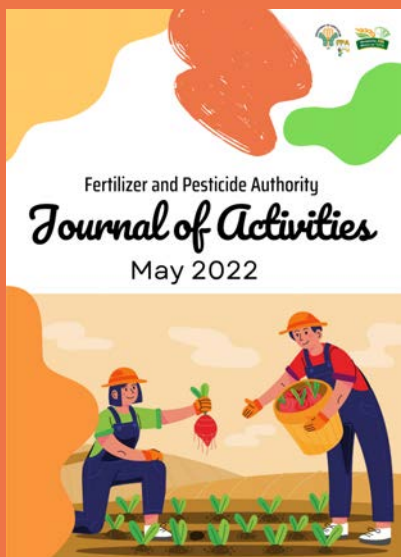


Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority

Journal of Activities

May 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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Table of Contents

ENFORCING FPA'S MANDATE IN THE FIELD

FPA RFU VI- May 11, 2022	1
FPA RFU XI - May 13, 2022	2
FPA RFU IV - May 16-18 2022	2
FPA RFU V - May 17, 2022	2
FPA RFU X - May 17, 2022	3
FPA RFU III - May 18, 2022	3
FPA RFU III - May 19, 2022	3
FPA RFU XI - May 19, 2022	4
FPA RFU III - May 19, 2022	5
FPA RFU XII - May 19, 2022	5
FPA RFU XII - May 20, 2022	5

TRAININGS AND SYMPOSIA

FPA RFU VII - May 5, 2022	6
FPA RFU XI - May 10, 2022	7
FPA RFU III - May 17, 2022	7
FPA RFU V - May 17, 2022	8
FPA RFU II - May 17-19, 2022	8
FPA Central Office - May 17-19, 2022	8
FPA Central Office - May 24-26, 2022	9
FPA Central Office - May 31, 2022	9

PUBLIC INFORMATION

FPA RFU CAR - May 10, 2022	10
FPA RFU IX - May 12, 2022	11
FPA RFU XII - May 12, 2022	11
FPA RFU V - May 16, 2022	11
FPA RFU V - May 17, 2022	11
FPA RFU IX - May 18, 2022	12
FPA RFU XII - May 19, 2022	12
FPA RFU XII - May 19, 2022	12
FPA RFU XII - May 19, 2022	13
FPA RFU IV - May 24, 2022	13
FPA RFU IX - May 24, 2022	13
FPA Central Office - May 24, 2022	13



OTHER ACTIVITIES

FPA RFU XIII - May 5, 2022

FPA RFU IV - May 11, 2022

FPA RFU XI - May 11, 2022

FPA Central Office - May 12-13, 2022

FPA RFU XI - May 16, 2022

FPA RFU V - May 16-17, 2022

FPA RFU CARAGA - May 17, 2022

FPA Central Office - May 24-30, 2022

FPA RFU I - May 26, 2022

14
15
15
15
15
16
16
16
16
16
17

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

FPA RFU VI - May 11, 2022

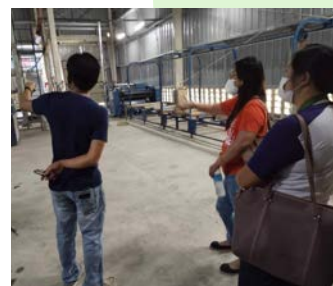
Prior to the issuance of VAT Certification, FPA is mandated to validate the arrival of Fertilizer Shipment in all ports of Western Visayas. FPA team inspected the different operations of bulk handling and the equipment used in repacking 50kgs of fertilizer. The team also checked the weight of the fertilizer and conducted random sampling and validation of fertilizer sacks being used to confirm the proper labeling requirements in compliance with the FPA standard.



FPA RFU XI- May 13, 2022

FPA RFU 11 conducted an ocular inspection of the Extrusion Plant and Warehouse in Brgy. Kauswagan, Panabo City. The activity was done by Regional Officer (RO) Marrisa Napalit and Provincial Officer (PO) Cheery B. Agrade.

The inspection was conducted to ensure that FPA standards are well observed and as part of their compliance for licensing renewal with FPA as Extruder.



FPA RFU IV- May 16-18, 2022

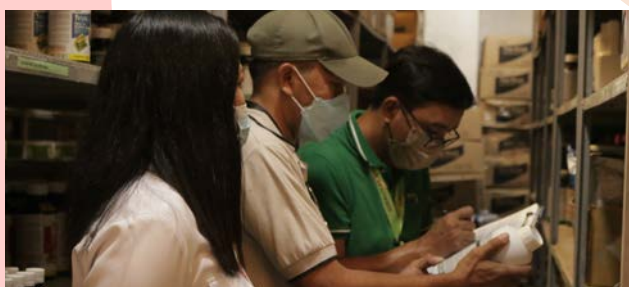
Thirty-one (31) fertilizer and pesticide dealers were randomly inspected during a Clean-Up Drive (CUD) Operation in the municipalities of Mamburao, Sta. Cruz, Sablayan, Calintaan, Rizal, Magsaysay and San Jose.

Out of the 31 dealers, FPA RFU IV-A found seven unlicensed dealers. Moreover, one dealer was found to be in possession of 67 packs of 100g unregistered fertilizer products. As a result, a Stop Sale, Stop Use, Stop Move, and Hold (SUMS) order was issued to the dealer for violating Sections 8 and 9 of Presidential Decree No. 1144. 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.

The violators were invited to an ASD training scheduled on May 20, 2022.

FPA RFU V- May 17, 2022

RFU 5, along with Planning, Management, and Information Division (PMID) personnel, inspected and monitored fertilizer and pesticide handlers and products at Bicol JL Agri Corporation Warehouse and Harvestplus Agri Store, Pili, Camarines Sur.



FPA RFU X - May 17, 2022

FPA North Bukidnon Provincial Officer Ms. Christie D. Lim conducts water sampling for safe re-use of waste water for fertilization of JMC fresh fruits packing house, feedlot and slaughter house in Del Monte Philippines Incorporated.

Samples collected were further test for its technical requirements for the issuance of certification allowing the safe re-use of waste water for agricultural purposes based on the limitation of parameters stipulated on the Department of Agriculture administrative Order No.11, series of 2019, pursuant to section 22.C of R.A 9257 otherwise known as the Philippine Clean Water Act of 2004.



FPA RFU III - May 18, 2022

FPA Central Luzon conducted a Clean-Up Drive Operation at Aurora Province to ensure that the fertilizers and pesticides sold in the market are safe.



FPA RFU III - May 19, 2022

Deputy Executive Director for Fertilizer, Dr. Myer Mula, and FPA Region III led by RO Romeo Val R. Suguitan Jr. conducted inspection and visitation on warehouses of fertilizer to the following companies:

- Universal Harvester Inc. at Seafront Shipyard, Lucanin, Mariveles, Bataan;
- Yara Fertilizer Phils. at Seafront Townsite Corp.; and
- La Filipina Uy Gongco Corp. at MGC Compound, Baseco, Mariveles, Bataan.

Dr. Mula oversaw the fertilizer process flow and ceaseless crafting of a new paradigm for the fertilizer industry in the Philippines that could be attributed to National Food Security.



FPA RFU XI - May 19, 2022

The Pesticide Regulatory Division (PRD), headed by Deputy Executive Director (DED) Eric Divinagracia, visited three (3) pesticide handlers in Davao Region. Regional Officer Marris Napalit, together with the Provincial Officers Louie Palarao and Cheery Agrado led the PRD team to a pesticide repacking plant located in Brgy. Mahayag, Bunawan District, Davao City and two pesticide extrusion plants in Panabo City, Davao del Norte.

The pesticide plants and chemical mixing facilities were found compliant with the Good Housekeeping, industrial hygiene, safety and security, and environmental protection standards and protocols set by FPA.

DED Divinagracia also highlighted the importance of documenting each processes as compliance with the ISO standards.

The companies committed to continue practicing the proper protocols and abide with the FPA standards as recommended by the audit team.



FPA RFU III - May 19, 2022

Inspection of establishments/licenses and fertilizer stocks in Swire Agrotech Agricultural Products, Inc. in Boton Wharf, Boton Area, Subic Bay Freeport Zone, Subic, Zambales was conducted. The inspection was headed by Dr. Mula together with the staff of FPA Region 3 and warehouse in charge of SAAPI Ms. Glenda Gonzales and Ms. Marilou Cabuenas. The activity aimed to check if the establishments comply with PD 1144 and if there is enough supply of fertilizers in the coming days.



FPA RFU XII - May 19, 2022

RO Alita Bornea and PO Maricel Tabigue conducted a Plantation Audit on Good Housekeeping at Green Crop Agri Ventures located at New Kalibo, Mlang, Cotabato.

The activity was conducted to assure the plantation's occupational health and safety program are regularly implemented to have a safe-work environment.

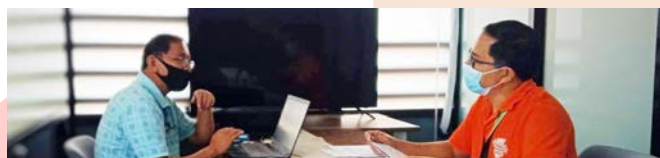
Fertilizer and agricultural pesticide products were also monitored to assure the said inputs are being handled and stored properly in accordance to FPA standards.

An exit meeting was included after the activity to discussed the results of inspection to the managers and to give recommendations to them.



FPA RFU XII - May 20, 2022

PO Cherubin Alonzo facilitated the application of RS and Co. Agri-Pro Global Corp as fertilizer and pesticide handler in the areas of Lambayong, Sultan Kudarat, and Datu Abdullah Sangki (DAS), Maguindanao Province.



ACCREDITATION TRAININGS AND SYMPOSIA



Accounts on:

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

FPA RFU VII - May 5, 2022

FPA Central Visayas conducted an Accredited Safety Dispenser training with Agrilife Agrivet Supply in Maria Luisa Estate Park, Banilad, Cebu City, City.

The training was participated by 21 branch managers and technicians from Visayas and Mindanao led by Business Proprietor Ms. Teressa Guillaome.



FPA RFU XI - May 10, 2022

FPA Davao Region conducted its first wave of this year's mango contractors training held at Camp Holiday Resort, Island Garden City of Samal. The said training was made possible through the collaboration of FPA RFO-XI together with private partner from International Veterinary and Agrochemicals Inc. (IVA), and with the Island Garden City of Samal - City Agriculture's Office.

A total of 41 mango contractors and growers from Samal City and other provinces in the region attended the training. The City Agriculture's Office represented by Mr. Jimuel L. Rebigan, FPA's Deputy Director for Pesticide Eric Divinagracia, and RO Marris Napalit gave an overview of the training.

Highlights of the program discussed by the FPA team were PD 1144, FPA Rules and Regulations Governing the Mango Industry; Acquisition of use of Nitrates per E.O. 522; and Recognition & First Aid Management on Pesticide Poisoning Cases. These regulatory topics were discussed by POs Cheery Agrade and Rustom Gain Tanduyan.

On the other hand, the topics relating to Plant Nutrition, Proper use of Mango Flower Inducer, Cultural Practices, Insect Pests, Disease Management, Pesticide Information, Classification, and Safe Use in Mango Production were discussed by IVA.

The newly trained participants are expected to file an application for a license to operate as mango contractors with FPA given that these contractors are willing to be compliant.



FPA RFU III - May 17, 2022

FPA Central Luzon conducted training on the safe and judicious use of pesticides and proper handling of fertilizer to the members of Golden Field Cooperative at Maria Aurora, Aurora.



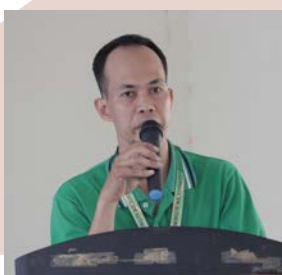
FPA RFU V - May 17, 2022

The FPA Bicol Region met with 30 dealers and handlers for the Stakeholders Consultative Meeting.

Ms. Camille-Mai Valles, Information Officer of the Planning, Management and Information Division (PMID) discussed the updates on the laws and latest issuances of the FPA. Ms. Valles also highlighted the improved FPA website. She gave a tour of where to find manuals, laws and issuances, and other new features.

Provincial Officer Engr. Cris Legaspi also talked about the BFS Program. He explained that BFS would reduce fertilizer importation as the program reduces dependency on imported fertilizer. He suggested a few other alternative fertilizers in his presentation like bio-stimulant, controlled-release fertilizer, foliar fertilizer, inoculant, plant growth regulator, and soil conditioner.

Regional Officer Gabriel Atole opened the floor for issues and concerns raised by the stakeholders. Instead, he encouraged everyone to work better, providing honest and disciplined interactions.



FPA RFU II - May 17-19, 2022

PO of Nueva Vizcaya Roselle Anne Jose, with the support of RO Leonardo Bangad, conducted three batches of seminar on Responsible Use of Agricultural Pesticide and Mental Health at Kasibu, Nueva Vizcaya after four cases of poisoning were reported back in April.

The seminar was attended by 123 farmers. It was coordinated with the Municipal Government of Kasibu, Envireau Pacific Inc, and Bayer Philippines.



FPA Central Office - May 17-19, 2022

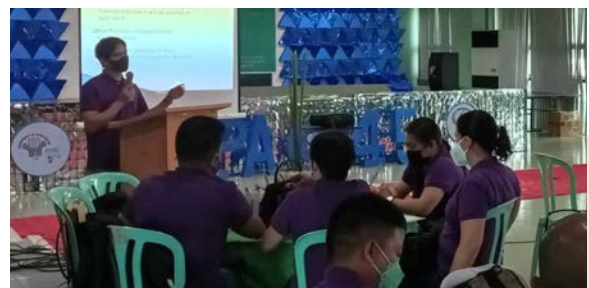
The Philippine Association of Professional Fumigators, Inc. (PAPFI) conducted a Certified Pesticide Applicator (CPA) Fumigator training to 40 participants. FPA monitored the said training and presented the schedule of examination.

FPA Central Office - May 24-26, 2022

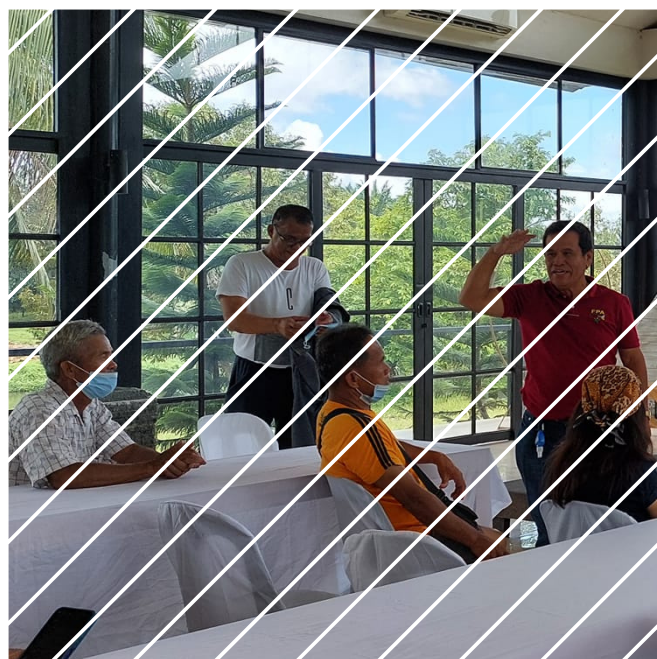
Philippine Association of Entomologists, Inc. (PAE) conducted an Accredited Responsible Care Officer (ARCO) training to 40 participants and Certified Pesticide Applicator (CPA) Exterminator training to 31 participants last May 24-26. FPA monitored the said training and presented the schedule of examination to the participants.

FPA Central Office - May 31, 2022

The Field Operations Coordination Unit (FOCU) organized a Refresher Training Course on Inspection of Establishments and Warehouses on May 31, 2022, in keeping with ISO 9001:2015 mandate of continually improving FPA's systems and standards.



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 CAR - May 10, 2022

Sixteen (16) farmers attended the seminar on Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) on vegetable and fruit trees at the Camp 3 Barangay Hall, Tuba, Benguet.

RO Rogelio Tanguid and PO Rowena Billig delivered the topics on the safe and effective use of fertilizer and pesticide products. This was co-organized with the MLGU - OMAg Tuba and Camp 3 BLGU and was sponsored by Philex Mining Corporation.



FPA RFU IX - May 12, 2022

POs Charlie Limbag and Pauline Kim Alfuentes were invited as resource speakers to the product launching and pre-season activity organized by Bayer Crop Science Philippines at Imelda, Zamboanga Sibugay.

There were 59 farmers who engaged in FPA's presentation regarding the Agency's mandate, functions, and role for sustainable farming. The POs also discussed ways of responsible use of farmer inputs as well as the campaign in adapting the BFS.



FPA RFU XIII - May 12, 2022

CARAGA RO Noel Negre stressed the significant benefits derived from the use of soil organic fertilizers during the training of VPO Rosario Agro-Industrial Development Crop in Rosario, Agusan del Sur.



FPA RFU V - May 16, 2022

Ninety-five (95) farmers benefited from FPA Bicol Region's lecture on the Balanced Fertilization Strategy (BFS) Program during the Department of Agriculture's AgriFiesta 2022.

Senior Research Specialist of Regional Soils Laboratory Jennis Reblando discussed the importance of soil sampling. He emphasized that soil sampling helps in determining the right nutrients needed by the soil and crop to be planted.

Aileen Babelonia, the Agriculturist II of Regional Soils Laboratory, elaborated on fertilizer recommendations. She focused on proper fertilizer application and its effect on the crop and the soil. She emphasized the 4Rs of applying fertilizer - right amount, right source, the right placement, and right rate.

FPA Provincial Officer Engr. Christopher Nunez talked about BFS. He explained that BFS is one of OneDA's programs to address the rising prices of fertilizer. The fertilizer price hike is attributed to various factors such as the COVID-19 pandemic, supply constraints in the international market, fuel hikes, and the recent Ukraine-Russia conflict. Engr. Nunez reiterated that the program would help improve soil health and lessen dependency on inorganic fertilizer.

Lastly, 7 fertilizer companies who partnered with DA and FPA for the event were also given time to share their opinion on BFS. They were Aldiz Omc., Bioprime Agri Industries Inc, Far Agro, Grandia Agromarketing Corp, MT Bustarga Agri-Supply, Vast Agro Solutions Inc., and Yara International.



FPA RFU V- May 17, 2022

Camarines Sur PO Engr. Christopher Nunez, discussed the Balanced Fertilization Strategy (BFS) during the 2nd Vegetable Seeds Derby and Harvest Festival on March 17, 2022.

In his discussion, he addressed that the BFS is to lessen the burden caused by the rising fertilizer prices. He stated that the program is to reduce dependency on inorganic and imported fertilizer by applying using alternative fertilizers. He also explained the different types of alternative fertilizers that farmers can use.

The event was hosted by the Department of Agriculture Region V and the Regional Soils Laboratory



FPA RFU IX- May 18, 2022

Zamboanga Peninsula PO Dionn Mark Bohol explained the reasons for the high prices of fertilizer and the current scenario of the fertilizer industry during the Rice Information Caravan in Godod, Zamboanga del Norte. He encouraged farmers to adopt BFS and not rely on using traditional fertilizer.

The activity was attended by 100 rice farmers. It was organized by the DA Regional Office in Zamboang Peninsula.



FPA RFU XII- May 19, 2022

As part of the mandate of the Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority to educate the agricultural sector on the safe and judicious use of fertilizer and pesticide, the FPA SOCCSKSARGEN headed by RO Alita Bornea and PO Maricel Tabigue conducted an information drive on the proper handling, safe use and correct storage of agricultural pesticide and fertilizer products to the 30 corn farm operators in Midsayap.

The training was conducted at Ace Resto, Midsayap Cotabato during the conduct of PhilGAP certification training by the Department of Agriculture Regional Field Office XII- Regulatory Division.



FPA RFU XII - May 19, 2022

POs Jennie Basilio and Joey Pascua gave lectures on the safe and judicious use of agricultural pesticides, fertilizers, and plant growers to vegetable farm operators during DA's PhilGAP certification training at Agua Frio Resort and Hotel.

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.



FPA RFU IV - May 24, 2022

RO Suzettie Alcaide tackled the Balanced Fertilization Strategy (BFS) Program to 50 RCEF beneficiaries during the Information Caravan spearheaded by Agricultural Training Institute (ATI)-CALABARZON.

RO Alcaide discussed the BFS program and the commitment of FPA to OneDA Approach. She emphasized the BFS protocol being implemented and presented the list of recommended registered fertilizers which can be used as alternative sources of nutrients for crops.

Factors affecting fertilizer price trends were also presented during the information caravan. Moreover, the activity also served as an avenue for educating the farmers on the safe and judicious use of agricultural pesticides which was discussed by Mr. Kelvin Bryan Monserrat of AVC Chemical Corporation as part of their Product Stewardship Program.



FPA RFU IX - May 24, 2022

PO Dionn Mark Bohol discussed the BFS during DA-SAAD ZamPen's training for 60 beneficiaries in San Nicolas, Dapitan, Zamboanga del Norte. He explained the other sources of plant nutrients, especially foliar fertilizers for their corn production. He also briefly discussed the safe and proper usage of agricultural pesticides.



FPA Central Office - May 24, 2022

Department of Agriculture-Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority Deputy Executive Director Myer Mula (left) joins Assistant Secretary Noel Reyes (right) in a virtual presser. The officials promoted the utilization of the Balanced Fertilization Strategy to ease the pressures of the increasing fertilizer prices.



OTHER ACTIVITIES



FPA RFU XIII - May 5, 2022

FPA CARAGA met with the city and municipal agriculturists of Bayugan City and Esperanza, Agusan del Sur, and for the scheduling of safe and proper handling of pesticides and promoting BFSS on the AEWs and farmers. This was initiated by the DA CARAGA.



FPA RFU IV - May 11, 2022

RO Suzettie Alcaide and Batangas PO Georlene Orbista attended the DA CALABARZON Media Corps Coordination and Harmonization Meeting at Lipa Agricultural Research and Experiment Station (LARES) Training Hall, Marauy, Lipa City.



This was to harmonize communication strategies and strengthen information sharing within the department and its other partner agencies.

FPA RFU XI - May 11, 2022

RO Marris Napalit and PO Louie Palarao attended the meeting DA RFO XI organized regarding the proper disposal of empty pesticide containers.



The activity was conducted in response to the request of Mr. Emmanuel Belviz, Owner of Belviz Farms, a PhilGAP Certified Farm to discuss several concerns regarding the disposal of empty pesticide containers and other hazardous waste on the farm.

The meeting was also attended by DENR-EMB, City Agriculture's Office, LGU Davao City, and Durian Industry Association of Davao.

FPA Central Office May 12-13, 2022

The Laboratory Services Division (LSD) underwent a second remote surveillance assessment conducted by the Philippine Accreditation Bureau (PAB). The PAB assesses the competency in carrying out tests, inspections, measurements, and calibrations of local laboratories on international standards. The ISO/IEC 17025:2017 standard specifies the general requirements for laboratories' competence, impartiality, and consistent operation.



FPA RFU XI - May 16, 2022

FPA Davao joins the DA RFO XI's Farmers' Month celebrated at the DA-RFO XI Compound, Davao City with the theme: "Modernisasyon at Industriyalisasyon tungo sa Masaganang Ani at Mataas na Kita."

Along with other government agencies, stakeholders, and farmers, the month-long activity was celebrated to showcase the value of agriculture and support programs that honors farmers and fisherfolk in Davao Region.



FPA RFU V - May 16-17, 2022

The FPA-RFU5 actively participated during the AGRIFIESTA FAIR in celebration of Farmers & Fisherfolk's Month with the theme: "Buwan ng Magsasaka at Mangingisda: Modernisasyon at Industriyalisasyon Tungo sa Masaganang Ani at Mataas na Kita" held at DA-RFO5, San Agustin, Pili, Camarines Sur.

With the assistance of the FPA-Planning, Monitoring and Information Division (PMID), the Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials on Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority (Agency Primer), Gabay sa Pagiging Lisensiyadong Dealer ng Abono at Pestisidyo, and Gabay sa Tamang Paggamit ng Abono At Pestisidyo were all distributed at the FPA information booth.



FPA RFU CARAGA - May 17, 2022

FPA CARAGA attended the 2nd Quarter RMC Meeting held at DA RFO 13 Conference Hall, Capitol Site, Butuan City. It was participated by agencies under the DA spectrum and spearheaded by Regional Executive Director Engr. Ricardo Ornate and Farmer Director Christopher Lindo.

During the meeting, members discussed the plans and programs initiated urgently to promote food security in the country.



FPA Central Office - May 24-30, 2022

FPA celebrated its 45th Anniversary with a week filled of sports competition, pageantry, and awards.



FPA RFU I - May 26, 2022

The FPA RFU 1 attended the Regional Management Council (RMC) Meeting at the DA RFO 1 at Svilla, San Fernando, La Union. The discussion involved further plans and activities for the rest of the year and fast tracking the promotion of BFS.







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