

THE FPA BULLETIN

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE FERTILIZER AND PESTICIDE AUTHORITY

VOLUME II, ISSUE 1 (JAN- MAR 2020)



FPA honors exemplary employees, performing offices during PRAISE Awards

The Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority recognized the efforts of its different offices, both from the Central and Regional Office, for their invaluable contribution in the fulfillment of FPA's mandate and to the implementation of the Ease of Doing Business and Government Service Delivery Act during the Program on Awards and Incentives for Service Excellence (PRAISE) held on 6 February 2020 at the FPA Central Office.

The activity is pursuant to Civil Service Commission (CSC) Memo Circular No. 1 series of 2001 which seeks to provide monetary and non-monetary awards and incentives to recognize, acknowledge, and reward

Continued on Page 6

WHAT'S INSIDE?

FPA ensures unhampered movement of fertilizer, pesticide inputs amid COVID-19 emergency situation | [Page 2](#)

FPA Field Units serve as frontliners during COVID-19 Emergency Situation | [Page 3](#)

FPA CAR, XII continues monitoring of handlers during implementation of community quarantine [Page 4](#)

Different farmers' cooperatives reached through FPA CAR's conduct of ASD trainings [Page 5](#)

FPA ensures unhampered movement of fertilizer, pesticide inputs amid COVID-19 emergency situation

The FPA Central Office and its Regional Field Units in Luzon adopt a Work from Home Scheme from March 17 to April 13, 2020 or until such time that the Enhanced Community Quarantine has been lifted. This is in observance of the strict home quarantine policy being implemented.

The public is advised to lodge their concerns/feedback to the following email addresses:

- For General Concerns: fpacentral77@gmail.com
- For VAT Exemption Certificate applications: frsdguardians@gmail.com
- For Pesticide Related Concerns: fpa.prd@gmail.com

1898

WILFREDO C. ROLDAN
 Executive Director



ANNOUNCEMENT

 @FPAofficialpage  fpa.da.gov.ph

To ensure unhampered movement of all food and production items including fertilizer, pesticide, and agri-chemicals during the Enhanced Community Quarantine (ECQ) brought by the COVID 19 pandemic, the Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority (FPA) issued Memorandum Circular 9 for the implementation of the online application, processing, and release of VAT Exemption Certificate (Fertilizer), Fertilizer Export Certificate, Certificate Authorizing Importation of Pesticides (CAIP) and Permit to Purchase Methyl Bromide.

The said order enables the issuance of electronic copy of the requested certification (e-certification) and/or permit (e-permit) to the client when the service was processed. This electronic copy duly issued by FPA shall be considered as functional equivalent of paper-based documents and therefore valid for purposes of transacting with government agencies such as but not limited to the Bureau of Customs (BoC) and the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR).

All concerned fertilizer and pesticide stakeholders are directed to submit their application, including all other supporting documents, and/or query at the following email addresses:

- Fertilizer-related concerns: frsdguardians@gmail.com
- Pesticide-related concerns: fpa.prd@gmail.com

- Issuance of Permit to Purchase Methyl Bromide: fpacentral77@ppmb@gmail.com
- Other concerns: fpacentral77@gmail.com

On the other hand, all other regulatory services being provided by FPA are temporarily suspended. Thus, automatic extension shall be allowed for licenses, registrations, and permits, which are expiring within the entire duration of the Enhanced Community Quarantine (ECQ). However, its renewal shall be filed within thirty (30) days after the lifting of the ECQ, otherwise, applicable charges/ penalties shall be imposed.

The FPA MC 9 is pursuant to the Department of Agriculture (DA) Administrative Order No. 09, s.2020 or the Amendment to A.O. 8 s.2020 Re: COVID-19 Guidelines on Service Continuity and Precautionary Measures in the Workplace, and DA Memorandum Circular No. 7 s.2020 or the Supplemental Circular Based on the Memorandum Issued by the Executive Secretary on Enhanced Community Quarantine of Luzon, Ensuring Unhampered Movement of All Food and Production Items through Food Lanes.

The FPA also issued Office Order 08 which directed its personnel to act as skeletal workforce until the ECQ has been lifted. The Order allowed FPA personnel, both Regular and Job Order, to consider rotational work schedule within them and to ensure that all frontline and critical services of their respective division/ office have skeletal workforce at the barest minimum from Monday to Friday. //

FPA Field Units serve as frontliners during COVID-19 Emergency Situation



The FPA Regions II, VI, X, XI and XII, in coordination with the Department of Agriculture- Regional Field Office, provided assistance for the full implementation of the strict transportation of agricultural products amid the COVID-19 Enhanced Community Quarantine (ECQ). This is in compliance with the Department of Agriculture memorandum to facilitate the unhampered movement of agri-fishery inputs including fertilizers & pesticides, and further to expedite processing of Food Lane Pass Applications.

The FPA, as a regulatory agency under DA, ensures the continuous movement of agricultural inputs particularly fertilizer and pesticides, by checking and verifying the transporter's FPA license which serve as among the requirements needed to be issued a Food Pass.

The DA reminds all businesses that the Foodlane Vehicle Pass Card is free of charge. It's illegal reproduction and use shall be dealt with accordingly. It shall not to be used beyond what is stated in the certificate.//



FPA CAR, XII continues monitoring of handlers during implementation of community quarantine

With Reports from Rowena F. Billig, FPA CAR Provincial Officer



To assure the agricultural sector of adequate supplies of fertilizer and pesticide at reasonable prices during the emergency situation brought by COVID-19 pandemic, the FPA CAR and FPA Region XII continues to conduct monitoring of establishments, prices and inventory of fertilizers and pesticides and ensure that f/p handlers observe Enhanced Community Quarantine (ECQ) protocols.

This is in support to the Department of Agriculture's (DA) measures to sustain availability of food including important farm commodities and inputs while the ECQ is not yet lifted in any of the localities with cases of COVID-19 infection.

Aside from the usual monitoring of the handler's good housekeeping practices, the window hour (opening and closing time) of establishments, the presence of disinfectants and sanitizers, social distancing, and the wearing of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), were also observed and enforced.

More than their continued operations, some of the handlers have been found to have donated food, PPE, and cash assistance coursed through fund raising organizers intended to support the frontliners.

The said FUs explained that the availability of farm inputs during the crisis makes it possible for the farmers to provide food to the communities under ECQ. //

Different farmers' cooperatives reached through FPA CAR's conduct of ASD trainings

Contributed by Rowena F. Billig



The FPA Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR) conducted series of Accredited Safety Dispenser (ASD) trainings for the first quarter of 2020 by reaching out to the different agricultural cooperatives intending to be accredited as handlers in the remote communities of Mankayan and Bakun, Benguet.

Around 179 participants benefitted in the training and information campaign conducted. They are comprised of LGU officials, cooperative members and officials, farmers, and other community members. Individual participants who came from other cooperatives and other nearby municipalities were also accommodated.

"We hope that through the ASD trainings, we could be able to address the persisting irresponsible use of pesticides in Benguet," the FPA CAR explained.

The field unit also said that bringing related activities in communities make government services accessible to far-flung and marginal communities. "The farmers, especially the mothers, could bring with them their children, and senior citizens, middle aged community members and barangay officials could walk-in and participate," the field unit stated.

The FPA CAR narrates that a common site during on-site trainings is when farmers would bring with them their children while they listen to the discussions. Also, a mother could bring in dried garden pea pods and lets her child to remove the peas from their shells.

The field unit recognizes the contribution of the cooperatives and LGUs in the successful conduct of

ASD trainings and information campaign. With FPA providing the technical assistance, the participants provided the other required resources such as food, venue and logistics.

The FPA CAR served the following cooperatives and LGUs through ASD trainings during the said period:

- February 11-12, 2020: Cropzone Agriculture Cooperative, Balili, Mankayan, Benguet—27 participants
- February 14-15: United Farmers of Cada Agriculture Cooperative, Balili, Mankayan, Benguet-31 participants
- March 3-4, 2020: Dada MPC & Dada Farmers' Food Terminal, Bakun, Benguet- 50 participants
- March 5-6, 2020: Hakbang sa Kaunlaran Association, Balili, Mankayan, Benguet- 27 participants

Moreover, an education and information campaign on the safe and effective use of fertilizer and pesticide products was conducted at Kayapa, Bakun, Benguet on 26 February 2020, in partnership with NS Northern Organic Fertilizer, Inc. and Sinochem Crop Protection Products Phils., Inc. This is also in coordination with the Barangay Local Government Unit of Kayapa, Bakun and of a new licensed dealer of FP products in the area. Eighty participants had attended the activity.

The ASD trainings were facilitated by FPA-CAR Regional Officer Reynaldo Segismundo, and Provincial Officers Rowena Billig and Rodell Goha-od.//

FPA honors exemplary employees, performing offices during PRAISE Awards

from Page 1

productive, creative, innovative and ethical behaviour of employees through formal and informal mode.

Group Awardees

- Highest Budget Utilization among the Offices in the Central Office- Finance and Administrative Division
- Highest Budget Utilization among Field Units- FPA Field Unit VI
- Most Compliant Division in the Submission of Reportorial Requirements- Laboratory Services Division
- Most Compliant Field Unit in the Submission of Reportorial Requirements- FPA Field Unit VI
- Highest Percentage of Attendance during Flag Raising Ceremonies- Laboratory Services Division
- Gawad #FPAJournal- Field Unit II
- Best Presenter- FPA Field Unit VII

Individual Awardee

- Gawad Huwaran- Angelo S. Bugarin

The Highest Budget Utilization Award honors office with the highest budget utilization rate which demonstrates the capacity of their Division/Office to disburse allocated funds and implement plans programs and projects in a timely manner.

The Most Compliant Division/Field Unit Award recognizes offices for the timely and accurate submission of reportorial requirements with complete attachments, which greatly contributed in fast-tracking office transactions and operations.

The Highest Percentage of Attendance during Flag Raising Ceremonies recognizes the Division in the Central Office with the highest number of personnel who regularly attends the flag raising ceremony. This

is in compliance to the CSC MC No. 19 series of 2012 (Observance of Flag Raising Ceremonies).

The Gawad #FPAJournal is given to the most active Field Unit in the promotion of FPA's programs, services and activities through social media platforms.

The Best Presenter Award is given to the office who showcased excellent presentation of their targets, accomplishments and budget justifications, through accurate presentation of data, clarity of explanation and observance of the time allotment for presentations, during the conduct of Annual Planning Workshops.

The Gawad Huwaran recognizes employees for their unwavering commitment, dedication and leadership exemplified as officer and member of the different Committees in the agency.

A preliminary award ceremony during the Mid-Year Planning was earlier conducted. The following FUs were recognized when they performed better among other regions: FPA Field Unit X for the Highest Budget Utilization Rate, FPA Field Unit V for the Most Compliant Region in the Submission of Financial Claims, and FPA Field Unit II for the Most Compliant Region in the Submission of Reportorial Requirements.

Executive Wilfredo Roldan said that the awards ceremony is a way of boosting the morale and dedication of every FPA personnel which is timely with the target for 'agency-wide' ISO certification for FPA.

The awardees received plaque of recognition, certificates and gift items which was handed over by Executive Director Wilfredo Roldan together with Deputy Executive Director for Fertilizer and Pesticide Eric Divinagracia and former Acting Deputy Director for Fertilizer Antonio Cruz Jr.//