



Agricultural Training Institute - CALABARZON



Vicissitudes

Annual Accomplishment Report
2020

About the Cover

Year 2020 was the end of the decade and it should have been spectacular! But on the contrary, we were beset by unforeseen circumstances that startled the whole world. Nevertheless, we have to accept the **VICISSITUDES** of life as part of an endless journey.



“VICISSITUDES” is synonymous to change, alteration, transformation or metamorphosis.

The ATI-CALABARZON’s journey was bumpy, winding and wearisome. It underwent various transformation in order to adapt to the unexpected phenomenon. Because of the concerted efforts of the staff and their extension partners, goals and objectives set were achieved and even exceeded their targets.

We upheld the integrity of public service despite the pandemic and catastrophic events by producing quality outputs, maximizing capabilities and potentials of extension partners, discovering innovative extension modalities and sustaining harmony within and outside the institution.

Moving forward in unison, with zest and optimism, as we do our part as dedicated public servant, we fervently pray...

“Lord, continue to protect us and the Filipino people as a whole. Pacify and give us wisdom to accept the things that we can not change and the things that we need to change. May we bring along the lessons of the past to make us more resilient and compassionate.

With your Divine Intervention and guidance, make 2021 a safer, healthier and better year for all of us.” AMEN

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Agricultural Training Institute
Regional Training Center IV-A

ATI
CALABARZON

OUR VISION

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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ATI'S CORE VALUES

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."

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Message from the Center Director



ATI CALABARZON continues to deliver quality extension and training services to various stakeholders in the agriculture and fishery sector. Facing the challenging year head-on and in unison, the dedicated men and women of the Center achieved notable accomplishments, guided by the Institute's mandate and vision for Filipino farmers and various stakeholders.

We are pleased to highlight in this report the innovations and programs delivered in response to the changing landscape of training and extension delivery, maximizing digital tools to reach a wider audience.

Our extension partners in the region including the NGAs (National Government Agencies), State Universities and Colleges, local and national media, private sector and the Local Government Units (LGUs) enable the Center to fulfill its commitment to bring excellent extension services in the region. Hence, we pledge to ensure strong ties and create more meaningful partnerships in the years to come.



MARITES PIAMONTE-COSICO
Center Director



ATI CALABARZON under the *New Normal*

The Philippine agriculture had a challenging year in 2020, with recent shocks including adverse weather events, outbreaks of foodborne illness, African swine fever and the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic highlighting some of the vulnerabilities in the agro-food system.

With the concerns brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic and the new thrust and priorities to address it, Department of Agriculture Secretary William Dar introduced policy shifts in governing food systems to achieve the overarching goal of achieving food security in the country.

These policy shifts are in line with the new normal era and aligned with interventions under the Plant, Plant, Plant Program. This is to address the negative impacts made on the country's food systems, the disruption of agricultural value chain systems and the movement of food items, and the reduced household food security.

For the Agricultural Training Institute, this meant re-programming and re-aligning of funds to support the Department's priority program and changes in program and activity implementation. All activities that require face-to-face interactions should strictly follow the stringent social distancing measures and that alcohol, sanitizers and other hygienic supplies be provided to the participants during the activity.

In adherence to prohibiting mass gatherings and limiting face-to-face sessions, the Center maximized digital and extension modalities such as webinars, blended learning approaches, e-Learning courses, and social media.

The year also highlights the Center's efforts on strengthened Urban Agriculture Program that aims to secure food for urban families by encouraging them to produce their own food such as vegetables, and use it for household consumption.

Extension LEADS

The Institute including its network of Regional Training Centers is guided by the enhanced Agriculture and Fisheries Extension Strategic Framework which is Extension **LEADS**.



Figure 1. AFE Strategic Framework (2020-2022)

Extension LEADS focus on four major extension services under the AFMA namely: training, **[LEARN]**, technology demonstration **[EXHIBIT]**, farm or business advisory services **[ADVISE]**, and information, education and communication services **[DISSEMINATE]**. A thematic area focusing on governance **[SUPPORT]** was added for extension policy, planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, and resource management.



THEMATIC AREA 1: **LEARN**

Strengthening Competency and
Competitiveness Through Capability Building

This thematic area is focused on the provision of training services. This aims to capacitate the AEWs, farmers, fisherfolk, rural women, youth, and other stakeholders along the value chain to adopt innovative, sustainable, productive, and new techniques in social and production technologies of farming and fishing. The thematic area encourages the holistic approach in delivering training services through the enhancement of training services from the development of the curriculum and agents of extension, effective modalities, techniques and strategies to the sustainability of interventions.

Under Thematic 1, the Center conducted a total of **93 trainings** and other capacity building activities with a **4,335 individuals served** within the region.

As an answer and strategy to adapt to the new normal brought by the pandemic, the Center developed new ways to continue providing excellent extension service for its stakeholders. This year marked the start of conducting trainings and other activities through blended approach, that included canned or pre-recorded discussion of topics added with online live dialogue with the respective resource persons, thus minimizing the need to have a face-to-face interaction with the participants in compliance to the country's health protocols for safety and protection of the staff and participants.

Forty-two (**42**) activities of the Center were conducted using this approach. Additionally, eighteen (**18**) activities were carried-out using online delivery which provided real-time discussion of topics by the respective subject matter experts by maximizing the use of social media, Facebook, and creating private groups where the course was broadcasted. Furthermore, thirty-three activities were conducted using the conventional face-to-face or classroom discussions, especially those trainings that required highly technical hands-on workshops.

Regular Program

Alongside the delivery of agricultural technologies through its banner programs, the Agricultural Training Institute also delivers capacity development activities for other stakeholders of the region. The Center conducted a total of **27 activities** and served **1,821 stakeholders** under the Regular Program. These activities include AgriWomen 2020, Capacity Development for Need-based Interventions, Mentoring and Coaching on Online Delivery of Training Courses, Training on Value-Chain Development, and two (2) batches of Technical Capability Training on Farm Mechanization for Farm Machinery Recipients,

Additionally, eleven (**11**) episodes of Online Live Seminars – pioneered this year with the use of live broadcast discussions through social media platforms: Training on Urban Agriculture for Kids with Provision of Starter Kits, Training on Urban Agriculture for Women with Provision of Starter Kits, Training on Urban Agriculture for LGBTQ with Provision of Starter Kits, Training on CRA Success Story Writeshop, Training on Urban Agriculture for PWD with Provision of Starter



Kits, Training on Urban Agriculture for IPs with Provision of Starter Kits, Training on Coconut by-products Development for CRA beneficiaries and Awareness Campaign (AgriTalk) with After Training Support.

The highlight of the Regular program this year was the conduct of Kapatid Agri Mentor Me Program (KAMMP) Online. The activity aimed to nurture a community of dynamic, competitive and sustainable agripreneurs that is aligned with the Philippine government's thrust of inclusive growth and provide a platform for existing and aspiring agripreneurs to learn and be inspired by the entrepreneurial journey of the mentors.

KAMMP Online was a collaborative project of the Philippine Center for Entrepreneurship - Go Negosyo and ATI CALABARZON. It was participated by 30 entrepreneurs and aspiring entrepreneurs from different FITS centers in the region. The training ran for nine weeks (9) on a weekly session lasting for five hours each. A 10-day one-on-one online coaching was a part of its strategies as each participant was also required to prepare and present his and her business improvement plan.

Rural-Based Organizations Program



For this year, the RBO Program conducted five (5) batches of Urban Agriculture Seminars with provision starter kits, recording a total of 100 individuals trained, which were part of the Center's approach in the promotion of urban agriculture in the region. The activities were conducted in Silang, Cavite; Pila, Laguna; Padre Garcia, Batangas; Tayabas, Quezon;

and Morong, Rizal. The participants of these activities are members of the 4H Club of the said municipalities, in support to the establishment of the program, "The Youth in Agriculture" that integrates ATI's initiatives on youth and rural communities. This new program aims to strengthen and develop the competencies of the youth and to encourage them to engage in agriculture, in line with the DA's thrust to involve the youth to pursue innovations in agriculture.

Corn Program



Corn farming was one of the important aspects of agriculture in the Philippines with corn being one of the staple foods of the country. This year, six **(6) capacity building activities** were conducted and **120 individuals** were served under the Corn Program. There were two (2) batches of Refresher Courses on FSTP, two (2) batches of FSTP Phase III and two (2) batches of Trainings on Barangay Level Corn-Based Farming System with After Training Support. Those activities were designed to capacitate the farmers with knowledge on soil sampling and analysis, corn-based farming systems, integrated nutrient management, integrated pest management and marketing.

Organic Agriculture Program

In support to the goal of providing safe and chemical-free produced food for the Filipinos, the Organic Agriculture Program conducted a total of **10 activities** with a summary of 215 individuals served. The activities included two (2) batches of Training on OA Production Technologies - Farmer Level with Provision of Starter Kits, Urban Organic Agriculture with Provision of Starter Kits, two (2) batches of Training on Organic Green Corn Production with Provision

Livestock Program



With the goal of providing additional source of income for the farmers, the Livestock Program conducted four (4) trainings with a total of 144 individuals trained. These activities included: Training on Fabrication of Improvised Farm Tools and Equipment focused on identifying and fabrication of alternative farm equipment using indigenous materials that will greatly help reduce production cost, Training on Animal Health Care and Management for BAHW, Back to Basic Advocacy Seminar – a series of seminars conducted on each province that provided detailed information on free-range chicken and swine production technologies, and production trainings with after training support such as chickens and starter feeds.



of Starter Kits, two (2) batches of Training on Organic Green Corn Production with Provision of Starter Kits, two (2) batches of Training on Organic Free-Range Chicken Production with Provision of Starter Kits, Extension Initiatives Focused for Marginalized Groups – a training on organic agriculture production and introduction of farming as a business with additional starter kits exclusively for the Indigenous People of the Antipolo City, Rizal, and Mobile Organic Tiangge.

Apart from the mentioned activities, the program also conducted one (1) batch of Farmers' Field School (FFS) on Organic Agriculture Production.

High Value Crops Development Program



In response to the effects of the pandemic to our country, the DA launched its Plant, Plant, Plant Program this year, which encouraged every household to establish their own farm that will provide food for their table. In relation to this, the Center's HVCD Program accomplished a total of **15 activities** which included: four (4) batches of Collaborative Extension Projects with LSA/SPA/ESP, two (2) batches of Seminar on HVCDP with Extension Support, five (5) batches of Collaborative Extension Projects with LGU, two (2) batches of Free Seminars and Broadcast on Urban Gardening with After Training Support and Establishment of Community Gardens. These activities under the HVCD program served a total of **599 individuals**.

Furthermore, to support our local frontliners during the course of the lockdowns, several of these activities were conducted for our Armed Forces specifically our army men from Camp Riego de Dios, Tanza, Cavite; General Macario Sakay, Los Baños, Laguna; and Camp JP Razon, Nasugbu, Batangas. The sustainability of these programs for our AFP was ensured through a Memorandum of Partnership among ATI CALABARZON through its Center Director, the Agricultural Program Coordinating Offices (APCOs) and the Commanding Officers of the mentioned bases.



Rice Program



One of the main focus of the Department of Agriculture this year was to enhance the knowledge, skills and capacities of the rice farmers of the country. In support to this, the Rice Program had a total of 20 activities for the year with a total of **481 individuals** trained.

There were two (2) batches of Training Of Trainers On Climate Resiliency and Farm Business School, Training of Trainers for New Local Farmer Technicians (LFT), two (2) batches of Refresher Trainings for LFTs, six (6) batches of Refresher Courses/ Capability Enhancement for Farmers with Provision of Extension Support, Refresher Course/ Capability Enhancement AEWs/Farmers and other rice stakeholders, four (4) batches of Technical Briefing for Farmers with Provision of Extension Support, Training on Rice Advisory Services, Rice Summit in Support to National Rice Awareness Month and two (2) batches of Rice Crop Manager Briefings.

Rice Competitiveness Enhancement Program (RCEP)

Another strategy of the Department of Agriculture to subsidize farm machineries, low-cost seeds and farm inputs, extension services and credit program to our rice farmers was the provision of Rice Competitiveness Enhancement Fund aimed at providing the farmers with additional fund for the development of their farms. With its support for the increase in rice productivity and income of rice farmers, the Center conducted seven (7) activities with a total of **855 stakeholders** under its RCEF program.

These activities included: Refresher Course for Seed Growers, three (3) batches of Information Caravans/Technical Briefings, School-On-Air and two (2) batches of Training of Trainers (TOT) on Production of High-Quality Inbred Rice Seeds, one of which was in partnership with the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) – CALABARZON and Villar SIPAG Farm School.

Additional Activities of the Center



Apart from the targeted activities, the Center also conducted a total of **16 activities** to accommodate the additional request of the stakeholders. These activities include: Seminar on Urban Gardening, Farmer-Scientists RDE Training Program Training of Trainers (FSTP TOT) w/ Agricultural Inputs, Live Seminar on Fish Processing, Regional Training of Trainers on Strengthening the Capability of Agricultural Extension System for the Agricultural Biotechnology, Digital Farmers Program (DFP) 101, Training Course on Blogging and Vlogging, Seminar on Sustainable Mushroom Production and Processing and the 1st ever Ekstensyonistang OA – a quiz bee intended to acknowledge the importance of the ATI's partnership with the Agricultural Extension Workers (AEWs) of the

region that included the Philippine National Standards (PNS) on OA, OA Act of 2010 or Republic Act (RA) 10068 and current events. These activities served a total of **713 individuals**

In support to the National Rice Awareness Month (NRAM) with the theme, "Grow Local. Buy Local. Eat Local," the Center conducted various contests for the stakeholders of the region. These activities were: "Awit Mo; Isayaw Mo: A Tiktok Challenge" – a showcase of talents in singing and dancing, as popularized by the android application TikTok; PALAYtulaan – video competition featuring the young farmers' brilliance in spoken poetry; and "OA na Kompetisyon, RICEponsableng Institution" – a friendly competition that exhibited and tested the wits, stock knowledge, strategies and teamwork among the staff of ATI Region IV-A.





THEMATIC AREA 2: **EXHIBIT**

Modeling Technologies, Best Agriculture and Fisheries
Extension Practices and Innovations

This thematic area is focused on the provision of technology demonstration services. This is the most effective way to introduce and showcase the success of a new and innovative technology or practice, its processes, techniques, and end results to individuals and communities.

This thematic area encourages innovations to thrive as new farming systems are applied and integrated as a result of exhibited demonstrations. Further, this serves as a platform for farmers and fisherfolk to feedback on-farm problems to extension workers and researchers as different technologies and practices are being demonstrated and tested in their farms.

Conduct of Virtual LSA/SPA/ESP Farm Evaluation



Transitioning into the new normal era due to COVID19 has triggered a sudden paradigm shift in our everyday life, including the way the Center conducted validation and evaluation activities. Remote monitoring and other activities became the standard practice to ensure continuity of procedures and processes of LSA and SPA establishment and enhancement, amidst the pandemic. Thus, the Partnerships and Accreditation Services Section (PASS) came up with guidelines for the conduct of virtual field validation.

In view of this, the availability of online platforms (e.g. Facebook Messenger, Skype, Zoom, etc.) to conduct video conferences during virtual validations, and the presence of an AEW from the LGU where the farm applicant is located were deemed vital during the field validation. Majority of LSAs and SPAs certified this year were validated virtually.

Certified Learning Sites for Agriculture (LSAs)

An LSA is defined as a farm practicing applicable agricultural technologies, employing doable farming strategies and operating successfully, thus, worthy of emulation. The farmer/farm family is relatively advanced compared to the rest of the farmers. For 2020, ATI Calabarzon has certified the following farms as LSAs:

No.	Name of Farm	Location	Cooperator
1	Love of Lilia Nature Farm	Brgy. Lumampung Balagbag, Indang, Cavite	Haydee J. Navarez
2	Bagnos Learning Center	Brgy. Behia, Tiaong, Quezon	Emma M. Alday
3	P.D.O Kawayan Farm	Brgy. Halayhayin, Piliña, Rizal	Veronica A. Olin
4	WESTB Institute of Technical Skills	Brgy. Dalig, Teresa, Rizal	Arsenio B. Lim
5	Joni and Susan Agro Shop and Integrated Farm	Brgy. San Ignacio, San Pablo City, Laguna	Jonathan D. Sanchez
6	Encarnacion Farm	Brgy. Sta Lucia, Dolores, Quezon	Ma. Magdalena R. Ripas
7	Vacille Farm	Brgy. Masalukot 2, Candelaria, Quezon	Khordia Lenci E. Ona
8	Barangay Buroi Organic Agriculture Cooperative Farm	Brgy. Buroi, Calamba City, Laguna	Barangay Buroi Organic Agriculture Cooperative (BBOACo)
9	Quindoza's Farm	Brgy. Calumpang, Tayabas City, Quezon	Rosa Maria F. Quindoza
10	BTC Farms	Brgy. Lawigue, Tayabas City, Quezon	Floro Cataniag
11	PG Farm	Brgy. Ilat South, San Pascual, Batangas	Patricinio V. Gomez
12	El Royale Farming School	Brgy. Opias, Tayabas City, Quezon	Michael L. Jaloon
13	Masaganang Bukid	Brgy. Yukos, Nagcarlan, Laguna	Higenio P. Cuervo



An exceptionally performing LSA shall be further enhanced with basic training facilities and the owner shall be trained further for competence. The School for Practical Agriculture shall carry the general features of a LSA being such initially, but shall be an integrated farm – enhanced with additional commodities. Its farm activities shall cover production to successful marketing. In addition to the basic demo farm/processing, they shall have functional facilities to undertake live-in training & extension activities such as a modest lodging facility, toilet, and bath, classroom with training equipment.

For this year, the Center up-scaled Uma Verde Econature Farm Inc. located in Bukal Sur, Candelaria, Quezon owned by Engr. Edelissa A. Ramos.

Ladderized Approach for Certification and Accreditation of Learning Sites for Agriculture (LSAs), Schools for Practical Agriculture (SPAs) and Extension Service Providers (ESPs)

ATI Calabarzon continued in building capacities, and providing appropriate farming technologies and strategies to the farmers effectively and efficiently through its ladderized approach to extension services. This approach involves elevating a Learning Site for Agriculture (LSAs) into a School for Practical Agriculture (SPA) wherein the farm owner/cooperator themselves becomes the "teacher" and their own farms as "school".

Renewal of Regional Extension Service Provider's (ESP) Accreditation



Extending its commitment as an active partner of ATI CALABARZON in advancing excellence in Agriculture and Fishery extension delivery, the MoCA Family Farm RLearning Center Inc. in Padre Garcia, Batangas had their accreditation renewed as Private Extension Service Provider (ESP) for another three years.

LSA	SPA	ESP	TOTAL
100	7	3	110

Provision of Assistance to Certified LSAs, SPAs and Accredited ESPs Affected by Man-Made Disaster Events/Calamities

As an immediate and effective response to the occurrence of calamities and natural disasters that severely affected the agriculture sector, ATI-CALABARZON provided construction materials for the rehabilitation of farm facilities to the LSAs, SPAs, and ESPs listed below.

No.	Name of Farm	Category/Location
1	AISPORA Workers Association	LSA – Naic, Cavite
2	ACV Agri-Farm	LSA – Silang, Cavite
3	Laly's Farm Ville	LSA - Cavinti, Laguna
4	Nylove Farm	LSA – Kalayaan, Laguna
5	Javier Eco Farm	LSA – Calauan, Laguna
6	Remma's Farm	LSA – Kalayaan, Laguna
7	Adress Farm Training and Assessment Center	LSA – Mabitac, Laguna
8	Luciano's Nature Farm	LSA – Pangil, Laguna
9	FarmShare Prime	LSA - Cavinti, Laguna
10	Agrie's Integrated Farm	LSA – Magdalena, Laguna
11	Mama Chef's Farm	LSA – Majayjay, Laguna
12	Tsu Mark Botanical Garden	LSA – Mabitac, Laguna
13	Don Leon Nature Farm	LSA – San Juan, Batangas
14	CV Toreja Agri Enterprises	LSA – Ibaan, Batangas
15	Gorgeous Farms	LSA – Laurel, Batangas
16	Beegood Agriventures	LSA – Tiaong, Quezon
17	Glinoga Organic Farm	LSA – Pitogo, Quezon
15	N5 Villamor Farm Corporation	LSA – Lopez, Quezon
19	Ka Mulong's Farm	SPA – Sariaya, Quezon
20	Mendez Organic Farm	SPA – Mendez, Cavite

Enhancement Support Given to Extension Partners

The Center also offered assistance to eligible extension partners (LSA/SPA/ESP) for facility development purposes. In 2020, ATI CALABARZON provided enhancement support to twelve (12) farms within the region, namely;

No.	Name of Farm	Assistance Given
1	Teofely Nature Farms, Inc.	Materials for the restoration of Greenhouse
2	ABF Integrated Farms and Agribusiness Center, Inc.	Provision of Growing Benches
3	Moca Family Farm and RLearning Center, Inc.	Product Development & Research
4	Chad's Nature Farm	Installation of Drip Irrigation Facility
5	Lunbang Republika Ecofarms	Construction of Vegetable Seedlings Production Shed
6	Quality Lifelong Learning Institute	Provision of Farm Tools/Machines
7	Bunch Farm	Construction of Post-Harvest facility
8	Sweet Nature Farm	Construction of Post-Harvest facility
9	Gintong Bukid Farm and Leisure	Provision of Incubator
10	Sanctuario Nature Farms	Construction Materials for Improved Farm Facilities
11	TerraPedrito Farm	Provision of Tables, Chairs and Tent
12	Flor and Daisy's Agricultural Farm	Provision of Tables, Chairs and Tent





BINHI PARA SA PAMAYANAN: A Community-Based Plant Nursery Project

When COVID-19 threatened to affect the food sufficiency level of the country and created havoc to all sectors of the society, ATI CALABARZON responded to effectively tackle the said challenge by initiating Binhi Para Sa Pamayanan in support to the "Plant, Plant, Plant Program" or "Ahon Lahat, Pagkaing Sapat (ALPAS) Laban sa Covid-19" of the Department of Agriculture. The program was geared toward food security where families/individuals/groups are encouraged to plant vegetables using available space or improvised containers by providing ready-to-plant seedlings.

For its implementation, ATI CALABARZON capitalized on the presence of its dedicated and knowledgeable extension partners (LSA, SPA and ESP) and their farms which are strategically located to be used as propagating stations and distribution sites of the seedlings.

Before year-end, the program had successfully distributed approximately **400,000 seedlings** of green chili, eggplant and tomato.

The following extension partners were tapped for the program:

No.	Name of Farms/Location	Farm Owner
1	Teofely Nature Farms, Inc. Silang, Cavite	Fabian Maximilian B. Cabrige
2	ABF Integrated Farms and Agribusiness Center, Inc. San Pablo City, Laguna	Brian A. Belen
3	Moca Family Farm and RLearning Center, Inc. Padre Garcia, Batangas	Gloria Pontejos-Morris
4	Chad's Nature Farm Mataas na Kahoy, Batangas	Aida C. Briones
5	Luntiang Republika Ecofarms Alfonso, Cavite	Eduardo B. Cleofe
6	Quality Lifelong Learning Institute Morong, Rizal	Edna V. Bacarra
7	Bunch Farm Lucena City, Cavite	Sancho A. Buncha
8	Sweet Nature Farm Sta Maria, Laguna	Suzette S. Sales



Extension Partners' Database

Looking back on the last half of a decade when the Center merely had ten (10) certified/accredited extension partners (LSA/SPA/ESP), it grew to a hundred after five years. Along with this is the challenge on how to manage the data including its immediate retrieval.

ATI CALABARZON started the development of database this year. It compiles necessary information (e.g. name of farm, location, owner, technology demonstration, accreditation, existing commodities, etc.) in one file using Microsoft Excel. The said innovation makes finding or gathering information simple, convenient and timesaving.



THEMATIC AREA 3: **ADVISE**

Empowering Farmers and Fisherfolks Through Advisory Services

This thematic area involves provision of farm and business advisory services. It includes on-demand knowledge sharing and advisory on production and post-production technologies, linking producers to the market, investments, and other strategic resources and support services with different stakeholders in agriculture and fisheries.

One of the strategic objectives under this thematic area is empowering farmers and fisherfolks through advisory services. ATI shall intensify provision of advisory services to establish links to various support services along the value chain.

Rice Crop Manager (RCM) Advisory Service



RCM is a modern precision farming application developed by International Rice Research Institute for the Philippines. It is accessible through web browser for Windows, Android and Linux using a smartphone, tablet or computer.

The development, maintenance and deployment of RCM Advisory Service are supported by the Department of Agriculture through ATI. ATI's network of regional training centers through the FITS Centers provides rice farmers with personalized recommendations matching their location-specific rice-growing conditions.

This year, ATI in CALABARZON trained **16 RCEF Farm School Owners** to handle basic trainings on the use of RCM, including generation of its recommendation. Participants of the Regional Training of Trainers on RCM Advisory Service produced 25 farmer's RCM field ID and 25 RCM field recommendations during their field activity.

As part of their re-entry plans, the new pool of trainers are expected to generate recommendations during the implementation of their Farmers' Field School (FFS) sessions. The training was held on September 21-24, 2020 in Los Baños, Laguna.

The Center also led two batches of Enriching Rice Farming Productivity and Profitability: Rice Crop Manager Briefings on October 15-16 and 29-30, 2020. The briefings catered to **80 rice farmers** in the municipalities of Calatagan, Balayan, Lian, Nasugbu, Rosario, Ibaan, Laurel, and Lemery in Batangas province. Strict implementation of the health protocols were also provided during the actual provision of the recommendations.

With support from the Department of Agriculture Region IV-A and the LGUs, the region was able to produce **3,377 field recommendations** this year.



Digital Farmers Program

The Center is committed to strengthening the linkages of farmer and fisher organizations along the value chain to access market opportunities through market matching.

ATI and Smart Communications' partnership for the rollout of Digital Farmers Program was instrumental in engaging the youth on capacitating and empowering small-scale farmers with basic digital tools and technologies, particularly social media, climate and weather monitoring apps, and e-Farming.

The Center continues to support this undertaking with two batches of DFP 101 (face-to-face) sessions conducted last year in Gumaca and Lucena City, Quezon. 10 pairs of youth and farmer were introduced to Smartphone features and operations, social media applications (Facebook & YouTube), search engines, internet safety tips, phonetography and videography 101. As a culmination and output on e-commerce (Facebook Marketplace), participants were able to post their products on a closed Facebook group, complete caption with product description and price details.

The DFP also aims to raise awareness about e-commerce so that farmers could sell their product directly to the consumers, giving them a good return on investment. Ensuring the sustainability of the

program, the same participants will undergo the next phase of the program, known as DFP 102 in 2021.

Provision of Advisory Services through Social Media Platforms

The Center through its IS section continues to extend its services to other sectors of the society and the public through its social media pages. Facebook in particular is one of the platforms used by most clients to reach out to ATI CALABARZON for technical assistance and services offered related to agri-fishery.

During the first three months of the pandemic, the Center received a high volume of queries on its Facebook page, recording a total of 210 messages and inquiries received. Source(s) of free seeds or seedlings was the most frequently asked information. Other queries include: schedule of trainings or webinars, scholarship programs, references for planting guides, assistance for setting up a farm and consultations for pests or diseases at their farm, among others. These queries were responded to accordingly, and or referred to nearby Municipal or City Agriculture Office, FITS Centers, APCO Office, and other concerned agencies.



CO-VEG30

MGA GULAY NA MAAARING ITANIMAT
ANIHIN SA LOOB NG 30-35 ARAW

GABAY SA PAGTATANIM NG LETSUGAS

THEMATIC AREA 4: **DISSEMINATE**

Enhancing Agriculture and Fisheries Extension
Knowledge Products and Services

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 specific client system.

Under the new normal, ATI remains aggressive in maximizing its digital platforms in sharing relevant Agri-Fishery information to encourage youth, agri-enthusiasts, and organized groups to engage in farming activities.

For its part, ATI in CALABARZON through its Information Services Section (ISS) beefed-up the use of digital and traditional extension modalities in order to limit face-to-face interactions for its activities.

Corporate-Building through Media Partnerships



The Center started engaging with local media organizations in 2019 when it called for a press conference to further promote its programs and services, at the same time, build a partnership with media outlets. Since then, Cavite Times Journal, Radyo Natin, Philippine News Agency and Philippine Information Agency, among others, had started to feature some of ATI CALABARZON's trainings and activities through press releases in print and online.

For 2020, ATI-CALABARZON widened its network to further strengthen the delivery of agricultural information and showcase outstanding farms in the region by partnering with Try PH Media Production and Agripreneur of GMA-7.

The Center entered a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Try PH Media to promote urban agriculture in the region. Try PH, an internet-based media company advocates tourism and technology and

promotes gardening and agriculture in their program. Through one of its segments, Try Garden to Table show, ATI-CALABARZON Program Focals and extension partners educated the public about various topics in agriculture such as Container Gardening, High Value Crops Development Program, Beekeeping, Mushroom, Corn facts, Organic Agriculture, Rice facts, Livestock and Hydroponics. The episodes started airing from July to September every Tuesday at 3:00 in the afternoon at Try PH Facebook page.

ATI CALABARZON's partnership with Agripreneur was instrumental in bringing to limelight the Center's certified and accredited extension partners in the region. A show for farmers, citizens and entrepreneurs who wish to invest in agribusiness, Agripreneur brings out the best farming practices and secrets to success of every farm it features.

To date, a total of **18 extension partner farms** were featured and aired in the show since August 2020. Agripreneur airs every Saturday at 5:30 in the morning at GMA-7. Episodes of featured farms were also uploaded on Agripreneur's Facebook page.

Airing Date	Featured Farm	No. of Views
August 8, 2020	Gintong Bukid Farm and Leisure	24.8K
August 15, 2020	Yum's Farm	2.5K
August 22, 2020	Bunch Farm	2K
September 12, 2020	Cortijo de Palsabangon Farm Park & Restaurant Don Leon Nature Farm	34.8K
September 19, 2020	Beegood Agriventures	25.2K
September 26, 2020	Sanctuario Nature Farms	25.3K
October 3, 2020	Brookside Leisure Farms	3.5K
October 10, 2020	VOHO Farms	90.7K
October 17, 2020	Luntiag Republika VFNR Agricultural Farm	15.2K 65.3K
October 24, 2020	Lukong Farm Agriventures Inc. Sweet Nature Farms	36K 89.1K
October 31, 2020	Vilela's Farm Adress Farm Training and Assessment Center	34.1K 94.8K
November 7, 2020	Anpilo Agri Farm	28.9K
November 21, 2020	Taal Maranan's Farmville Inc.	49.4K
December 5, 2020	Graco Farms and Leisure Inc.	28.1K

Corporate Website and Social Media Management

ATI in CALABARZON continues to develop technology-based informational materials such as infographics and videos to disseminate relevant Agri-Fishery information. These are uploaded to the Center's official social media accounts for easier public access. Meanwhile, news and feature articles released about the Center's significant programs and activities were uploaded to the website.

For 2020, the Center's website, (<http://ati.da.gov.ph/ati-4a/>) uploaded a total of 64 news articles, recording **37,672 webpage views**, a big leap from last year's **9,981 page views**. The site has a monthly average of **3,100 webpage views**.



One and Beyond: Extension Partners' Forum Cum Seminar on Designing an Online Course, a Success
 Thu, 12/31/2020 - 9:26pm



Facebook



This social media platform continues to be an important tool for advocacy campaigns and public engagement in agriculture. The Center maximized Facebook in strengthening Urban Agriculture Program which aims to secure food for urban families especially during the enhanced community quarantine period in the country. In 2020, the Center has successfully managed and maintained its Facebook page with a total of 714 posts and 363,700 engaged users who commented and or shared posts. As of December 2020, the page has **28,206 likes and 31,033 followers**.

YouTube

In its continuous effort to build-up, consolidate and produce relevant AF information to provide a complete package of technology for farming enthusiasts and agripreneurs, the Center re-launched its YouTube channel, ATI Calabarzon AgriStudio on July 2020. The channel contains success stories of key players in the Agri-Fishery, episodes of Agricultural Technology thru Internet (ATI)@Home,

technology videos on livestock production and processing videos and technology videos on urban agriculture management. To date, **57 videos** had been uploaded, with around **11.5K subscribers** in the channel.



Development and Dissemination of Knowledge Products

Development and Distribution of EC Materials



In response to the need for a shift in the information dissemination strategy of ATI, not only focusing on sharing corporate-related information but also relevant technology-based information, the Center produced various production guides on fast crops, Community Vegetables (Co-Veg) and urban agriculture

The Center through the Information Services Section (ISS) produced and released downloadable copies of Co-Veg 30 through its Facebook page and website. It contains a series of production guides on crops that can be grown and harvested within 30 days, such as kangkong, kulitis, labanos, talbos ng kamote, letsugas and alugbati. These were later on turned over to ATI – Information Services Division for another round of lay-outing and pre-testing, in preparation for mass reproduction. The guides were distributed to various FITS Centers, including those in CALABARZON, and received by walk-in clients alongside the seeds/plant seedlings during the pandemic.

Additionally, the Section produced corporate publications: two issues of the semi-annual newsletter, SIKLAB, and Enrapture: 2019 Annual Accomplishment Report. A total of **98,252 IEC materials** were distributed to clients through trainings, briefings, FITS Centers and Learning Sites.

Documentation of Good Agriculture and Fishery Practices and Success Stories

ATI CALABARZON continues to inspire agri-enthusiasts, farmers and agripreneurs through success stories of key players in the Agri-Fishery sector. The videos produced by the Center were uploaded on its Facebook page and YouTube channel to reach a wider audience.

Quarter 1 Sustenableng Pag-aalaga ng Baboy: Adhika ng LBPIg sa Komunidad (Los Baños Natural Pig Raisers)



Los Baños Natural Pig Raisers Association (LBPIg) is practicing the "Babuyang Walang Amoy" or Sustainable Pig Farming (SPF) management that is promoted by DA-ATI. The group was founded by 25 swine raisers who graduated from ATI Region CALABARZON's 20-week training on Farmers' Field School (FFS) on SPF last September 2019. At present, the group is on its way to conducting their second leg of FFS using their own strategies ensuring the transfer of information and knowledge on profitable yet environmentally sustainable venture.

Quarter 2 Ka Gigi Morris: Juanang Magsasaka, Juanang Kahanga-hanga (Gloria P. Morris, MoCa Family Farm RLearning Center)



Ms. Gloria Pontejos-Morris, affectionately known as "Ka Gigi" by friends and acquaintances, dreamed about a simple farming life in a rural setting when they returned to the Philippines. From a weekend farmhouse, they turned it into a small-scale family farm known as MoCa Family Farm RLearning Center, Inc (MFFRLCI), a one-hectare land where you can do a multi-functional family farm. It is located in Padre Garcia, Batangas.

Despite the challenges of managing a farm family, Ka Gigi and her staff, whom she also considers as her family, pushed forth and remained to be relentless, empowered, and more importantly: multi-skilled. MoCa Family Farm RLearning Center is an accredited Extension Service Provider of the Center.

Quarter 3 Ako si Erica: Isang Kabataang Magsasaka



Baby Erica P. Tanaotanao is an active of 4H Club member since 2018. Currently, she is the 4H Provincial Secretary in Cavite. She is also a second year BS Agriculture student in Cavite State University – Indang. Erica has received different awards and recognitions which include 2nd place – Batang Organic Agriculture (OA) Quiz Bee (2018), Quiz Bee Champion - Provincial 4H Achievement Day, 3rd Place - Regional Farm Youth Camp Quiz Bee and Top 1 – School on Air (SOA) under Livestock program (2019) – Recipient of Goat Project. Erica has also actively participated in various trainings and other activities conducted by ATI CALABARZON. Through these awards, she gained

Quarter 4: Agrikultura sa Katutubo (Dumagat-Remontado, IP Community Antipolo City, Rizal)



Our country has numerous indigenous groups. You may have heard about the Aeta community from Central Luzon, Mangyan from the Mindoro islands and Igorot from Northern Luzon, but are you aware of the Dumagat-Remontado from Rizal and Quezon province? A Dumagat-Remontado community from Antipolo City currently practices traditional farming methods.

In 2020, the group was selected as the main beneficiary of the KATUTUBO (Katuwang Tungo sa Progresibong Agrikultura ng mga Dumagat) project together with the LGU in Antipolo City and NCIP Region IV-A. Several activities are lined-up for the community in 2021.

High Value Crops Program: Securing our Food through Farming (Florencio Flores, Flor & Daisy's Agricultural Farm)



Flor & Daisy's Agricultural Farm, located in Sariaya, Quezon is the first Good Agricultural Practice (GAP)-certified farm for cacao in Quezon province. Farm owner, Florencio Abad's success in the industry stemmed from his curiosity and observation that most of the chocolates sold overseas came from cacao beans that are planted in the Philippines. He then went on to explore the production side of cacao. Flor and Daisy's is also offering TESDA courses on Organic Agriculture Production NC II.

e-Extension Program



When parts of the country including Luzon were put under enhanced community quarantine, stringent measures were implemented to limit the movement and transport of people to accessing of essential goods and services. Now more than ever, people have realized the importance of agriculture and growing one's food to secure food for the household and communities.

Distance learning modalities, including ATI's e-Learning for Agriculture and Fisheries become more beneficial as people look for reliable source of information on farming and new things to learn and apply during the quarantine period. Thus, more agri-enthusiasts, students and farmers and benefitted from the program.

In March 2020, the IS section of the Center boost the promotion of e-Learning program on its social media pages, recording the peak of enrollees for the year at 425, and 393 graduates in the said month. Two of its partner schools, Polytechnic University of the Philippines (Mulanay Branch) and Munting Ilog National High School have also officially adopted the program, requiring students to take courses at the website during the first month of the lockdown. The site recorded a total of 2,225 enrollees and 2,142 graduates in region IV-A.

Two additional courses developed by ATI CALABARZON have also started rolling this year: Juan and Coffee Talk: Robusta Coffee Production and Rise and Grind: Coffee Processing as an Enterprise. The IS continues to promote its developed courses on its social media pages and to walk-in visitors accommodated at the e-Extension hub. With the strict travel restrictions in place in 2020, there were 51 walk-in clients who visited the hub.

School on the Air Program

School on the Air (SOA) Program is one of ATI's tool of instruction in delivering a complete package of technology to farmers, initially intended for clients who do not have access to the Internet. Primarily, it uses radio to deliver information directly to the listeners, but overtime, other platforms and ICT tools are being utilized such as television and internet.

Rice Competitiveness Enhancement Fund (RCEF)

Usapang Ani at Kita: RCEF Program sa Region IV-A, a SOA on RCEF provided the rice farmers in Cavite, Laguna and Quezon province with knowledge on rice production and mechanization. Twenty episodes of topics about RCEF components, PalayCheck System and special topics on seed certification, farm planning and budgeting were discussed by experts from from ATI CALABARZON and its partner RCEF implementing agencies including PhilRice, Landbank, PhilMech and NEDA. The program aired at DZJV 1458 with simultaneous airing on ATI Calabarzon Facebook page every Tuesday and Thursday from 11:00 in the morning until 12:00 noon.



A total of **206 participants** from the local government units of Siniloan, Lumban, Pila, Naic, Maragondon, Carmona, Gumaca, Candelaria and Polillo completed the program through a live virtual graduation held via Google Meet and simultaneous broadcast at ATI Calabarzon Facebook page. Awards were given to Most Active Participants and those with highest post-test score per LGU. A Facebook group was also created for the participants as monitoring mechanism.

High Value Crops Development Program

In 2019, ATI CALABARZON explored the power of YouTube in place of the traditional community radio to deliver the SOA program to its target audience. The program successfully achieved its objectives and has continuously been accessed publicly as a reliable source of information on management practices and value-adding processes of various livestock commodities.

The Center carried over the same strategy in 2020, with travel restrictions in place due to Covid-19 pandemic. Relatedly, as directed by Secretary William Dar to reprogram and refocus activities to align with the Food Security Development Framework (FSDf), and Plant, Plant, Plant Program, the SOA on High Value Crops was re-aligned to Broadcasts on Urban Agriculture.

Dubbed as ATIng Eskwelahan: Gulayan sa Pamayanan, the program targeted urban dwellers and organized groups that will adopt urban agriculture practices and serve as models in their community. Among the categorized active groups in Cavite and Laguna, the following were selected as participants in the program:

Association	Address	No. of Participants
RIC-CC Amadeo Chapter	Amadeo, Cavite	19
4-H Green Hands	Naic, Cavite	21
Cabuyao Garden Producers Association	Cabuyao, Laguna	18
Herbs Inc & Tanim Cooperative	San Pablo City, Laguna	30
ADHIKA Group Inc.	Calamba City, Laguna	31

Participants watched 10 episodes of technology videos on urban agriculture practices at ATI Calabarzon official YouTube channel, AgriStudio, every Tuesday starting September 1 until November 3, 2020. Each was given his/her own set of urban agriculture kit in order to simultaneously apply what they learned as the program progresses. For sustainability, the five participating organizations were also awarded with starter kits to establish their own community urban gardens. By the end of the program, most of them had harvested kilograms of kangkong, long bean, ampalaya, squash and upo, among others. These were either distributed among the members or sold to neighboring communities. Monitoring mechanisms were laid out at the start through tracking forms and a closed Facebook group where participants share their planting activities and photos while viewing/accessing the program on YouTube.

As a form of incentive, the project team launched the Best Community Garden contest where established gardens were evaluated based on economic value (production capacity), aesthetic value (visual appeal and arrangement), functionality and sustainability and nutritional value (variety of crops). Herbs Inc & Tanim Cooperative won first place, receiving cash prize, with Cabuyao Garden Producers Association and ADHIKA Group Inc. winning second and third place respectively.

One hundred nineteen (**119**) urban dwellers from organized groups participated in the program.

RCEP Information Caravan



To further inform stakeholders for the implementation of the Rice Competitiveness Enhancement Fund (RCEF), the center conducted a series of Information Caravan for Quezon Province on March 19-23, 2020 prior to the pandemic lockdown. A total of **200 farmers** and intermediaries attended the activity in the Municipalities of Real, Polillo, Sampaloc, Mulanay, Macalelon and Atimonan.

In the midst of the lockdown, the activity was converted to radio broadcast dubbed as TalaPalayan: Talakayan ukol sa RCEF Program. Aired from August 4 to September 10, 2020 over Radyo Nation 106.3 FM and Radyo Calabarzon DZJV 1458 producing **18 broadcasts** for Laguna and Cavite province.

Techno Gabay Program (TGP)

The Agricultural Training Institute is at the helm of coordinating and overseeing the implementation of Techno Gabay Program (TGP). It remains as one of the forefront programs and services of the Information Services Section of ATI CALABARZON, having been consistently awarded and recognized yearly by the ATI – Information Services Division for its outstanding implementation during the IS Achievers' Awards.

TGP is an agricultural extension modality which facilitates the access of farmers, entrepreneurs, students, researchers, youth and other stakeholders to an array of Science & Technology (S&T) options to improve their agricultural practices and increase their farm productivity. It has two major components: Farmers' Information and Technology Service Center (FITS) and Magsasaka Siyentista (MS).

The region has now a total of **61 FITS Centers**. Recently added to the growing list is ABF Integrated Farms and Agribusiness Center Inc., the second private regional Extension Service Provider (ESP) established as a FITS Center. ABF was launched on November 26, 2020 in San Pablo City. Meanwhile, the Municipal Agriculture Office of Panukulan, Quezon was evaluated virtually and shall be established in 2021.

Relatedly, three MS were appointed, supporting the technology services function of the FITS: Mr. Mario Profeta (FITS Center Tanza, Cavite), Mr. Sixto M. Arandia (FITS Center Mendez, Cavite), Mr. Arnold A. Ragador (FITS Center Alfonso, Cavite). There are **90 Magsasaka Siyentista** in the region IV-A as of December 2020.

Enhancement of FITS Centers under RCEF and RCM

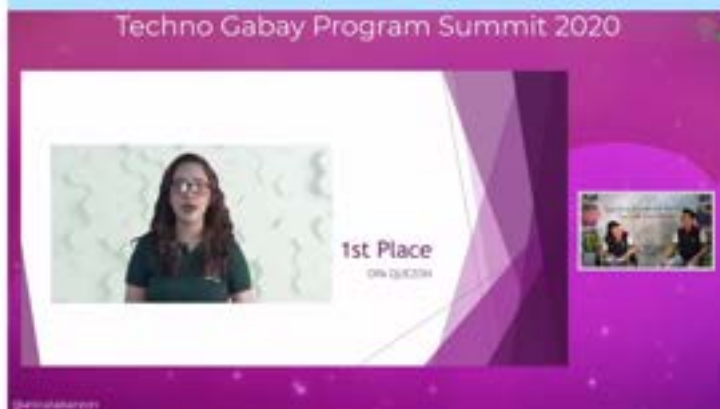


Under the extension component of the RCEF Program, ATI is directed to enhance the access to information of rice farmers by tapping the FITS Centers in the identified priority areas. In order to achieve this, a FITS Center will be supported and enhanced to

establish satellite FITS Centers in selected barangays in their area. FITS Center in Siniloan was selected for the said enhancement program. Five FITS Kiosks were established in the following barangays: Brgy. Macatad, Brgy. Halayhayin, Brgy. Salubungan, Brgy. Acevida and Brgy. M. Padeño. Each FITS Kiosk contains a display of IEC materials (flyers, brochures, magazines and guides) related to RCEF and its components, rice farming technologies and relevant information and or information and communications technology (ICT) tools. On October 12, 2020, the kiosks were turned over to FITS Siniloan and barangays identified.

Rice Crop Manager is one of the main services in the FITS Centers. In order to increase the number of farmers who are using RCM, selected FITS Centers were enhanced through provision of additional ICT tools, office supplies and equipment; and capability building activities, including trainings to FITS Center staff on RCM use and operations. In turn, the enhanced FITS Centers are expected to promote the use of RCM, provide RCM printed recommendations to farmers and document success stories of RCM adopters. Four FITS Centers were enhanced under RCM : FITS Center Office of the Provincial Agriculturist in Cavite, Laguna, Batangas and Quezon.

Techno Gabay Program Summit



Determined to further develop and strengthen the role of FITS Centers in the local government units and encourage participation in innovation, ATI CALABARZON conducted steady recognition of FITS staff and partner agencies through the conduct of TGP Awards as part of its annual Techno Gabay Program Summit.

FITS Centers participated in various contests including vlogging, photo essay and accomplishment poster. FITS Center – OPA Quezon won first place in the vlogging contest, showcasing the services of their FITS. FITS Center- Tayabas City and Naic ranked second and third, respectively. FITS Candelaria dominated in the Best Accomplishment Poster category, followed by FITS MoCA Family RLearning Center and FITS – Bacoor on the second and third

spot. For the photo essay, FITS Center San Juan was hailed as the first placer, with FITS Teresa and Imus City winning second and third place, respectively. Recognition and special awards were also given to FITS Centers with exceptional performance on the following services:

Service/Function	FITS Center Awardee
Climate and Weather Advisory	Tanauan City, Batangas
Rice Crop Manager (RCM)	Pila, Laguna Lobo, Batangas Morong, Rizal
Strong Social Media Presence	Cavinti, Laguna Imus City, Cavite Kalayaan, Laguna OPA Batangas MoCA Family Farm RLearning Center Candelaria, Quezon Magdalena, Laguna Tanauan City, Batangas Lucena City, Quezon OPA Quezon Bacoor City, Cavite

With the theme, Digital Agriculture: Key Player to Food Security, this year's summit featured a panel of speakers who shared valuable experiences on the utilization of social media and e-commerce in communicating agricultural development and marketing of farm produce. The summit held through Zoom and aired simultaneously over ATI Calabarzon Facebook page was held on December 1-3, 2020.

Innovative Extension Modalities for Wider Public Reach and Capacity-Building

Agricultural Technologies thru Internet (ATI) @Home



With the imposition of Enhanced Community Quarantine in some parts of the country, and in support to the programs of the Department of Agriculture on food security, the Center saw an opportunity to bring agriculture closer to people's homes. ATI CALABARZON's brainchild, *Agricultural Technologies thru Internet (ATI) at Home* was the first webinar series

at Home was the first webinar series among ATI's network of regional training centers.

Initially, ATI@Home sought to address the need for a more comprehensive yet doable package of technology on urban gardening practices with its first three episodes centered on home gardening. Eventually, the webinar series delivered topics on in-demand livelihood opportunities about agriculture such as fruit and vegetable preservation and mushroom growing.

The Center's focal persons hosted the webinar series via a closed Facebook group, and interested individuals would need to sign up an online registration form prior to joining the group. Each episode ran for two to three hours which involves a combination of recorded lecture and demonstration, and live question and answer portion with resource persons (seasoned farm owners and practitioners). The ATI@Home episodes received overwhelming responses from viewers who come from different parts of the country and the world. Fifteen episodes of the webinar series were conducted from April to November, as follows:

AgriTalk 2020: Dainty and Artsy

Topic	Actual Date of Webinar	No. of Registered Participants	Peak Live Viewers
Container Gardening	April 8, 2020	1,341	810
Home Composting and Plant Food Supplements	April 17, 2020	1,564	790
Homemade Insect Spray and Pest Management	April 27, 2020	1,247	380
Hydroponics	May 9, 2020	2,917	840
Homegrown Mushroom	May 15, 2020	2,403	734
Herbs and Spices Gardening and Processing	May 29, 2020	2,528	664
Edible Landscaping	June 11, 2020	1,632	473
Fruits and Vegetable Processing and Preservation	June 25, 2020	1,909	496
Free Range Chicken Production (Part 1)	July 10, 2020	2,208	531
Free Range Chicken Production (Part 2)	July 24, 2020	2,208	367
Aquaponics	August 14, 2020	1,841	411
Fish Processing	August 28, 2020	1,071	204
Bio-Intensive Gardening (Part 1)	September 11, 2020	1,393	245
Bio-Intensive Gardening (Part 2)	September 25, 2020	1,459	368
Beekeeping	November 27, 2020	966	288

Conceived in 2017, AgriTalk is a one-day free seminar presented by Agriculture Magazine and Agricultural Training Institute to expand awareness on urban gardening and encourage the public to grow their own food at home.

Due to travel restrictions related to Covid-19 pandemic, AgriTalk goes online in 2020, with ATI CALABARZON hosting a three-hour webinar with blended learning approach in a closed Facebook group. The objective was to provide the viewers with knowledge and skills in appreciating and creating value adding to ornamental plants and home and in the communities. ATI CALABARZON through IS streamed the webinar series on plant arts for three consecutive Wednesdays in October, with a host streaming from office in Trece Martires City, Cavite. Two remote episodes were also held simultaneously in two sites: Lucena City, Quezon and Batangas City.

Mentoring Workshop on the Use of Online Platforms



As the nation slowly adapted to the new normal, the Center also prepared for the shift to virtual learning, maximizing online and media-based resources to cater to the needs of the clientele. The IS led a two-day Mentoring Workshop on the Use of Online Platforms for 20 regular and Job Order technical personnel of the Center.

Discussed in the mentoring session were implementation strategies in conducting online trainings and virtual meetings as well as navigating TalentLMS (Learning Management System) in place of face-to-face three-day training sessions.

The activity was held on July 22-23, 2020 at ATI CALABARZON Training Hall in Trece Martires City, Cavite.



Topic	Date of Conduct	Peak Live Viewers	Resource Person
Bonsai and Topiary	October 14, 2020	260	Cavite Bonsai Club Members
Dish Garden and Terrarium	October 21, 2020	201	Myma K. Frago, Forest Wood Garden
Flower Arrangement and Foliage	October 28, 2020	205	Cris Q. De Leon, LSPU Los Banos

An innovative approach on AgriTalk, the Center invited ten (10) participants for each site to watch the webinar and perform hands-on exercises along with the resource person, as they were provided with the plant materials and inputs for every episode. Two IS staff facilitated every remote session, giving live reports and interviewing participants on their experience.

Interested individuals registered prior to joining the Facebook group and were given digital certificates upon completion of the online evaluation form.

Social Media for Agriculture: Training Course on Blogging and Vlogging



As part of its strategic objective in maximizing use of high-impact alternative extension modalities to serve greater number of stakeholders, the Center initiated the first Training on Course on Blogging and Vlogging for 15 FITS Center staff in the region. The face-to-face training held on November 17-20, 2020 provided the participants with a new platform in documenting good agricultural practices and inspirational experiences of farmers in the community.

The participants created their own blogsites and produced a minimum of 5-minute vlog as part of the training outputs. By the end of the training, each participant received his/her own vlogging kit which includes a tripod with right light and cardioid microphone. Through this capability-building activity, the Center aims to encourage more agri enthusiasts to venture in agribusiness and avail of the services of the FITS Centers.

1st Regional Vloggers and Bloggers



Taking off from the success of ATI's series of OA (Organic Agriculture) Bloggers' Event, the Center led its 1st Regional Vloggers and Bloggers Event: Promoting OA in CALABARZON on November 25-27, 2020. 15 vloggers and bloggers based in the region and NCR, Mr. Donnie Bustamante, Ms. Anne Gumiran and Mr. Emmanuel Ardiente, to name a few, were toured to the region's LSAs and SPAs for exposure and immersion about best practices and technologies on organic farming.

The participants visited Uma Verde Econature Farm in Candelaria, Yumi's Farm in Tayabas City, Cortijo de Palsabangon Farm Park and Restaurant in Pagbilao, Lukong Valley Farm in Dolores, Quezon and Gintong Bukid Farm and Leisure in Nagcarlan, Laguna.

The event was aimed at promoting and increasing public awareness on OA through blogs and video blogs of the participants which shall be posted in their social media accounts, pages and channels.



THEMATIC AREA 5: **SUPPORT**

Improving Enabling Environment and
Governance For Agriculture and Fisheries Extension

This thematic area deals with the need of extension agencies for policy support, planning, monitoring and evaluation (PME) mechanisms, human resource management, budget, infrastructure and facilities. ATI CALABARZON continues to diversify its strategic objectives amidst the influx of difficult circumstances in the agriculture sector during the COVID-19 pandemic. The agency perseveres to set and implement policies abiding by the pertinent laws and regulations, to cater more effective and efficient extension services in agriculture and fisheries.

Stakeholders' Consultative Meetings



The Center headed the annual Regional Agri-Fishery Extension Network (RAFEN) Consultative Meeting last February 28, 2020 at the ATI RTC IV-A Training Hall, Brgy. Lapidario, Trece Martires City, Cavite, together with the partners from the National Government Agencies (NGAs) and Private Sectors; The Offices of the Provincial Agriculturist, Offices of the Provincial Veterinarian, DA-RFO4A, PhilRice Los Baños, Department of Agrarian Reform from CALABARZON, DA-PAFC and National Dairy Authority- South Luzon Department.

Highlights of the activity were the presentation of the previous year's accomplishments and agendas for 2020 and the harmonization of programs, projects and activities with the five (5) provinces across the region and its municipalities. Mr. Jiggy Manicad of Agriprenuer also graced the activity, pledging his support to the different agricultural endeavors making up with his advocacy on food security and sufficiency.

Consequently, several provincial consultative meetings and workshops were conducted to plan activities for the different banner programs reinforcing the needs of the clients and stakeholders from their respective provinces: Consultation Workshop for Corn Stakeholders for the Province of Cavite, Consultation on Organic Agriculture and Consultative Workshop for the Province of Laguna.

Adaptation to the New Normal

ATI CALABARZON, on June 15, 2020, released its official Health and Safety Standards associated with the constitution of its Occupational Health and Safety (OSH) Committee, consistent with the Joint Memorandum Circular No. 1, s. 2020 issued by the Civil Service Commission (CSC), Department of Health (DOH), and Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE). The agency prioritized the provision and maintenance of a safe workplace while observing the minimum health standards set for a healthy working condition and flexible working arrangement; to protect employees, clients and stakeholders in the dangers of injury, sickness or death.

Following the designation of the OSH Officer and its committee, they have crafted and approved three (3) OSH Resolutions adapting to the new normal, which consist of guidelines on service continuity and precautionary measures in the workplace and in conducting center-based face-to-face trainings, reiterated during the Occupational Health and Safety Standards Orientation for the ATI CALABARZON staff last June 24, 2020. They have established a temporary isolation room/ clinic manned by a registered nurse, equipped with necessary medical apparatus for rapid medical response. They have also posted posters and IECs to promote the observance of the health protocols and developed five (5) OSH forms for health monitoring, and maintained good housekeeping at all times by regularly disinfecting the Center's complex.



These remarkable initiative and immediate response made through the efforts of the committee and the agency as a whole, have been commended by the Commission on Audit (COA), consequently, meriting a positive audit observation to the agency.

Staff Development



The Center conducted the ATI IV-A Staff Development on Occupational Health and Safety Standards in the Workplace Amidst COVID-19 Pandemic last September 30, 2020 at the ATI CALABARZON training hall. The activity generally aims to orient and disseminate information on COVID-19 and its prevention, and specifically tackled the minimum health standards in the workplace and re-echoed practical guidelines in the New Normal. The training also intended to demonstrate practices that can improve the employees' working habits, such as office ergonomics. The said training was participated by the fifty ATI IV-A regular and job order employees and afterwards, provided with an emergency disaster kit.

The agency's IQA leader and members supervised the scheduled Internal Quality Audit and Verification Audit throughout the year. A virtual meeting was held last October 13, 2020 led by Ms. Michelle Geli from TUV-SUD, alongside the other regions, to run an audit trial. A whole-day virtual audit was conducted on November 24, 2020 by Ms. Adorable Aguila, with her two equally competent audit team members.

ATI CALABARZON has successfully passed the 3rd Party Re-Certification Audit, with no major findings, thus, maintaining its ISO 9001: 2015 Certification since 2018.

The continued implementation of the center's quality management standards has resulted to an organization-wide direction of ensuring the clients' and stakeholders' satisfaction. It has also helped the agency to identify opportunities and facilitate improvements for the betterment of the AFE system.



ISO Milestones

In line with the commitment of the Center to institutionalize its quality management standards, the entire staff worked hard to uphold its best practices in delivering AFE services, despite the adversities



Financial Accomplishments

In compliance with the directives enumerated in the Bayanihan to Heal as One Act, enacted after the declaration of a State of Public Health Emergency and State of Calamity throughout the Philippines due to the COVID-19 outbreak, the Center has reprogrammed, reallocated and realigned items of appropriation, as may be necessary and beneficial to address the COVID-19 emergency. Still, through the teamwork of the administrative and technical staffs, ATI CALABARZON achieved its targeted **100% Obligation rate** of appropriated allocation and a **100% Utilization of Cash**, downloaded for FY 2020 activities under the Regular Fund and Rice Competitiveness Enhancement Fund (RCEF).

Ensuring a Conducive and Safe Working Environment

The use of the ICT facilities has played a vital role on the agency's innovative approach in handling trainings and activities all over the year. Therefore, the center invested on procuring additional audio and video equipment and other valuable ICT tools, necessary for the production of canned training materials and live broadcast of ATI activities.

On August 2020, a radio room was constructed in the complex of ATI CALABARZON for the in-house recording of broadcasts for the SOA Program. The Center also focused on providing a reliable and efficient internet connection, accessible to staff and clients around the office premises. Thus, availing the Enterprise Fibr Plan receiving 200Mbps from PLDT, Inc., and a separate internet subscription for the sole use of the eLearning Hub of the Center.

ATI CALABARZON also inaugurated its Meat Processing Hub, furnished with high-grade processing and manufacturing equipment, funded under the National Livestock Program. This establishment will serve as a training and learning site for agriculture extension workers and farmers, interested in food preservation technologies, mostly suitable for small-scale operations. Prevention of food wastage by means of food processing and preservation is important especially during crisis, where food shortage is inevitable.



EAsY Agri Scholarship Program

One with the ideals of the Department of Agriculture (DA) to engage the youth in agriculture sector, ATI CALABARZON launch the Educational Assistance for the Youth: Degree Courses in Agriculture, and Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering (EAsY Agri) Scholarship Program, intended to support the children to pursue their studies and attain a rewarding career in different agriculture or fisheries-related ventures.

On May 2020, simultaneous enlistment and screening was conducted to fill in the 14 scholarship slots granted for CALABARZON. Qualified beneficiaries of the said scholarship program will be able to take up a course in agriculture and fisheries, enrolled in a State University or College in the region. Among the shortlisted applicants, seven (7) students from Laguna, four (4) students from Batangas, two (2) students from Quezon and a student from Rizal, made it to the official list of scholars: Clarice M. Bleza, Jenebyl G. Cipres, Rosemine M. Gonzaga, Carmina C. Cayetano, Adrian M. Averion, Jayve C. Mansibang, Marvin S. Zorilla, Jolina O. Asi, Wilberto S. Babasa, Jhon Lester G. Dela Cruz, Yvonne C. Faurillo, Don



2020 PERFORMANCE HIGHLIGHTS

188	EXTENSION SERVICE CONDUCTED
5,317	CLIENTS SERVED
3	INFO CARAVAN CONDUCTED
1	IEC MATERIALS DEVELOPED
2	RCM BRIEFINGS CONDUCTED
5	SUCCESS STORIES DOCUMENTED
1	FARMER'S FIELD SCHOOL CONDUCTED
1	SCHOOL ON AIR CONDUCTED
2	FARM BUSINESS SCHOOLS CONDUCTED
84,832	IEC MATERIALS DISTRIBUTED
5	CONSULTATION WORKSHOPS CONDUCTED
6	FITS CENTERS ENHANCED
12	FITS CENTERS KIOSKS ESTABLISHED
13	LSA ESTABLISHED
20	LSA MAINTAINED
189	TECHNO GABAY SUMMIT CONDUCTED
1	AGRITALK CONDUCTED
1	KAPATID AGRI MENTOR ME PROGRAM
12	ATI@HOME
3	AGRIKWENTO
1	PALAYTULAAN
1	AWIT MO, ISAYAW MO TIKTOK CHALLENGE
1	EKSTENSYONISTANG OA
8	BINHI SA PAMAYANAN PROJECT



Agricultural Training Institute Region IV-A

Brgy. Lapidario, Trece Martires City, Cavite

Organizational Chart

OFFICE OF THE CENTER DIRECTOR

Marites
Piamonte-Cosico
Training Center Superintendent /
Center Director

Mariel Celeste
C. Dayanghirang
Training Center Superintendent I /
Assistant Center Director

INFORMATION SERVICES SECTION

Rolando
Y. Maningas, PhD.
Information Officer III

Maridelle
G. Jaarique
Media Production Specialist II

Janilla Monette
B. Balmeo
Information Officer II

Janine
L. Callo
Information Officer II

Hans Christopher
C. Flores
Agriculturist I

Crissel
A. Tenolite
Information Officer I

Earl Jerome
E. Domingila
Media Production Specialist I

Dale Ande
T. Calde
Program Management Assistant

CAREER DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT SECTION

Romeo
D. Rodil
Training Specialist III

Vira Elyssa
L. Jamolin
Training Specialist II

Lizbeth
L. David
Training Specialist II

Roy Roger
D. Victoria II
Media Production Specialist II

Daynon Kristoff
S. Imperial
Development Management Officer II

Marian Lovella
A. Parat
Training Specialist I

John
M. Mendoza
Program Management Assistant

PARTNERSHIP AND ACCREDITATION SECTION

Sherylou
C. Allano
Senior Agriculturalist

Mary Grace
P. Leida
Agriculturist II

Soledad
E. Lant
Agriculturist II

Ric Jason
T. Aranza
Development Management Officer I

Darren
B. Rayna
Program Management Assistant

Jordan
T. Acosta
Program Management Assistant

Jessica
H. Badel
Program Management Assistant

PLANNING, MONITORING AND EVALUATION SERVICES

Abigail
L. Del Rosario
Planning Officer II

Angelo
H. Hernandez
Project Evaluation Officer I

Juvelyn
V. Dela Cruz
Development Management Officer I

John Francis
F. Herrera
Program Management Assistant

Jeffrey
S. Magalo
Program Management Assistant

Renzenia
T. Bocan
Program Management Assistant

Mervin
B. Vitangol
Training Specialist

ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCE UNIT

Julie Ann
A. Anchetta-Soleriano
Administrative Officer IV

BUDGET AND ACCOUNTING SERVICES

Geelyn
M. Mercado
Accountant I

Lovely
S. Ravila
Administrative Aide I

CASHIERING SERVICES

Arianne
T. Guerra
Acting Cashier

John Mark
M. Gomez
Administrative Aide VI

SUPPLY MANAGEMENT SERVICES

Jaypee
Y. Francis
Administrative Officer II

PERSONNEL AND RECORDS SERVICES

Angela
S. Amalozta
Network Controller I

Ma. Isabel
S. Lim
Administrative Aide V

GENERAL SERVICES

Elmer
S. Pasco
Inventory Manager II

Edwin
C. Cerrado
Driver

Ma. Cristina
B. Erni
Inventory Assistant

Arnold
B. Venturan
Driver

Lucina
O. Desnacido
Security Guard I

Gregorio
Q. Flores
Utility Worker

Virgilio
E. Maesa
Security Guard I

Renato
O. Ferrer
Farm Worker

Crispin
M. Arnaza Jr.
Driver - Mechanic

Albert
A. Limbo
Utility Worker



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