

## ABOUT THE COVER



On its second year, the Coronavirus pandemic continues to bring uncertainty as to when will it be over, and what the way of life exactly looks like at that time. While things may have been uncertain, we continue to quickly adapt to the new normal.

A new normal that turned into new beginnings...

These new beginnings compelled us to maximize the use of all available resources, made us appreciate all that surrounds us, and strengthen linkages at hand. Thus, keeping us on track and determined in achieving our goals.

Based on its organizational context, "working in a CADENCE entails developing new products and services in a steady rhythm of short iterations, enabling a predictable pattern of alignment among team and people."

We, at ATI CALABARZON, upholds the values and commitment of every individual towards enlivening our vision of delivering beyond excellent extension services.

We believe in strength, unity and contribution of each and every one, working with harmony and rhythm to exemplify quality output.

Through strong partnership with the three pillars of extension, we continue to build camaraderie and further complement in providing holistic performance.

ATI CALABARZON pursues to strengthen teamwork: a unified institution that will empower the agriculture and fishery sector.

We look forward in transcending all the triumphs and challenges the future may foresee.

Together, we adhere to One DA, the way forward in transforming and modernizing Philippine Agriculture.

Agricultural Training Institute Regional Training Center IV-A


Food availability and affordability for every Filipino family through excellent extension services in agriculture and fisheries.

## OUR MISSION

Empowerment and building capacities of agriculture and fisheries stakeholders for sustainable development.

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The Institute supports the government's objectives of accountability, transparency, ethics and integrity. With the Institute's core values that direct the way we relate to our stakeholders, beneficiaries and to each other, we, at the ATI, adhere and uphold the following values:

1. Customer Focus. "We give the best."
2. Commitment. "We serve with passion."
3. Innovation and Excellence. "We keep raising the bar."
4. Resource Stewardship. "We work with integrity and teamwork."


## MESSAGE FROM THE CENTER DIRECTOR

In a year like no other, the Agricultural Training Institute in CALABARZON delivered on its commitment to serve the agriculture and fishery sector with an adaptive delivery of its extension services.

While Covid-19 pandemic continued to prevent the conduct of face-to-face meetings and impaired our work, we found a window of opportunity to strengthen collaborations with our partners from the provincial and local government units to facilitate and maintain the quality of trainings and extension services our Center offers.

Our resilience to the changes in how various government sectors deliver its services was shown through our efforts to move towards, by maximizing digital tools and online platforms. As we begin another year, we are committed to pursuing more initiatives to capacitate Agricultural Extension Workers and teach young farmers, agri-enthusiasts and the general public about farming technologies and farm business management.

We thank you all for your unwavering support to our vision and commitment towards a progressive and inclusive agri-fishery sector in CALABARZON.

Center Director



Two years have passed since the start of the Coronavirus pandemic that affected our country. Aside from the challenges brought about by the pandemic, the agriculture sector faced numerous setbacks in 2021. There was a decrease in the production of crops, livestock and fisheries, the African Swine Fever (ASF), series of natural calamities coupled with an increase in prices of pork in the early part of the year among others. In spite of these, the Department of Agriculture remained steadfast and confronted the problems head-on.

In June 2021, the Department through the leadership of Secretary William Dar reinforced the OneDA reform agenda that aims to transform the sector by employing 18 major strategies towards a modern and industrialized Philippine agriculture. The strategies were divided into four pillars: consolidation, modernization, industrialization, and professionalization.

The pillar of consolidation is composed of six (6) key strategies: Bayanihan Agri-Clusters (BACs), Collective actions or cooperative development, province-led agriculture and fisheries extension systems (PAFES), mobilization and empowerment of partners, diversification, and credit support. Four (4) strategies under modernization which includes: technology and innovation including digital agriculture, farm mechanization and infrastructure investments, climate change adaptation and mitigation measures, and food safety and regulations.

Along with industrialization which has three (3) strategies: agri-industrial business corridors; global trade, export development, and promotion; and post-harvest, processing, logistics, and marketing support. Lastly, professionalization is comprised of five (5) strategies: agriculture career system, education and training of agribusiness management, youth and woman engagement, ease of doing business and transparent procurement, and strategic communications. All these strategies are geared towards a more progressive, competitive and resilient agriculture sector.

As the agriculture sector continues to evolve, so as the strategies of ATI CALABARZON in performing its commitment to ensure the delivery of excellent extension services in agriculture and fisheries. The Center focused on the pillar of professionalization by developing the new breed of farmers and agriculture professionals and producing skilled agri-entrepreneurs, farm business owners and empowered youth. All of these were made possible through training and scholarship services; the use of the digital platform as an innovative approach to extension/training; and other extension support services provided by extension partners.

On top of these strategies, the harmonious execution of tasks and work attitudes amongst the management and staff and incomparable teamwork were also factors in attaining the marvelous accomplishments and realization of the Center's plans and programs for FY 2021 under the new normal.


As the provision of extension services continue to evolve and the second-year traversing into the pandemic, the Agricultural Training Institute CALABARZON, in its continuous effort and commitment to capacitate the stakeholders with updated and relevant agriculture and fisheries technologies, simultaneously served its beneficiaries through the provision of training and other Agriculture and Fisheries (AF) activities by optimizing the use of online platforms and blended learning approach, as well as face-to-face assembly. This year, the Center conducted a total of $\mathbf{2 0 1}$ trainings and other AF activities with a total of $\mathbf{8 , 3 8 6}$ individuals served within the region.


## RICE PROGRAM



Rice production has been the focus of the Department of Agriculture for the past years, along with the goal to capacitate the rice farmers of the country with updated technologies on various rice production technologies and integrated farming practices. In support to this, the Rice Program of ATI CALABARZON conducted a total of $\mathbf{2 2}$ activities with 2,956 individuals served.

These activities include Capability Enhancement Trainings for Agricultural Extension Workers that imparted supplemental knowledge on new agricultural technologies in order to meet the ever-increasing demand in the rice industry sector. Concurrent to this, other activities conducted under the Rice Program were composed of Rice Advisory Services (RAS) Training, Rice Crop Manager (RCM) Briefings, Capability Enhancements for Farmers, Digital Farmers Programs (DFP) 102, Trainings and Training Related Activities (KSL and Technical Briefing), Info Caravan/Road Show (Rice Summit or Support to National Rice Awareness Month), and School-on-the-Air (SOA) for Smart Rice Agriculture (SRA) which completed a total of 32 episodes and capacitated 2501 graduates.

Apart from these activities, the year saw the conduct of Training of Trainers for Local Farmer Technicians aimed at supporting the local farmers through farm diversification, integrated farming practices and technologies and empowering local food producers.

Through this activity, the knowledge on agro-enterprise industry, product supply, financial management and collective marketing of the Local Farmer Technicians (LFTs) was enhanced. LFTs assist in the implementation of national agricultural programs by way of delivering extension services.


## RICE COMPETITIVENESS ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM [RCEP]

Now on its 3rd year of implementation, the Rice Competitiveness Enhancement Program (RCEP) of the Department of Agriculture continuously provided subsidy thru the distribution of seeds and machineries to rice farmers. Through the RCEP, an increase in the productivity and income of rice farmers is expected. In line with this, the Center conducted 8 activities that reached a total of 666 stakeholders.

The activities include Trainings of Trainers (TOT) on Modernized Production of High-Quality Inbred Rice and Seeds, Interagency Meetings and Workshops, Training on Inbred Rice Seed Production and Certification for Potential Seed Growers, Refresher Course on Seed Growers, and School-on-the-Air (SOA) that capacitated rice farmers with additional knowledge on productionof high-quality inbred rice, seed certification, and farm mechanization. The activity also enabled a stronger partnership between ATI-CALABARZON and other RCEF implementing agencies and farm partners.

In addition, the RCEF Program also conducted its Refresher Course on Seed Growers, a training course aimed in providing updates on policies and guidelines in certification process, as well as seed production technologies in RCEF
priority provinces in the region. This activity was envisioned as a result of the collaboration of DA-Regional Field Office IV-A, Bureau of Plant Industries- National Seed Quality Control Services (NSQCS), Los Baños Branch, and ATI CALABARZON.

The training greatly helped the seed growers to enhance their capacity to produce high-quality rice seeds. This also resulted in discovering potential areas for seed production and encouraging the old seed growers to renew their accreditation.

Besides that, the Center also conducted the RCEF Program Assessment which paved the way for the discussion of problems encountered during the implementation of RCEF activities and formulation of strategies for the upcoming activities of the program in the succeeding years. This also served as venue for the discussion of RCEF-Farm School owners' perceptions on their roles in enhancing farmers' knowledge, skills, attitudes, and practices relevant to rice farming technologies. The activity was attended by Farm School owners, and representatives from different RCEF-RESP Learning Sites for Agriculture including the RCEF-RESP implementing agencies from the CALABARZON region.

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HIGH VALUE CROPS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM


ATI CALABARZON's High Value Crops Development Program (HVCDP) accomplished 23 activities and served 708 individuals in its continuous effort to support the Department of Agriculture's Plant, Plant, Plant Program. The said program was an instantaneous response to the pandemic that seeks to increase national agri-fishery output through intensified use of quality seeds, appropriate inputs and modern technologies across all commodities.

The conducted activities for this year include Training of Trainers on PNS/BAFS 49:2017 Code of Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) for Fruits and Vegetables, an activity that
aimed in increasing the pool of trainers and retool existing GAP trainers who are capable of providing technical assistance to farmers on compliance and certification. GAP includes the management, control, or preventive practices during the primary production and postharvest handling steps. It addresses concerns on safety and quality of produce, environmental protection and worker's health. Compliance to GAP Standard is also a key to competitiveness and market access of agricultural products. In addition, the Center also carried out activities such as Consultation Workshop, Technical Capability Enhancement and Resource Person Development on Cacao Production, Training on Insecticide Resistance Management of Cecid Fly on Mango, Proposal-based Trainings on High Value Crops Production, Postharvest, Processing or Marketing, Stakeholders Feedbacking and Monitoring, Farmers' Field Schools on PNS/BAFS 49:2017 Code of GAP for Fruits and Vegetables, Information Caravan, Farmers' Field Schools (FFS) on Cacao Production, and FFS on Production of Banana or Pineapple or Coffee.

Furthermore, the Center also implemented the Technical Capability Enhancement and Resource Person Development on Coffee Production, aimed to enhance the knowledge and skills of the participants in production, postharvest handling operations and processing technologies of coffee. This training was also in response to the present status of the coffee industry in the country. According to the Philippine Statistics Authority, production has generally declined by 3.12 percent per annum from 2016-2020. Still, the country's coffee supply is not enough for the growing demand, an opportunity to be considered by our coffee farmers in expanding their operations.

## CORN PROGRAM



For FY 2021, nine (9) activities with a total of 170 farmers served were conducted under the Corn Program. The activities include Consultation Workshop for Corn and Cassava Program Coordinators, Barangay-based Trainings on Corn-based Farming Systems with Input Assistance/After Training Support, Corn Postharvest Trainings/Corn-Livestock Integration with Input Assistance/After Training Support. The training aimed to capacitate corn-livestock farmers to explore income generating opportunities in the postharvest of corn whilst integrating it to address the needs of livestock and poultry and answer the problem of declining feed output and performance. Farmer Scientist Training Program (FSTP) with After Training Support (Phase I), and Cassava Livelihood Training was also carried out.

Pioneering this year under the Corn Program was the implementation of municipal-based Training Course on Fall Army Worm (FAW) Management with after training support. This was the farmer-level adaptation of the National Training of Trainers on Fall Army Worm Management attended by Corn Program Focal Persons across ATI network.

The activity also provided updates on fall army worm status of incidence and management protocols, identification of different bio-control agents and other recommended prevention strategies.

## ORGANIC AGRICULTURE PROGRAM



The Center's Organic Agriculture (OA) Program accomplished 18 activities with a summary of 472 individuals served that includes Inter-agency Consultation, Trainings on OA Production with Extension Support, Extension Initiatives Focused in Marginalized with Extension Support, Seminars/Agritalks with Extension Support and Farmers' Field Schools with Extension Support. These activities were implemented with the goal of enriching the fertility of the soil, increase farm productivity, reduce pollution and destruction of the environment, prevent the depletion of natural resources, and further protect the health of farmers.

At the pinnacle of the OA Program, was the conduct of five (5) batches of Capacity Enhancement on the Operations of Composting Facilities for Biodegradable Wastes (CFBW). It is a training program in partnership with the Bureau of Soils and Water Management (BSWM) that supports the Department of Agriculture's programs to increase crop productivity through sustainable agriculture with the provision of composting facilities to farmers' associations, cooperatives, LGUs, academe and civil society organizations

The training also aims to elevate organic agriculture not only in promoting a healthy ecosystem and producing safe and nutritious food, but also in making organic products affordable for everyone.

## LIVESTOCK PROGRAM



This year, most of the activities under the Livestock program focused on the issues brought by the African Swine Fever (ASF) with a total of 32 activities and 625 individuals capacitated. The activities include 2021 Bantay ASF sa Barangay Biosecurity and Surveillance Lecture \& Workshop, a series of Bantay ASF sa Barangay: Training on Biosecurity, Surveillance and Sample Collection for ASF Control, Regional Consultation, Trainings on Specimen Collection for Barangay Biosecurity Officers, Community-Based Capability Trainingsfor Livestock and Poultry with Extension Support, Webinars Series on ASF and Other Emerging Zoonotic Diseases, Farmer Poultry School on Sustainable Broiler Production, and several Trainings on Quantum Geographic Information System (QGIS).

QGIS is initially offered as a training course that aimed to capacitate Barangay Biosecurity Officers (BBOs) on proper data encoding and preparation of zoning map intended for ASF monitoring and surveillance. BBOs were also guided about adequate implementation of sanitary measures to reduce the number of secondary outbreaks on domestic pig farms, which will eventually minimize the likelihood of infection in wild boar.


Another highlight among the activities of the Livestock Program was the implementation of Basic Meat Inspection Training Course, a two-phase training
program in collaboration with the Department of Agriculture National Meat Inspection Service (NMIS). The program provides technical assistance to the Local Government Units (LGUs) in the development of the LGUs' meat inspection system that ensures consumer protection through the provision of safe, wholesome and clean meat and meat products. The phase one of the activity was conducted online using Zoom application where the topics on Laws and Issuances, Basic Anatomy and Physiology in Relation to Meat Inspection and Meat Science, Principles of Diseases and Important Diseases of Livestock and Poultry, Humane Handling and Slaughter of Food Animals, and Meat Safety and Quality Assurance were discussed.

Moreover, in the 2 nd phase of the course, a hands-on workshop was conducted with the help of staff from the slaughter houses of Baras, Rizal and Lipa City, Batangas, where the participants performed actual meat inspection to ensure delivery of safe and quality meat and meat products.

## REGULAR PROGRAM

Parallel to the Center's delivery of agricultural technologies with its banner programs, the Agricultural Training Institute also delivers non-agricultural activities for capacity development of the stakeholders in the region. The Center conducted 45 activities and served 1,518 individuals in total, under the Regular Program. These activities include webinars featuring the Learning Sites for Agriculture Products Series, Regional Consultative Workshop, National Extension Agenda Program (NEAP) Consultations, Quarterly Regional Agriculture and Fisheries Extension Network (RAFEN) meetings, Trainings for Special Concerns (Indigenous People, Early Child Care and Development, Senior Citizens, Differently-abled Persons and Gender and Development), Seminars on Urban Agriculture with Extension Support, Kapatid Agri Mentor Me Program (KAMMP) Online, Collaborative Activities with Extension Service Provider (ESP) Partners and Regional Youth Camp.

With the aim of increasing youth engagement, ATI-CALABARZON implemented the Adopt-a-Youth Program, which helped the youth enhance their knowledge and necessary skills on agricultural technologies and entrepreneurship through actual farm immersion. Five (5) members of the 4 H Club from Cavite, Laguna and Quezon Province completed their 14-day live-in training with one of the Center's accredited School for Practical Agriculture, Cortijo de Palsabangon Farm Park and Restaurant in Pagbilao, Quezon. The participants were able to acquire strategies on promoting agricultural practices, knowledge on agripreneurial technologies and financial management, and obtain TESDA Agroentrepreneurship NC II.

Other activities under the Regular program include ESP Council Meetings, Farm Business School for Farmer Level, Extension Partners Forum, ATI CALABARZON Staff Development, Management Reviews, Midyear Review, Annual Review and Assessment and Training of Facilitators on FBS that assisted in gaining additional knowledge on Personal Entrepreneurial Competencies, Basic Concept of Farm Business Profitability, Farm Record Keeping, Development of Business Plan, Marketing Strategies, Value Addition, and Farm School Establishment.

On top of that, as compliance to the restrictions imposed by the IATF with regard to health and safety protocols, this year marks the first implementation of the Training of Trainers on FBS Online. All topics discussion maximized the use of online meeting platforms.

In addition, certain topics about gender issues and concerns were incorporated to some activities under the Regular Program such as the TOTs on FBS as well as the Regional Farm Youth Summit, apart from the annual conduct of the Training on Gender and Development. These discussions helped enhance the participants' willingness to resolve certain concerns both in their professional and personal life.


## ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES OF THE CENTER



Alongside the administration of targeted activities in the Center's Work and Financial Plan, 44 additional activities were also conducted by ATI CALABARZON. The activities that capacitated the 1,271 individuals include Provincial Consultative Meetings, Seminar on Organic Agriculture for the Youth, Organic Mobile Tiangge, Farm Products Utilization Workshops, Training on Drip Irrigation for Improved Crop Production, Community-based Trainings on Urban Gardening for Food Security and Sustainability, BFF Camp: Sustainable Agripreneurship for the Filipino Youth.

Other activities include AgriTalk Featuring the AgriWomen, Training on Internal Control System for Smallholder Group, TGP Assessment of FITS Centers in the Implementation of Techno Gabay Program in Calabarzon Workshop Meeting, Training on Farm Risk Reduction and Management and Mental Wellbeing.

This year also saw the launch of Digital Agriculture Courses for RCEF, Training of Trainers on Participatory Guarantee System, Online Farm Business Management with Social Media Strategies Seminar, Regional Training on Nursery Establishment, Management and Accreditation, Webinar on Growing Vanilla planifolia: The Organic Way!, Seminar on Basic Rabbit Production, Basic Meat Inspection Course Phase II, RCEF-Farm School Owners Cluster Meeting and Consultation, Trainings on Basic Rabbit Production, and Training on Specimen Collection for Barangay Biosecurity Officers.

## SEARCH FOR EKSTENSYONISTANG "OA"



Relative to Organic Agriculture (OA) Month Celebration, the Center conducted the 2021 Search for Ekstensyonistang OA, the quiz bee contest intended for Agricultural Extension Workers (AEWs) of the region. Hailed as this year's champion is Mr. Marc Jevin Barreto from the Office of the Provincial Agriculturist-Quezon. The topics covered were as follows: RA 10068 or OA Act of 2010, Philippine National Standards on OA (PNS-BAFS 07:2016), OA concepts and principles, RA 11511and current events. The activity was livestreamed via official Facebook page of ATI CALABARZON on November 18, 2021.

## EXTENSION AND TRAINING MANAGEMENT CAPABILITY DEVELOPMENT (ETMCD)



Adjacent to the recent developments in extension and as support to the the implementation of Executive Order 138 commonly known as Mandanas-Garcia Ruling, this year also marked the pilot testing of the module for the Extension and Training Management Capability Development (ETMCD), a holistic, proactive and multi-sectoral training module aimed to provide participants with the skills on conducting training and extension activities in their area. The ETMCD module was developed by competent ATI CALABARZON staff during the initial implementation of community quarantine in the region.

The training aims to strengthen linkages, consolidate and compliment resources, at the same time come up with uniform standards in conducting extension and training interventions in the region. A total of 19 Agricultural Extension Workers from Batangas Province finished the training which ran from September 24, 2021 to December 10, 2021 via online platform. Batangas was identified as pilot province in the region for the institutionalization of the Provincial Agricultural and Fisheries Extension Systems (PAFES) that will serve as an extension hub that synchronizes agricultural plans and programs as well as orchestrate the activities of the various stakeholders.

## YOUTH IN AGRIPRENEURSHIP PROGRAM



Ultimately, from October to December 2021, ATI CALABARZON led the pilot implementation of the Youth Agripreneurship Program (YAP) to address the lack of interest of the youth in agriculture and the limited opportunities for the youths engaged in it. This is also an initiative to attract the youth to further develop their capacities and economic conditions. The YAP consists of series of agripreneurship trainings and activities based accordingly on the agriculture and entrepreneurship experiences of the youth in different levels such as beginner, intermediate, and advanced categories.

The Center was able to conduct three (3) batches of Training on Farm Business for Youth for beginners; two (2) batches of Training on Agro-entrepreneurship for intermediate; and one (1) batch of Enhancement Course on Strengthening Youth Agripreneurial Capabilities for advanced category. All participants also underwent the Training on Social Media Marketing.

All participants were required to submit their agribusiness proposals as their training output, in accordance to their training category. A designated committee evaluated and assessed the submitted agribusiness proposals and selected qualified proposals for business pitching. After a series of
evaluation during their business proposal pitching, three (3) winners per category--beginner, intermediate, and advanced were announced. A financial grant was awarded to the chosen agribusiness proposals. The grant shall serve as a start-up capital for the beginner agripreneurs and as an additional capital for intermediate and advanced agripreneurs.

Here are the recipients of financial grants in the YAP:

## Beginner Level

## 1. DE JESUS, Lowell

Culturing Giant Freshwater Prawn
(Macrobrachium rosenbergii) in an Outdoor Tank for Sustainable Livelihood


## 2. HACHERO, Dave G

Increasing the Local Supply of Oyster Mushrooms through Production and Processing


## 3. SUAZE, Gian Lou R.

Sharing the Harvest: An Exclusive Farm \& Neighborhood Food Delivery Partnership


## Intermediate Level

## 1. Rabano, Jairo

TalipaFarm's Hydroponic Lettuce Ice Cream


## 2. AMOGUIS, Ann Rose

Large Flower Organic Mushroom Farming Automation for Higher Profitability


## 3. ONA, Nadia Kristina

Humble Harvest by Fork and Spade Farm


## Advance Level

1. ANGCA, Rheanell

Watermelon Rind Powder

2. LANQUINO, Margaret Ann

Postharvest Processing with Food Dehydration

3. DEL ROSARIO, Cherish

WOOD VINEGAR PRODUCTION: An innovative way of turning farm waste to Foliar and Pesticide


## ACCREDITED PROGRAMS WITH CPD UNITS FOR 2021

The Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Act of 2016 similarly known as Republic Act No. 10912 requires CPD as a mandatory requirement for Professional license renewal to enhance and continuously upgrade the skills, capabilities, qualifications and competencies of professionals to be more effective in practicing a profession.

ATI CALABARZON is one of the accredited CPD Providers in the field of Agriculture since February 2018. As part of its mandate to empower and strengthen its stakeholders, the Center conducts agricultural trainings and extension activities to capacitate Agricultural Extension Workers (AEWs) who are mostly licensed Agriculturist and members of rural-based organizations.


Eight (8) of the Center's trainings under different banner programs such as Organic Agriculture (OA), Rice, Regular and High Value Crop and Development Program are accredited in CPD for Agriculture by the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC) with equivalent CPD units as follows:

| Training | Equiuvalent CPD Units |
| :---: | :---: |
| Training on OA Production with Extension Support dubbed as Training on Risk-based Pre-Assessment of Farms for Organic Agriculture | 24 |
| Capability Enhancement Course for Agricultural Extension Workers - Batch 1 | 35 |
| Capability Enhancement Course for Agricultural Extension Workers - Batch 2 | 34 |
| Capability Enhancement Course for Agricultural Extension Workers (Approaches to Rice Integrated Pest Management) | 36 |
| Training of Trainers on Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) for Fruits \& Vegetables (PNS/BAFS 49:2017 Code of Good Agricultural Practices for Fruits \& Vegetables) Batch 1 | 18 |
| Training of Trainers on Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) for Fruits \& Vegetables (PNS/BAFS 49:2017 Code of Good Agricultural Practices for Fruits \& Vegetables) Batch 2 | 18 |
| Training of Trainers on Production, Postharvest Handling and Processing Technologies for Coffee | 11 |
| Extension and Training Management Capability Development (ETMCD) Online Mentoring Sessions for Agricultural Extension Workers (AEWs) <br> - Season 1 <br> - Season 2 <br> - Season 3 <br> - Season 4 <br> - Season 5 <br> - Season 6 \& 7 <br> - Season 8 \& 9 <br> - Season 10 | $\begin{gathered} 3 \\ 2 \\ 2 \\ 2 \\ 2 \\ 3 \\ 5 \\ 30 \\ 3 \end{gathered}$ |

The Center utilized various strategies such as online, face-to-face and blended learning approach in implementing the extension activities and will pursue the accreditation of more CPD trainings to continue to serve our stakeholders in CALABARZON towards professionalization of the agriculture sector.



## LEARNING SITES FOR AGRICULTURE (LSA)

Amidst today's growing challenge to food security, the role of the private sector in providing extension services is one of the key factors to enhance farm productivity through showcasing need-based and location specific farming strategies and agricultural enterprise aspect in agriculture. Therefore, as the number of certified learning sites increases, the wider the scope/chance of harnessing the full potential of farming/fishing communities and other rural community members.

For the year 2021, there is a significant increase in the number of newly-certified model farms showcasing agricultural technologies to build capacities of farmers. From 13 farms last year to 21 farms this year, namely;

| Name of Farm | Location | Cooperator |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Imperium Agriculture Training <br> and Assessment Center | Pangil, Laguna | Alfonso S. Cabasagan Jr. |
|  <br> Budwood Garden | Tayabas City, Quezon | Benilda Fatima R. Abuy |
| D'Constantinos Farm Corp. | Maragondon, Cavite | Rany P. Constantino |
| Merlita's Agricultural Farm | GMA, Cavite | Edmer F. Barbudo |
| Malba Natural Agricultural <br> Farm | Tanauan City, Batangas | Alexander J. Gono |
| Matt N' Kyla Family Farm <br> Corporation | Pangil, Laguna | Sally U. Mojado |
| BTCl-AgriFarm | Lucban, Quezon | Tomas S. Abustan |



| Location | Cooperator |
| :---: | :---: |
| Tuy, Batangas | Jeffrey S. Manalo |
| Calauag, Quezon | Ma. Annaleah S. Robles |
| Maragondon, Cavite | Greg Luigi M. Andaman |
| Lucena City, Quezon | Recaredo A. Sarmiento II |
| Biñan City, Laguna | Biñan City Local Government |
| Lucban, Quezon | Michael S. Caballes |
| Balayan, Batangas | Leoncio C. Magsino |
| Lipa City, Batangas | Lee S. Gaitana |
| Lucban, Quezon | Francis Christian C. Ocoma |
| Pagsanjan, Laguna | Rosel G. Buban |
| Lucban, Quezon | Randi D. Pinza |
| Padre Burgos, Quezon | Michael C. Castro |
| Infanta, Quezon | Quintin C. Aveno |
| Majayjay, Laguna | Alfred Justin DQ. Amorado |



## LEARNING SITES FOR AGRICULTURE [LSA] AND SCHOOL FOR PRACTICAL AGRICULTURE [SPA] MAINTAINED/ENHANCED

Augmenting the extension partners' capacity in providing applicable technologies needed to improve the capabilities of farmers, the Center offered assistance to exemplary performing LSAs and SPA in the region, namely:

## Name of Farm

## Javier Eco Farm

Adoress Farm Training and Assessment

## V'FNR Agricultural Farm

## Iglesias Farms

Localroots Agricultural Farming and Services

Love of Lilia Nature Farm

## Vacille Farm

## Quindoza's Farm

## BTC Farms

## PG Farm

## Cortijo de Palsabangon

Roqueza's Integrated Farm

## Assistance Given

Construction materials for Training Hall improvement
Construction of storage facility for farm machineries

Rehabilitation of Training Hall

Construction of free range chicken house
Construction materials for post-harvest facility

Production inputs for high value crops

Improvement of training facility

Improvement of training facility
Construction of facility for farm product display

Improvement of techno demo facility
Provision of a Portable Rice Mill
Improvement of open-air training facility

## LEARNING SITES FOR AGRICULTURE [LSA] UPGRADED



The upscaling of Learning Site for Agriculture (LSA) to becoming a certified School for practical Agriculture (SPA) wherein the farm becomes a "training center in the field" and the owner as a "teacher" complements the ATI in the delivery of training and extension; farm business advisory services, information support, and technology demonstration services to the clientele, thus enabling to reach out to more farmers.

For this year, LALY'S FARM VILLE in Cavinti, Laguna became eligible and was upscaled to SPA in Calabarzon region.

## ACCREDITATION OF PRIVATE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES EXTENSION SERVICE PROVIDER [ESP]



The center has been involved in hastening the delivery of extension services to the Department of Agriculture's stakeholders and clients and in increasing the public-private partnerships in the conduct of agricultural and fisheries extension services pursuant to the Republic Act (R.A) 8435 known as the Agriculture and Fisheries Modernization Act (AFMA).

Having the competence to provide extension services on agriculture and fisheries, Gourmet Farms, Inc. located in Brgy. Buho, Silang, Cavite has complied with the Implementing Rules and Regulations and is now an accredited Private Agriculture and Fisheries Extension Service Provider (PAF-ESP).

## SHOWCASING BEST AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES EXTENSION PRACTICES



MOCA Family Farm RLearning Center Inc, - an ATI accredited extension service provider in Padre Garcia, Batangas has introduced an emerging technology to the farming community called the Drip Irrigation Technology.

For this year, the farm educated/trained 100 participants with the basic knowledge needed to successfully design, install, maintain and schedule drip irrigation.

## CLIENTS SERVED/VISITED THE LSA AND SPA



Adapting to make ends meet, extension partners find ways to attract visitors during the pandemic. New and innovative ways have been practiced in the farm, from a mere farm tour to an onsite e,ducational hands-on farm experience, of course following the minimum health and safety protocols, they averaged 1,000 visitors in a month.

## BINHI PARA SA PAMAYANAN: A COMMUNITY-BASED PLANT NURSERY PROJECT



Due to the popular demand brought by the success of the previous year's implementation of the project and the need to further ensure food availability and sustain production amidst the threat of COVID-19, the center continued the distribution of free seedlings in three (3) different varieties namely; siling pangsigang, talong and kamatis. Before the year ended approximately 100,000 seedlings were given away and will continue to distribute until the first quarter of 2022.

The continued program aims to intensify the promotion of urban agriculture and provide opportunity to households in urban areas to produce fresh and healthy food from their backyard for their tables.

Three (3) Learning Sites for Agriculture in the region participated in the said activity by providing support in managing the sowing, growing as well as the distribution of seedlings.

The said extension partners were:



In support to Department of Agriculture Secretary, William D. Dar's roadmap to modernizing and boosting the agriculture sector through One DA Reform Agenda, the Center continues to provide farm and business advisory services to farmers, young agripreneurs and other sectors.


RICE CROP MANAGER ADVISORY SERVICE (RCMAS)


RCMAS is a digital agriculture service that provides farmers with information geared toward increasing productivity and profitability of rice farming through targeted integrated nutrient and crop management. ATI in CALABARZON, in partnership with DA Regional Field Office IV-A and the Agricultural Extension Workers in the local government units continue to disseminate, promote and roll-out the program for the benefit of rice farmers in the region.

A total of $\mathbf{8 0}$ farmers participated in the two (2) batches of RCM briefings conducted in eight (8) municipalities in Quezon province, namely, San Antonio, Tiaong, Sariaya, Tayabas City, Lucban, Sampaloc, Mauban and Pagbilao.

Farmers were provided with one-page farm-specific recommendation to aid in nutrient and crop management.


## TRAINING OF TRAINERS IN RCMAS

Six (6) representatives from Rice Competitiveness Enhancement Fund (RFEF) Farm Schools and Nine (9) Agricultural Extension Workers (AEWs) from selected municipalities in CALABARZON attended the Regional Training of Trainers (TOT) on Rice Crop Manager Advisory Service (RCMAS), held on June 15-18, 2021.

The TOT aims to further enhance the capacities of the participants to operate and use RCMAS to be able to train fellow rice technicians and farm school cooperators and generate RCM recommendations for farmers in their areas of coverage.



## DIGITAL FARMERS PROGRAM [DFP]

The Digital Farmers Program (DFP) is a project between the Agricultural Training Institute and Smart Communications, Inc., consisting of a ladderized capacity-building track that focused on empowering farmers through basic digital tools such as smartphone use, social media, agriculture applications and e-commerce platforms.

This year, the Center through its Information Services Section (ISS) continues to roll-out the introductory course, DFP 101, with a total of 40 farmers and youth from Teresa Rizal and selected towns in Laguna, benefitting from the one-day seminar.

Following the DFP 101 is the intermediate course, DFP 102 which tackles e-commerce platforms, advanced social media marketing and advanced agriculture applications. Three (3) batches of DFP 102 done using online platform [Zoom], were conducted in the localities of Gumaca and Lucena City in Quezon and Alfonso, Cavite. The training involved lectures and hands-on workshops in creating posters about farm produce and farm services using Canva application, creating a social media marketing plan, and using mobile money, overall, helping farmers adapt to digital shift.

\# INFORMATIONRESOURCES
 ENHANCING AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES EXTENSION kNOWLEDGE PRODUCTS AND SERVIGES

This thematic area deals with different extension clients/stakeholders' need for fast access of up-to-date agriculture, livestock and fisheries related information and knowledge. It includes development, translation, packaging and distribution of knowledge products through multimedia (print, broadcast, TV and internet) and all other modes of communication that fit the specific client system.

## CORPORATE-BUILDING THROUGH MEDIA PARTNERSHIPS



ATI-CALABARZON's partnership with Agripreneur TV program of GMA 7 continues to put spotlight on private extension farm partners of the Center in the region, in terms of promoting their farm produce \& services, and in showcasing of their best practices. The segment airs every Saturday at 5:30 in the morning where Learning Sites for Agriculture (LSA), Schools for Practical Agriculture (SPA) and Extension Service Providers (ESP) in the region are continuously being featured.

Below is the list of featured extension farm partners and schedule of segment airings:

## Airing Date

Jan. 2, 2021

Jan. 9, 2021

Jan. 16, 2021

Jan. 23, 2021

Jan. 30, 2021

Feb. 6, 2021

## Name of Farm

- Uma Verde Econature Farm, Candelaria, Quezon
- EV Sanchez Farm, Jalajala, Rizal
- Localroots Agricultural Farming and Services, Sariaya, Quezon
- Flor's Garden \& Nature Haven, Inc., Antipolo City,
- Quality Lifelong Learning Institute, Inc., Morong,
- Ka Mulong's Farm, Sariaya, Quezon
- RGEM Farms, Rosario, Batangas
- ABF Integrated Farms and Agribusiness Center, Inc. San Pablo City, Laguna



## CORPORATE-BUILDING THROUGH MEDIA PARTNERSHIPS

## Airing Date

Feb. 13, 2021

Feb. 20, 2021

Feb. 27, 2021

Mar. 6, 2021

Mar. 13, 2021
Apr. 24, 2021

Jun. 12, 2021

Jun. 19, 2021

Jun. 26, 2021
Jul. 10, 2021

Jul. 24, 2021

Jul. 31, 2021

Aug. 7, 2021

## Name of Farm

- Chad's Nature Farm, Mataas na Kahoy, Batangas
- Cordoves Integrated Education and Leisure Farm, Liliw, Laguna
- Nylove Farm, Kalayaan, Laguna
- CV Toreja Agri Enterprises, Ibaan, Batangas
- Paras Integrated Farm, Silang, Cavite
- Iglesias Farms, Malvar, Batangas
- Blancaflor Leisure Farm, Mataas na Kahoy, Batangas
- Milea Bee Farm, San Jose, Batangas
- Silan Agri Farm, Indang, Cavite
- Terra Verde Eco Farm, Maragondon, Cavite
- Laly's Farm Ville, Cavinti, Laguna
- Luciano's Nature Farm, Pangil, Laguna
- FarmShare Prime, Cavinti, Laguna

Aug. 14, 2021
Aug. 21, 2021
Aug. 28, 2021
Sept. 4, 2021
Sept. 11, 2021

Sept. 18, 2021

Oct. 2, 2021

Oct. 9, 2021
Nov. 6, 2021

- We Lead Integrated and Natural Farm (WIN FARM), Alfonso, Cavite
- AISPORA Workers Association, Naic, Cavite
- D'Constantinos Farm, Maragondon, Cavite
- P.D.O. Kawayan Farm, Pililla, Rizal
- Matt n Kayla Farm, Pangil, Laguna
- Flor and Daisy's Agricultural Farm, Sariaya, Quezon
- KASAMA Eco Farm, Calamba City, Laguna
- Barangay Burol Organic Agriculture Cooperative Farm, Calamba City, Laguna
- Oyayi Farm and Resort, Sariaya, Quezon
- Gorgeous Farms, Laurel, Batangas
- The Weekend Farmer, Alfonso, Cavite
- PG Farm, San Pascual, Batangas


## Local Media Partnerships

Assistant Center Director, Dr. Rolando V. Maningas, was interviewed by various local media in CALABARZON during the Kapihan sa PIA hosted by Philippine Information Agency (PIA) Quezon. Dr. Maningas shared the programs and services of ATI CALABARZON. The episode was aired on DWLC Radyo Pilipinas Lucena, Tagkawayan Teleradyo and via Facebook pages of Radyo Pilipinas Lucena, Philippine Information Agency (PIA) Quezon, Tagkawayan Teleradyo, Brigada Lucena and Idol Pinoy Southern Luzon Livestream on June 16, 2021.

The Center continues to work hand in hand with other several media outlets such as Radyo Pilipinas and PIA CALABARZON in bringing agri-related content to the public.

A copy of news articles on trainings and other activities of ATI-CALABARZON are being sent via
 email to local media for their own broadcast releases.


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## CORPORATE WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA MANAGEMENT

Delivering on our commitments to reach a wider audience and respond to public accountability, the Center maintains its strong presence in social media platforms and provides relevant agr-fishery information

This year, 92 news articles and $\mathbf{2 3 3}$ bid notices were posted on the Center's website(https://ati.da.gov.ph/ati-4a). Based on the analytics provided by ATI main office, the Center garnered a total of 47,760 webpage views, with a monthly average of 3,980 views.


## Facebook

Facebook continues to be an important tool for advocacy campaigns and public engagement for the Center's trainings and extension activities. Webinar offerings, highlights of activities conducted, episodes of School on the Air programs and technology tips are some of the content regularly posted on the page. The Center has succeeded in actively maintaining its Facebook page, with a total of 975 posts and $3,115,163$ Daily Total Reach for the whole year. As of December 2021, the page has 33,589 Total Likes and 38,965 Total Followers.

## Instagram

## aticalabarzon Follow $\vee \ldots$

The Center also maintains a corporate Instagram account in an effort to reach out and engage more youth into agriculture-related endeavors. The account has a total of 588 Followers and 529 posts to date.

## YouTube [ATI Calabarzon AgriStudio]



The YouTube channel of the Center is where farmers and enthusiasts can find various technology videos and webinars which can help them jumpstart their agri journey. For 2021 alone, 116 videos were uploaded on the channel. Episodes of the School on the Air programs of the Center, success stories, webinars, as well as some of the online activities are also being livestreamed using this platform. The AgriStudio Channel is gaining popularity, averaging 474 new subscribers monthly, with $\mathbf{1 6 , 6 5 8}$ subscribers to date.


Launching of ATI CALABARZON Viber Community and new Facebook Group


Exploring another way to reach out and interact with our clienteles, the Center launched the ATI CALABARZON Viber Community and Facebook Group. Strengthening the use of these online platforms was integral to ensure continuing communication in spite of the challenges on logistics and operations.

Anyone who wishes to stay updated on the latest offerings on training and extension activities of the Center can join the Viber and Facebook group.



## DEVELOPMENT AND DISTRIBUTION OF IEC MATERIALS



ATI Calabarzon through the Information Services Section produced publications: corporate brochure, two (2) issues of Siklab: Official Newsletter and Vicissitudes: Annual Accomplishment Report 2020. The Center also developed the Extension and Training Management Capability Development (ETMCD) Training Curriculum. This training curriculum serves as a comprehensive guide for trainers in capacitating Agricultural Extension Workers and partners from the National Agencies, State Colleges and Universities, Local Government Units, and the Private Sector, on effective extension and training management.

The Center also collaborated with extension partners in developing knowledge products: (1) Weedibles, Weedicinals Plus Edible Flowers and More with Flor's Garden \& Nature Haven, Inc.; (2) Farmer's Field School on Sustainable Pig Farming with Office of the Provincial Veterinarian - Laguna; (3) Pagkain mula sa Halamang-Ugat with MoCa Family Farm RLearning Center,

A total of 141,975 IEC materials were distributed to different clients and participants of trainings and other activities including FITS Centers and Kiosks.


## DOCUMENTATION OF SUCCESS STORIES

Success story documentation has become an important tool in communicating the impact of the Center's training and extension programs for various stakeholders. The stories of these program beneficiaries continue to inspire the public and serves as an avenue to promote their good agricultural practices.

## Quarter 1: Balitoc Fisherfolk and Farmers Association [BFFA]: Kabalikat sa Kahandaan, Kabalikat sa Sustenableng Pag-aalaga ng Baboy



Established in 2018, Balitoc Fisherfolk and Farmers Association (BFFA) is composed of families belonging to farmers and fisherfolks sectors living in Calatagan, Batangas. The association was formed after the conduct of ATI CALABARZON's Climate Resilience Agriculture (CRA) project, in collaboration with the local and provincial government of Batangas, Batangas State University, and other attached agencies.

The story features the adoption of various agricultural technologies such as sustainable pig farming to mitigate the effects of climate change.

## Quarter 2: Mga Kabataang 4-Her ng Barangay Potol, Masigasig na Isinusulong ang Agrikultura sa Komunidad




#### Abstract

After attending an ATI CALABARZON-led training entitled Binhi ng Pag-Asa Program, a group of young farmers who are members of 4-H Club at Barangay Potol, Tayabas City, Quezon puts up a community vegetable garden. Together, they navigate the course of their organization's livelihood, learn to manage their finances and gain self-confidence and leadership skills along the way. The members continue to uphold the values of $4-\mathrm{H}$ Club and serve as role models in their community.


## Quarter 3: Si Leo Casaclang: Huwaran ng Bagong Sibol na Kabataang Magsasaka



After graduating from college, Mr. Leo Manuel Casaclang, owner of Localroots Agricultural Farming and Services, Learning Site for Agriculture (LSA) of ATI CALABARZON in Sariaya, Quezon, immediately started farming at the age of 22 years old. As a millennial farmer, Leo pursues to discover new technologies, marketing strategies and technical knowledge in agriculture. Moreover, as a certified LSA of ATI CALABARZON, he trains youth on organic agriculture production and agro-entrepreneurship. As a young farmer entrepreneur, Leo continues to inspire and encourage more youth to venture into farming.

# Quarter 4: Pag-aalaga ng Baboy, Abot-kaya sa Sustenableng Pamamaraan 



With 21 active members, Pinagdanlayan Hog Raisers from Dolores, Quezon adopted the technology of Sustainable Pig Farming (SPF) in their hog raising after completing a Farmer's Field School (FFS) in 2017. After the course, the association received various projects and interventions from local and provincial government of Quezon.

Despite the threats of African Swine Fever (ASF) and COVID-19, the members continuously practice SPF in their own backyard and promote the technology to the community.

## OTHER FEATURED STORIES

## Bida sa RCEF Extension Program: Kuwentong Tagumpay ni G. Abner Javier

For its third year of implementation, the Rice Competitiveness Enhancement Fund (RCEF) Program, has impacted the lives of its beneficiaries. ATI CALABARZON features the story of Mr. Abner Javier, owner and Learning Site for Agriculture(LSA) cooperator of Javier Integrated Farm located in Calauan, Laguna.

As one of the Training of Trainer (TOT) graduates of the Center, Abner serves as a resource speaker and trainer to Farmers Field School (FFS) to TESDA scholars.


## Laguna Association of Mushroom Producers [LAMP]

A group of aspiring mushroom growers decided to form an association after attending a Season-long Training on Mushroom Production held by ATI-CALABARZON, in partnership with Laguna State Polytechnic University (LSPU) in Siniloan, Laguna. The association is operating in Mabitac, Laguna under the leadership of its President, Mr. Amador Sanchez. When they were starting, the group members were only producing and selling fresh oyster mushrooms. As years went by, they have ventured to processing and value-adding.


## Rural Improvement Club of Barangay San Cristobal

Rural Improvement Club (RIC) of Brgy. San Cristobal in Calamba City showcases urban agriculture technologies that continues to prove that space should not hinder one's interest in cultivating vegetables. The Club is a certified Learning Site of Agriculture and has won numerous awards, including Department of Agriculture's Gawad Saka (City Level). The group was also hailed as champion for Best Urban Garden in 2021 by ATI-CALABARZON.


## e-EXTENSION PROGRAM

ATI's e-Learning for Agriculture and Fisheries under the Philippine's Department of Agriculture e-extension Program proves to be more relevant in the digital age and the time of pandemic as there is a greater clamor for local food production and continuous learning.

The Information Services Section of the Center provided continuing assistance to individuals and groups interested to engage in agricultural activities by promoting its online courses at the e-Learning program. ATI- CALABARZON was awarded by the Information Division of the ATI Central Office during the IS Achievers' Awards for having the Highest Number of e-Learning Graduates among all 16 Regional Training Centers. Here is the summary of e-Learning enrollees and graduates per month:

| Month | Enrollees | Graduates |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| January | 71 | 71 |
| February | 81 | 0 |
| March | 171 | 185 |
| April | 149 | 15 |
| May | 1,192 | 71 |
| June | 303 | 381 |
| July | 63 | 101 |
| August | 850 | 947 |
| September | 294 | 615 |
| October | 70 | 141 |
| November | 18 | 0 |
| December | 3 | 12 |



This year, the Center also forged a partnership with Polytechnic University of the Philippines (PUP)-Mulanay campus and launched a benchmarking activity for the virtual "On-the-Job" training and internship program. Graduating students of BS-Agribusiness Management and Entrepreneurships were required to finish 10 e-courses. The program was also promoted in one episode of School-on-the-Air (SOA) on Rice Competitiveness Enhancement Fund (RCEF) as one of the tools for information dissemination.

Additionally, the following courses developed by webmasters of the Center were migrated to Articulate Storyline, making them more interactive and user-friendly:

[^0]
## TECHNO GABAY PROGRAM

The goal of the Techno Gabay Program (TGP) is to help hasten agricultural modernization by enhancing farmers' access to information and technologies as important input for decision making and entrepreneurial activities. ATI CALABARZON for its part, continues to support the goals of TGP, focusing on reaching clients even from the outskirt communities through the establishment of Farmers' Information and Technology Services (FITS) Kiosks and additional FITS Centers in the region.


## Capability Enhancement Trainings for FITS Staff



Due to travel and mobility restrictions imposed in light of the pandemic, activities under the Techno Gabay Program were conducted through hybrid and or full virtual meetings. This included some of the usual face-to-face meetings for the assessment of FITS Center establishment and other TGP activities.

Below is the schedule of the activities:

| Title of the Activity | Date | Modality |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Assessment of FITS Centers in the Implementation of Techno Gabay Program in Calabarzon: Plenary Workshop | August 12, 2021 | via Zoom |
| Assessment of FITS Centers in the Implementation of Techno Gabay Program in Calabarzon: Reorientation Meeting of FITS Managers | August 19, 2021 | via Zoom |
| Training on Social Media Optimization for Agricultural Extension | October 11-14, 2021 | via Zoom |
| Handang Magsasaka Siyentista: Training on Farm Risk Reduction and Management and Mental Wellbeing | October 19-21, 2021 | via Zoom |
| Techno Gabay Program Summit 2021 | December 1-3, 2012 | via FB Livestream |

## Handang Magsasaka Siyentista: Training on Farm Risk Reduction and Management and Mental Well-being

The effects of COVID-19 unquestionably raise concerns around its long-term impact on our mental health and wellness. The working class including those in the agriculture sector are vulnerable to this. To address this, the Center facilitated the three-day online training on "Handang Magsasaka Siyentista: Training on Farm Risk Reduction and Management and Mental Wellbeing."

The activity was participated by 20 Magsasaka Siyentista (MS) from various Farmers' Information and Technology Services (FITS) Centers in the region. Resource speakers from Cavite Center for Mental Health discussed the topic on the importance of mental health and well being.


## FITS Center Establishment and Evaluation of Magsasaka Siyentista



On November 2021, three FITS Centers were established: FITS Center in Victoria, Laguna, Mauban, Quezon and in San Luis, Batangas. The region has now a total of 64 FITS Centers with 94 Magsasaka Siyentista.

Supporting the initiatives of the Techno Gabay Program (TGP) and FITS Centers are MS or Farmer Scientists who are being tapped to collaborate in experimenting and promoting technologies in agriculture, livestock and aquatic resources.

This year, the following MS were evaluated and appointed to help carry out the services of their FITS Centers:


## FITS Bacoor, Cavite



June 23, 2021


FITS Imus, Cavite


Mr. Benjamin D. Bajo Fisheries/Seaweeds Mr. Roberto A. BulawanVegetables/ Root crops/ Pineapple Mr. Michael B. VillamenRice


Mr. Joselito L. Cubillejo - Atis
Mr. Bernard T. AnciadoStingless bee

Mr. Rady E. Soriano Aquaponics

Mr. Allan Agrimano High Value Crops


Mr. Nolasco L. Ilas Rice


## Establishment of FITS Kiosks

FITS Kiosks serve as an extension or satellite facility of the FITS Centers. Its main function is to provide ready access to Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials and services for farmers and other clients within the community. Some eligible applicants for the Support for FITS Kiosk Establishment are ATI-accredited Learning Sites for Agriculture (LSA), School for Practical Agriculture (SPA) and Accredited Extension Service Provider (ESP), State Universities and Colleges (SUCs), schools and institutions accredited by TESDA and other government or private-owned organizations willing to provide better access to agri-fishery information and technology services.

Six (6) FITS Kiosks were established this year:

1. Cavite State University, Indang, Cavite
2. University of Rizal System- Cardona Campus
3. Nylove Integrated Farm, Kalayaan, Laguna
4. Farmshare Prime,Cavinti, Laguna
5. Imperium Training Center Inc. Pangil, Laguna
6. Uma Verde Econature Farm Inc., Candelaria, Quezon


## Enhancement of FITS Centers under Rice Program



The Information Services Section in coordination with the Rice Program led the enhancement of two FITS Centers namely, FITS Gen. Nakar, Quezon and FITS Center San Juan, Batangas. Each FITS Center was provided funds to establish 3 FITS Kiosks in rice-area barangays in their locality. The virtual launching was held on November 17, 2021 via Zoom.

## 1. FITS Center Gen. Nakar, Quezon

Municipal Hall, Brgy. Anoling, Gen. Nakar, Quezon
Brgy. Magsikap, Gen. Nakar, Quezon
Brgy. Pisa, Gen.Nakar, Quezon

## 2. FITS Center San Juan, Batangas

Laiya Ibabao, San Juan, Batangas
Escribano, San Juan, Batangas
Libato, San Juan Batangas

## TGP Summit 2021

In recognition of the FITS Centers' efforts to adapt to changing landscape of agri-fishery extension services delitvery, the Center held its annual awarding ceremony for innovative and outstanding FITS Centers and Kiosks through the much anticipated, Techno Gabay Program (TGP) Summit.

Here are this year's winners:

| Contest Category | FITS Center Awardee |
| :--- | :--- |
| Best in Information and <br> Technology Services <br> Award 1st place: Bacoor City <br> 2nd place: Imus City <br> 3rd place: OPA-Quezon <br> Vlogsing Contest on <br> Magsasaka Siyentista <br> Best Practice 1st place: OpA Laguna <br> 2nd place: Guinayangan, Quezon <br> 3rd place: OPA Cavite <br> Best FITS Highlights of 1st place: Imus City, Cavite <br> 2nd place: Candelaria, Quezon  |  |
| 3rd place: OPA Quezon |  |




With the theme, Strengthening the Agricultural Extension through Digital Innovation, the Summit brought forth experts in the field of agri-extension information and technology delivery who are setting the pace towards digitalization.

Another highlight of the annual event was the virtual exhibit of FITS Accomplishment Posters.

Deviating from the usual presentation of the accomplishment posters, the Center utilized virtual reality, commonly known as VR to give the attendees a different viewing experience. For easy access, the VR was embedded at the ATI-CALABARZON website, https://ati.da.gov.ph/ati-4a/node/930.

## AGRITALK 2021 FEATURING AGRIWOMEN IN AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN CALABARZON



ATI-CALABARZON, in partnership with Manila Bulletin, Agriculture Magazine, and Smart Communications Inc. conducted an innovative take on AgriTalk. Initially, it is a series of free seminars promoting urban agriculture, featuring agribusiness success stories. The webinar which was held on March 26, 2021 featured the outstanding women in agriculture from the region, in support to the National Women's Month Celebration (NWMC).

Four (4) prominent and admirable women in agriculture sector served as resource speakers, namely:

General Manager of Cortijo de Palsabangon Farm Park and Restaurant Ms. Noriko Usui, Cavite State University (CvSU) Extension Director Dr. Almira G Magcawas, Municitpal Agriculture Officer of Silang, Cavite Ms. Adelia V. Poblete and Regional Executive Director, Ms. Vilma Dimaculangan of Department of Agriculture Regional Field Office (IV-A. The event was a roundtable discussion of notable contributions of women in the field of agriculture. It was livestreamed on the official Facebook page and YouTube channel of the Center, and cross posted by Agriculture Online and ATI Facebook page.

## INNOVATIVE EXTENSION MODALITIES FOR WIDER PUBLIC REACH AND CAPACITY-BUILDING



Despite the operational challenges brought about by COVID-19 restrictions, the Center remains strong on its commitment to deliver timely and relevant information on agri-fishery to various clientele. This year saw the launch of several programs that were made possible through collaborations with partners from the local and private sectors.

## AGRISTUDIO LIVE: ATING TALAKAYAN SA CALABARZON



ATI Calabarzon aired two (2) seasons of AgriStudio Live: ATIng Talakayan sa Calabarzon, an online program showcasing the programs and services of ATI Calabarzon and partner institutions from the Department of Agriculture Regional Field Office IV-A, Agricultural Program Coordinating Offices, Cavite State University - Extension Services and Office of the Provincial Agriculturist - Batangas for season 1. Dr. Rolando V. Maningas, Assistant Center Director, served as the program host from July - September 2021.

## ATING BALITA



ATIng Balita is a 5 -minute live news beat where Local Government Unit, State University Colleges and extension partners of ATI CALABARZON serve as CorresFARMdents or field reporters, giving the latest happenings in their areas of coverage. It started airing daily in August, at the peak of the second wave of Covid-19 cases in the country when the IATF called for a stricter lockdown implementation. The program later on was livestreamed on a weekly basis until the 1st week of November 2021.

It was aired live via official Facebook page and AgriStudio Youtube channel of ATI Calabarzon.

Meanwhile, season 2 of AgriStudio Live: ATIng Talakayan sa Calabarzon highlighted the farm products and services of Learning Sites for Agriculture (LSA), Schools for Practical Agriculture (SPA) and Extension Service Provider (ESP) of ATI Calabarzon. Mr. Roy Roger Victoria, Media Production Specialist II, was the program host. Season 2 aired from October to December 2021 via official Facebook page and AgriStudio Youtube channel of ATI Calabarzon and DZJV 1458 Radyo Calabarzon, a local partner radio station located in Calamba City, Laguna.

A total of $\mathbf{2 4}$ episodes were aired in AgriStudio Live: ATIng Talakayan sa Calabarzon season 1 and 2.


## agricultural technologies through internet at home cati@home]




One of the innovations of ATI CALABARZON was the series of seminars conducted through live streaming on its official Facebook page, the Agricultural Technologies through Internet at Home or ATI@Home was developed by the Center in response to the lockdowns and community quarantines brought by the COVID-19 pandemic last 2020 to continue providing the stakeholders with the latest trends in agriculture, even at home. Now on its 2nd year, the season 2 of the ATI@Home focused on the Learning Site for Agriculture (LSA) Product Series, where the different products of the partner LSAs of the Center were showcased. Five (5) episodes of the webinar were aired this year: TSOKOLATE Webinar featuring Four K Kakao Farm in Gumaca, Quezon; "Natural Juices" featuring Ms. Normita "Nonette" Perez of Laly's Farmville in Cavinti, Laguna; "Gatas" featuring Mr. John Paul Del Rosario of FarmShare Prime in Cavinti, Laguna; "Pitahaya" featuring EV Sanchez


Farm in Jalajala, Rizal; and "Kabute" featuring Mr. Francis Rod T. Domincel of Joni and Susan Agroshop and Integrated Farms in San Pablo City, Laguna.

Aside from the ATI@Home series, the Center also conducted two (2) additional webinars this year: "Seguridad sa Paghahayupan para sa Ligtas na Pagkain sa Hapag-kainan," a three-day webinar series under the Livestock Program that discussed the topics on African Swine Fever (ASF) with Biosecurity, the Batangas Experience, Avian Influenza with Biosecurity and Food/Meat Safety for the General Public, in celebration of the 1st Livestock and Poultry Month; and "Growing Vanilla Planifolia: The Organic Way!", the webinar on growing Vanillla Planifolia using natural/organic techniques, in celebration of the Organic Agriculture month.


One of ATl's tools of instruction for delivering a complete package of technology to a massive number of clienteles is the School-on-the-Air (SOA) program. This year, the Center makes history as 3,051 rice farmers, extension workers and students taking up agriculture-related courses graduate from two SOA programs offered.

Palay-Aralan: Makabagong Pagsasaka sa Himpapawid, a SOA on smart rice agriculture practices aired 32 one hour episodes for three months, over six partner radio stations:

| Partner Radio Station | Schedule of Airing |
| :---: | :---: |
| DZJV 1458 Radyo |  |
| CALABARZON |  | M\&W, 11:00AM-12:00NN

The program was also livestreamed at ATI CALABARZON Facebook and YouTube channel, DA-RFO IV-A and PIA CALABARZON Facebook page. The program featured experts from various DA-attached agencies and partner institutions.

In order to monitor the listenership status of the participants, several innovative strategies were implemented, including:

Provision of recorded episodes in audio and AV format for areas with weak radio and internet signal. Farmers would then watch or listen to the episodes at the comfort of their homes or with fellow farmers within their community.

Simultaneous livestreaming of the program across three FB pages makes it more accessible to learners who are tech-savvy, and do not own radio sets at home. This also makes learning easier as participants are able to rewatch the episodes.

## Creation of Facebook Group and Facebook Messenger

 for easier communication with LGU and SUC coordinators. Learners were also encouraged to share a photo of themselves on the FB group while watching the program and share learnings from the episodes.Interactive program segments where farmers would feel more involved in the program. AgriBida segment features farmers' stories, while Palay-Aralan text promo serves as a recap of every episode for the learners.

Meanwhile, the School-on-the-Air (SOA) under the RCEF program dubbed SOA on RCEF ATIng Ani at Kita: Talakayang RCEF Program sa Calabarzon, accomplished 20 episodes from April 16 to August 27, 2021 every Friday at 9:00 to 10:00 in the morning. It was aired over Radyo Natin Laguna and KISS FM and livestreamed via official FB page and YouTube channel of ATI Calabarzon. Participants of this SOA included rice farmers, RCEF beneficiaries, extension workers, teachers and youth. The provinces covered were Cavite, Laguna and Quezon.



This thematic area ensures the strengthening and improvement of the strategic plans and schemes in the mechanisms of planning, monitoring and evaluation, budget management of human resources and infrastructure and facilities. These components are the cornerstone of extension that evolve and adapt to the constantly changing agriculture landscape.

Apart from the consultations and needs assessment, another important part of project management cycle is the monitoring and evaluation. This year, the Center collaborated with two State Universities to evaluate and assess the impact of implemented extension projects.

CONSULTATIVE MEETINGS


Despite the ongoing Covid -19 pandemic, the goal of synchronizing Agriculture and Fisheries Expansion plans and programs cannot be thwarted. ATI Calabarzon led the annual Regional Consultative Meeting on February 11, 2021 at the ATI RTC IV-A Training Hall, Brgy. Lapidario, Trece Martires City, Cavite. It was attended by representatives from National Government Agencies, State Universities and Colleges, Local Government Units and Private Sectors which include Philippine Crop Insurance Corporation (PCIC), Fertilzer and Pesticide Authority (FPA), PhilRice, PHilMech, Philippine Cocounut Authority (PCA), Office of the Provincial Veterinarian, Office of the Provincial Agriculturist, Batangas State University (BatSU), University of the Philippines Los Baños (UPLB), South Luzon State University (SLSU), University of Rizal System, Cavite State University and two of the Extension Service Providers: the MoCA Family Farm RLearning Center Inc. and Teofely Nature Farms Inc.

The said activity highlighted the FY 2020 physical performance, ATI's trust and priorities and the Center's plans and activities of each banner program for 2021 and identify possible areas of collaboration among the pillars of extension. Apart from the Regional consultation, the Center also held several provincial consultation meetings attended by Municipal/City Agriculturists and representatives from the Office of the Provincial Agriculture. The said activity gave an opportunity to present trainings for 2021 aimed to further capacitate the Agricultural Extension Workers (AEW) in their locality.

Meanwhile, the Center also headed the regular Regional Agri-Fishery Extension Network (RAFEN) meetings every quarter, participated by the representatives from the three pillars of the extension namely National Government Agencies (NGAs), State Universities and Colleges(SUCs) and the private sector, with the aim of strengthening and synergizing the extension system. The agenda discussed at the meetings were the

ATI's Policy Direction, the complementation considering that Executive Order 138 also known as Mandanas Ruling set to be implemented in 2022, briefer for Magna Carta for AEWs and the Finalization of the Memorandum of Agreement within members including the designation of a permanent Agency Focal Person. The quarterly meetings transpired on March 16, June 4, August 25 and November 24, 2021, respectively.


## STAFF DEVELOPMENT

Pursuant to Memorandum Circular No. 04 s. 2020 of the Civil Service Commission which implements the development of Mental Health Policy and Program for all workplaces, ATI-CALABARZON conducted three (3) batches of Staff Development Activity with the theme "Journeying Together toward Eunoia" on October 21-22, November 11-12 and November 25-26, 2021 at Don Leon Nature Farm, San Juan, Batangas. The activity aims to raise awareness on the importance of mental health and protect the overall physical and mental state of the 49 ATI Calabarzon regular and job order employees of the Center. It highlighted various mental health issues including recognition of self-worth, emotional and psychological issues as well as management or mechanisms toward better mental health. It also included breathing and relaxation exercises such as basic yoga exercises. The Center believes that good mental health enables the potential of competent staff to work productively to continue to provide excellent extension services.


## NATIONAL EXTENSION AGENDA PROGRAM [NEAP]

The Center conducted a Provincial Consultation-Workshop for the Development of National Extension Agenda and Program for 2022-2028 in CALABARZON. The activity was conducted to review and update the priority agenda for the country's AFE system, specifically in Region IV-A, and to ensure the relevance of the current and future context of the Agriculture and Fishery Extension (AFE) sector. It aims to gather various ideas in identifying the problems faced in the implementation of extension programs as well as to get various suggestions and recommendations to address the identified problems. Each province in the region consists of two (2) days of consultation in which the first day was attended only by government and non-government Extension Service Providers consisting of State Universities and Colleges and Private Academic Institutions, Local Government Unit, National Government Agencies and Private Sector while the second day was intended for the Clients along the Value Chain consisting of Farmer-leaders/Federation Presidents, Irrigators and Organized farmers/fisherfolks groups belonging to different value chain segments.


## MIDYEAR AND ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REVIEW



The ATI-CALABARZON conducted performance assessment semi-annually to ensure that implementation of extension activities is in accordance with standards. The main objective of the activity is to review and assess the over-all operations of Center semestrally.

The Midyear Performance Review and Assessment was conducted on June 23-24, 2021 at the ATI RTC IV-A Training Hall, Brgy. Lapidario, Trece Martires City,

Cavite. It was participated by the technical and administrative employees of the Center. Each banner program focal person reported the status and results along with an evaluation of the conducted training and activities. In addition, the Center also had an orientation on "Korespondensiya Opisyal" in accordance with the provisions of Executive Order No. 335 series of 1988 requiring all government departments and agencies to use the Filipino language in all official communication, transactions and correspondence. As part of the necessary steps, a committee was formed to take the lead in implementing the said undertaking.

Meanwhile, the Annual Performance Review and Assessment was held on December 20-21, 2021 at Cortijo de Palsabangon Farm Park and Restaurant, Pagbilao, Quezon. In addition to the physical accomplishments throughout the year, good practices, challenges faced and the strategies implemented in the extension activities were discussed. The Center also fully utilized the downloaded funds/cash for FY 2021 with 100\% absorption capacity in Regular and Rice Competitiveness Enhancement Fund.

Even in the new normal, the Center delivered remarkable performance in terms of meeting physical and financial targets through the combined efforts of competent staff from administrative and technical sections.

## MONITORING AND EVALUATION

RESULT-BASED AND MONITORING EVALUATION (RBME]


Monitoring is performed on a regular basis as an integral part of the project implementation. On the other hand, evaluation is conducted before, during and after the project implementation to determine the impact of ATI's interventions. These two activities enable ATI CALABARZON to provide relevant and appropriate extension interventions to its clienteles.

Results-Based Monitoring and Evaluation (RBME) focuses on measuring the outcomes of the interventions implemented or completed. This year, a total of 80 beneficiaries from FY 2018 were interviewed for the RBME. Based on the interview results, extension interventions of the Center conducted for FY 2018 proved to be successful and effective for the beneficiaries of the Region, thus providing the actual and intended results as envisioned upon the development of such interventions. Results also showed the stakeholders' increase in income and betterment of livelihood.

## CASE STUDY FOR THE RICE COMPETITIVENESS ENHANCEMENT FUND -RICE EXTENSION SERVICES PROGRAM (RCEF-RESP)



The ATI-CALABARZON as one of the implementers of the Rice Competitiveness Enhancement Fund-Rice Extension Services Program (RCEF-RESP) conducted a case study to the farmer-respondents of the baseline survey last 2018. The study was carried out in collaboration with the Laguna State Polytechnic University-Siniloan Campus. The case study was conducted from May-June 2021. The study focused on the farmers' access to extension services and adoption of rice production technologies based on knowledge and skills gained from the extension services provided. It also looked closely at the rice production practices, including postharvest losses and marketing costs of farmer-respondents.

Findings showed that $100 \%$ of the respondents experienced positive impact in their livelihood from the program. The technologies learned in PalayCheck System influenced the production practices applied in the field. Through RCEF, an increase in yield, ranging from $3-4$ tons $/$ ha at $50 \mathrm{~kg} / \mathrm{bag}$ was also recorded. Significant decrease in cost of production due to free seed assistance and lower labor cost was also observed. Agricultural extension services proved to be an effective arm in delivering technologies to enhance capabilities of farmers.

## PAMAYANANG LAGING HANDA!ESTABLISHMENT OF CLIMATE RESILIENT AGRICULTURE [CRA] IN BARANGAY MAGSIKAP, GENERAL NAKAR, QUEZON: AN EVALUATION



Four (4) years after the implementation of Climate-Resilient Agriculture (CRA) Community Project in Brgy. Magsikap, Gen. Nakar, Quezon, ATI CALABARZON and Southern Luzon State University (SLSU) partnered to conduct the evaluation of the said project.

The evaluation primarily focused on evaluating the increased adoption of the Climate Resilient Agriculture practices provided to the selected beneficiaries of the project. Moreover, the study also looked into the satisfaction level and other practices that helped improve the sustainability of the project.


Results of the evaluation revealed that the beneficiaries have increased their adoption of CRA practices and expressed interest to continue fish processing. Furthermore, their resourcefulness is evident as they resort to alternatives and other practices as their coping mechanisms for climate change.

The study also found out that the village-level coco coir processing is the suitable climate resilient technology in the locale. A training on marketing would help ensure sustainability of the livelihood projects. Further support to the appropriate climate resilient technologies is also recommended in order to maximize the potential of the beneficiaries.


The ageing farmers is one of the problems in Philippine agriculture, as of 2021, the average age of farmers is around 53 years old. ATI continues its efforts to increase the attractiveness of agriculture and fisheries education through implementation of various scholarship programs for capable and deserving children of farmers and fishers. Fourteen (14) EAsY Agri Scholars of ATI Calabarzon are in their second level of college. Among the scholars, eleven (11) are from

Laguna State University, two (2) from Southern Luzon State University and one (1) from the University of Rizal System and are taking Agriculture related courses including eight (8) BS Agriculture, four (4) BS Agricultural Biosystems Engineering, one (1) BS Agricultural Business Management and one (1) BS Forestry. Each scholar maintains a Grade Point Average (GPA) of at least 2.5 or its equivalent and no 'Incomplete' mark in any subject at the time of the scholarship grant period.

In addition to monthly monitoring, the Center conducts the semestral 'Online Kumustahan' for updates of the students' educational status. The scholars also share their thoughts and insights, particularly their strategies on how they continue to learn amidst the pandemic. Also, to ensure they are healthy and equipped for their academic needs, the Center distributed last February some hygiene kits and prepaid load cards in support for their online classes.

FILIPINO YOUNG FARMERS INTERNSHIP PROGRAM CFYFIP]


The Filipino Young Farmers Internship Program (FYFIP) is one of the programs spearheaded by the Taiwan Economic Cultural Office (TECO), Manila Economic Cultural Office (MECO) and Agricultural Training Institute. The program aims to encourage and provide opportunities to train young people in the field of agriculture abroad to become "globally competitive" young farmers.

After completing the five (5) months of training in various fields, three (3) young farmers from CALABARZON qualified to the FYFIP and were very fortunate to be sent to Taiwan. The young farmers are as follows: Avi Mark Puntanar from San Pablo City, Laguna, Keith Ryzon Ceñidoza from Tanay and Jayson Hernandez from Antipolo, both from Rizal province.

In total, 30 young farmers will undergo the Filipino Young Farmers Internship Program in Taiwan. The interns will spend the next eleven (11) months of internship at their respective designated "farm sites". It is expected that upon their return they will be able to share with their fellow youth what they have learned in the said program and once more prove that "the youth is the hope of the nation."

## Agricultural Training Institute Region IV-A

## Brgy. Lapidario, Trece Martires City, Cavite

Organizational Chart



## NCE HIGHLIGHTS 2021





[^0]:    1. Lika! Usap Tayo: Effective Human Communication and Human Relations
    2. Taste the Creamiest Cream Dory: Online Course on Pangasius Culture
    3. Auspicious, Vandaceous: Growing Vanda and Vandaceous Orchids
