabangan, Camalig, Albay.

Mr. Atole discussed the FPA-Bicol activities and distributed Balanced Fertilization Strategy (BFS) Program Handbook and other FPA Information Materials





#### **FPA RFU VI - July 22, 2022**



Regional Officer (RO) Noel Negre presented the practices in conducting fertilizer price monitoring system to 30 participants during the Regional Bantay Presyo Monitoring Meeting held last July 22, 2022 at MO2 Westown, Mandurriao, Iloilo City.

The fertilizer watch system inputs pertinent data such as the fertilizer stock inventory and country of origin with product registration in a web application. This will serve as a guide to efficiently monitor the fertilizer prices. "The fertilizer watch system helps the Agency and the Department of Agriculture to know the latest trends in the fertilizer prices in the region. In addition, it helps us understand the prices at each level affecting its cost from importers down to dealer's level," Mr. Negre said.

He also mentioned that FPA encourages cooperatives to engage in imports to increase market competition and they can function as distributors or dealers of fertilizers and pesticides.

Moreover, Provincial Officer (PO) Ryan Gelladula was designated as a permanent member of the Regional Bantay Presyo Monitoring Team (RBPMT) with PO Emanuel Barrida as his alternate per FPA Special Order No. 181 s. 2022.

Per D.A. A.O. No.7 series of 2020 of IRR of R.A. 7581 in relation to basic necessities and prime agricultural commodities, RBPMT shall conduct regular price and supply monitoring of agricultural commodities at all levels of the supply chain from farm gate to various public and private markets, stores, supermarkets, and other establishments where agricultural commodities are sold. The RBPMT in Western Visayas shall determine the price trends, provide a basis for establishing suggested retail prices and/or price ceiling, develop a data system on prices, identify and investigate causes of market and price irregularities and identify violations and violators of the Price Act.

The meeting was spearheaded by D.A. AMAS and RBPMT members, which include BAI, BPI, BFAR, NMIS, SRA, FPA, NFA, DA Banner Programs, and RAFC.

#### **FPA RFU XI - July 28-29, 2022**





Provincial Officer Ms. Imelda Q. Rasay attended workshop-cum briefing on the tips on how to write the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of the Provincial Ordinance No. 20-38 on "Selective Plastic Prohibition and Regulation and the Use of Eco-Bag Ordinance of the Province of Dayao del Sur.

The workshop was composed of the Technical Working Group of the Provincial Solid Waste Management Board (TWG-PSWMB).

FPA, as one of the members of the TWG-PSWMB, eyes for the exemption in using plastic bags for fertilizer repacking. Ms. Rasay cited the reasons to maintain the repacking practices of fertilizers, considering that most fertilizers contain nitrogen and all nitrogenous fertilizers are prone to volatilization, which decreases the quality of fertilizers and its moisture and spoilage.

Ms. Rasay also cited that due to the increasing price of fertilizers in the market, most of today's farmers opted to repack fertilizers than the conventional 50 kg bag.

The concerns brought by Ms. Rasay were submitted to Provincial Legal for legality, finality, and probably to include the exemption of fertilizer Repacking on the Drafting of IRR of the said ordinance.

Moreover, Ms. Rasay mentioned that despite the Local Ordinances being implemented in the Province, the FPA would see to it that all of its FPA-licensed Dealers will comply with the proper disposal of plastic wastes as a contribution to saving the environment.

The workshop-cum briefing was held at the Function Hall of Davao del Sur Swimming Pool, Gov. Douglas Ra. Cagas Sports and Business Center, Capitol, Brgy. Matti, Digos City, Davao del Sur.

#### **FPA RFU XII - July 28-29, 2022**



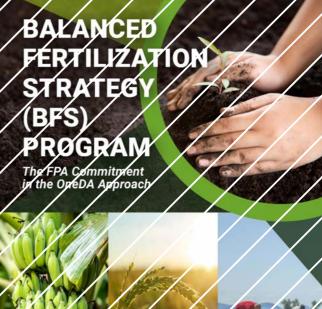
The Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority Regional Unit XII represented by Joey B. Pascua, FPA Provincial Officer (PO) -SARGEN, attended the 2nd Regional Bantay Presyo Monitoring Team Meeting held at DA Conference, DA Regional Center XII, Koronadal City.

The meeting aims to discuss possible long-term solutions and address the issues on the escalating prices of basic and prime commodities that affects not only the region but also the entire country.

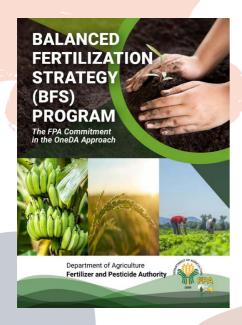
PO Pascua were given time to discuss the current prices of fertilizer in the region including the reasons of fertilizer price increase. Additionally, he promoted the Balance Fertilization Strategy (BFS) Program that could reduced dependency on inorganic fertilizers.

## OTHER ACTIVITIES





#### FPA Central Office - July 07, 2022



In pursuit of protecting the agro-ecosystem and advancing long-term solutions for fertilizer price and supply, the Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority (FPA) has released the Balanced Fertilization Strategy (BFS) handbook on its role on the program.

BFS is a program that includes not only the FPA but also 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 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.

"FPA, as the head of the BFS Committee, is hoping that this project will result in more creative and innovative ways of increasing crop production while reducing dependency on imported fertilizer and improving soil health. This handbook details the legal basis of the BFS, the reasons behind its implementation, the processes and agencies involved, the matrix of specific fertilizer formulas to target crops, and other recommendations," Exec. Dir. Roldan said.

"To this date onwards, we are aiming to implement widely the concepts of the program and likewise improve or enhance its policies and guidelines that are tantamount to the present times. Moreover, we are looking forward to the objective of working with our stakeholders, clients, academe, and most especially our farmers," Dr. Mula added.

FPA's role in promoting BFS has been intensified, as evident with the constant visitation and meet-ups with local farmers in different regions by Dr. Mula and the FPA Regional Units (RFUs).

The handbook can be accessed through this link: https://fpa.da.gov.ph/NW/images/FPAfiles/DATA/BFS-Handbook/BFS-ProgramHandbook.pdf

#### FPA Central Office - July 25, 2022



Meeting with DA Undersecretary Leocadio Sebastian, Russian Agri Representative Mr. Arseniy Astapenko, FPA Deputy Executive Director Dr. Myer G. Mula and NMIS for the possible G2G negotiation and exploring the possibilities of sourcing fertilizer in Russia.

#### FPA Central Office - July 13-27, 2022



To evaluate the conformity and effectiveness of the implementation of the FPA-Quality Management System, the FPA Internal Quality Audit (IQA) team headed by Ms. Suzettie Alcaide, together with the 38 auditors, conducted its planned audit based on their approved audit program from July 13 to 27, 2022 via blended approach.

The scope of the audit includes the FPA-Quality Management System on issuing licenses, registrations, and permits for fertilizer, pesticide, and other agricultural chemicals covering from July 24, 2021 until July 22, 2022. Audit criteria were based on ISO 9001:2015, ISO/IEC 17025:2017, and ISO 19011:2018 standards, applicable statutory and regulatory requirements, and FPA's policies, procedures, and quidelines.

The auditors classified their findings as positive, including best practices, an Opportunity for Improvement (OFI), and Non-Conformity (NC). NCs are given to the process owners who fail to follow the standards indicated in the ISO standards.

The IQA team concluded the two-week audit with fifty-one (51) NCs, which is 150% higher than the previous audit findings conducted in 2021. Although there was a notable increase in the number of NCs, the team attributed to the improvement of the audit procedure and longer duration of auditing per process.

NCs were issued to the process owners through Non-Conformity Corrective Action Report (NCAR) form within 24 hours after the audit. The accomplished NCAR shall be returned to the auditor within five (5) working days upon receipt. The auditor shall verify the immediate corrective action, the root cause analysis, and the implementation of corrective actions based on the agreed date indicated in the NCAR form.

The team commended the FPA Management and all the process owners for their commitment to continually improving the FPA QMS, demonstrated by actively cooperating with the IQA team during the internal audit.

Despite the NCs, the FPA Management acknowledged the result of the internal audit and pledged to take necessary actions to address these findings and commit to continual improvement.







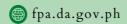


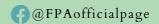


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