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Celencio Maligsa

## FROM **BATTLE** fields TO **Greenfields**

p8-10



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### COVER DESIGN

MA. PAMELA N. RESPECIA

### CONSULTANT

CAROLYN MAY O. DAQUIO, PhD

### WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU

ATI-RTC 7 Training Complex,  
Cabawan District, Tagbilaran City  
6300 Bohol, Philippines  
+63917.321.8524  
aticv.7@gmail.com; ati\_7cv@yahoo.com  
www.ati.da.gov.ph/ati-7

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KAUGMARAN (n) Cebuano-Bisaya term for development

### ON OUR COVER:

CELENCIO OMANG MALIGSA, 62 YEARS OLD IS KAPITAN DODONG TO THE COMMUNITY. A DEDICATED FARMER.

## VOLUME 4, ISSUE 4

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# ATI-7 Agritalk 2020 goes multi-media

by DORIS ISABEL J. RACHO



Personnel from the Information Services Section of ATI-7 spearheads the successful conduct of a 10-episode Agritalk via dyRD AM 1161kHz; BCCTV Channel 6 and FB Live at ATI-Central Visayas page which runs from October 12-23, 2020 from Monday to Friday

**T**agbilaran City – Over 80,000 views reached through its Facebook page and does not only include those covered through TeleRadyo on the recently concluded ATI-7 Agritalk.

Agritalk which was originally conducted by the ATI Central office in partnership with the Bureau of Agricultural Research, SM Mall and Agriculture Magazine of the Manila Bulletin Publishing Corporation has been rolled out since 2018 in selected cities Nationwide through face to face gathering at designated SM Malls. This year, because of the pandemic were social distancing is observed, ATI-7 Agritalk program grabbed the multimedia scheme where agri-enthusiasts and the like could participate by listening and watching through dyRD radio station and Bohol Community Cable Television respectively, while making it available also through the Center's FB page. The program was aired from October 12-23, 2020 (Mondays to Fridays).

Aside from the pre-selected participants in the province of Bohol, feedbacks from viewers showed that ATI -7 Agritalk reached as far as the US, UK and some parts of Asia and other parts of the country. Pre-selected participants were then given after activity support or



Ms. Pamela Respecia-Macaambac, Technical Staff who acted as Agritalk Floor Director gives instruction to the host, Doris Isabel J. Racho and guest speaker, Merigine C. Otarra on Culinary Medicine (plant-based juice & salad)

AgriKits which composed of seedlings, bolo, hand trowel and sprinkler.

Topics discussed during the 10-day program includes Wellness and Good nutrition amidst pandemic by Dr. Jefferson Ong, MD; Herbs production thru Organic Agriculture by Jun Alguin Oliver and Culinary Medicine by Merigine Otarra.

*“Agritalk is very informative. I have learned much especially in making concoctions, also appreciated this because it's not just about food production but also to ensure good nutrition. Hope to have more Agritalk in the future.”* - Luz Micutuan, Dausi, Bohol

*“I can't control everything in life but because of the episodes I recently watched. I can control what I put in my body and how to keep away from stress. Agritalk is informative and helpful.”* - Ann Marie Mirafuentes, Cortes, Bohol



The three (3) resource persons behind the success of the Agritalk

# Rice Program

by ENGR. JONATHAN O. SUMAGANG

## School-on-the-Air on Hybrid Rice and RCEF

The Agricultural Training Institute-Regional Training Center 7 conducted two School-on-the-Air (SOA) which funding came from the Rice Program. One SOA on Hybrid Rice Production thru Updated Rice Production Technology dubbed as “Tonghaan sa Humayan sa Kahanginan” aired via DYTR 1116 KHz, Tagbilaran City, Bohol from September 7 – October 9, 2020 with 25 airings every Monday to Friday from 4:00AM to 5:00AM

Sixteen municipalities were covered generating 343 participants, to wit: Alburquerque-20 participants; Antequera-35; Baclayon-24; Balilihan-17; Calape-27; Catigbian-19; Corella-21; Cortes-16; Dimiao-4; Loboc-34; Loon-27; Maribojoc-19; San Isidro-20; Sevilla-4; Sikatuna-27; and Tubigon-29 respectively.

Each participant received 1 pack (3 Kilograms) hybrid rice seeds as starter kits, Palay Check Booklet and rice IEC



The men and women behind the SOA on Hybrid Rice Production through Updated Rice Production Technology with ATI-7 Center Director, Dr. Carolyn May O. Daquio. From L-R: Engr. Jonathan O. Sumagang; Ma. Gracia Soliva-Pungay, Training Specialist III; Angelie B. Mencede, Technical Staff; Arnel S. Navarro, Technical Staff and Training Specialist I, Joemelyn Allianic-Sumagang



**AGRICULTURAL TRAINING INSTITUTE**  
**Regional Training Center 7**



**SKWELAHAN SA KAHANGINAN:**  
**Teleradyo sa Humayan**

**October 1-30, 2020**

**100.9 FM Radyo Jagna Teleradyo, Jagna, Bohol**

Information Officer II/SOA Coordinator, Mr. Jun Alguin B. Oliver (Bottom) anchored the month-long SOA on Rice Competitiveness Enhancement Fund (SOA) over Radyo Jagna with Technical Staff, Mr. Arnel S. Navarro

materials while the top 72 graduates (based on exam results) were received a special awards like Knapsack Sprayer (3), Urea and Complete Fertilizer (8), Radio (20), Sharp Bolo (30) and MOET kit (11).

The starter kits, special award and, certificates were delivered to the respective LGUs care of the SOA coordinators.

Ma. Gracia Soliva-Pungay and Engr. Jonathan O. Sumagang anchored the SOA Program.

Meanwhile, another SOA-Skwelahan sa Kahanginan: Teleradyo sa Humayan was conducted over 100.9 FM Radyo Jagna, Teleradyo, Jagna, Bohol last October 1-30, 2020 with 353 enrollees.

**Agriculture is not crop production as popular belief holds - it's the production of food and fiber from the world's land and waters. Without agriculture it is not possible to have a city, stock market, banks, university, church or army.**

**Agriculture is the foundation of civilization and any stable economy.**

~ALLAN SAVORY, is a Zimbabwean ecologist, livestock farmer, and president and co-founder of the Savory Institute.~

## 3 LGUs granted 80K for Palayamanan Plus Enhancement



*Engr. Jonathan O. Sumagang, DMO II at the same time the Rice Focal Person of ATI-7 handed-over the Ph80,000.00 financial assistance for Palayamanan Plus Enhancement in the region to the 3 beneficiaries for their respective projects*

The remaining quarter of 2020 is busy for the Rice Program of ATI in Central Visayas. Among the many highlights include the three (3) sites of Palayamanan Plus Enhancement in the amount of Eighty Thousand Pesos (Ph80,000.00) as financial assistance to their respective projects.

First is Asturias, Cebu through the Mag-uumang Nagkahiusa Alang sa Malungtarong Agrikultura sa Tag-amakan Asturias (MANAGSAMATA) which was downloaded to the Local Government Unit (LGU) of Asturias last October 9, 2020 for their Vermi Composting Facility.

The second site is at Talibon, Bohol through the Magsaysay Lower Free Farmers Organization which was downloaded to LGU-Talibon last October 12, 2020 for their Rice-Duck Production while the last site was at Alicia, Bohol through Bohol Bagasico Irrigators Association with their check turn-over held last December 18, 2020.

## Other significant achievements

There are seven (7) batches of RCM FITS enhanced in the region, namely: Guindulman, Dimiao, Baclayon, Alicia and Talibon of the province of Bohol and La Libertad, Bacong, Negros Oriental.

The center was able to conduct one (1) batch RCM Advisory Services (RAS) Training last October 13-16, 2020 with 19 participants.

Moreover, two (2) batches of RCM-Technical Briefing was held at Corella, Bohol on October 22 and Mabini, Bohol on November 11-12, 2020 with a total of 100 farmers briefed.

With the month-long celebration of the National Rice Awareness Month (NRAM)

in November, the center kicked-off its activity thru Webinar last November 19, 2020 and on November 26, 2020, with the Closing Activity held at JJ's Seafoods Village, Tagbilaran City.

Meanwhile, a Training on the Updated Rice Production Technology was conducted with face-to-face mode with 20 participants last October 6-8, 2020 at Upper Tag-ibo, San Juan, Siquijor.



# Organic Agriculture Program by MA. GRACIA SOLIVA-PUNGAY

## 46 organic farmers finish Season-Long FFS on Integrated Organic Vegetable Production

A 16-week Season-Long Farmer Field School on Integrated Organic Vegetable Production was simultaneously conducted from July 28-November 25, 2020 at Duero in Bohol and Amlan in Negros Oriental province with a total of 46 farmers trained, 17 from Duero and 29 from Amlan respectively.

Spearheading the activity is Career and Development Management Section (CDMS) Section Chief, Training Specialist III, Ma. Gracia Soliva-Pungay with the support of the Local Government Units of each town through the Office of the Municipal Agriculturist. Ms. Mirason R. Verula, Agricultural Technician together with Mr. Ronulfo G. Caseñas, Municipal Agriculturist of LGU-Duero and Ms. Hermocilia Rabanal, Agricultural Technician and Mr. Jovencio Felisilda, Municipal Agriculturist of LGU-Amlan, Negros Oriental facilitated the activities.

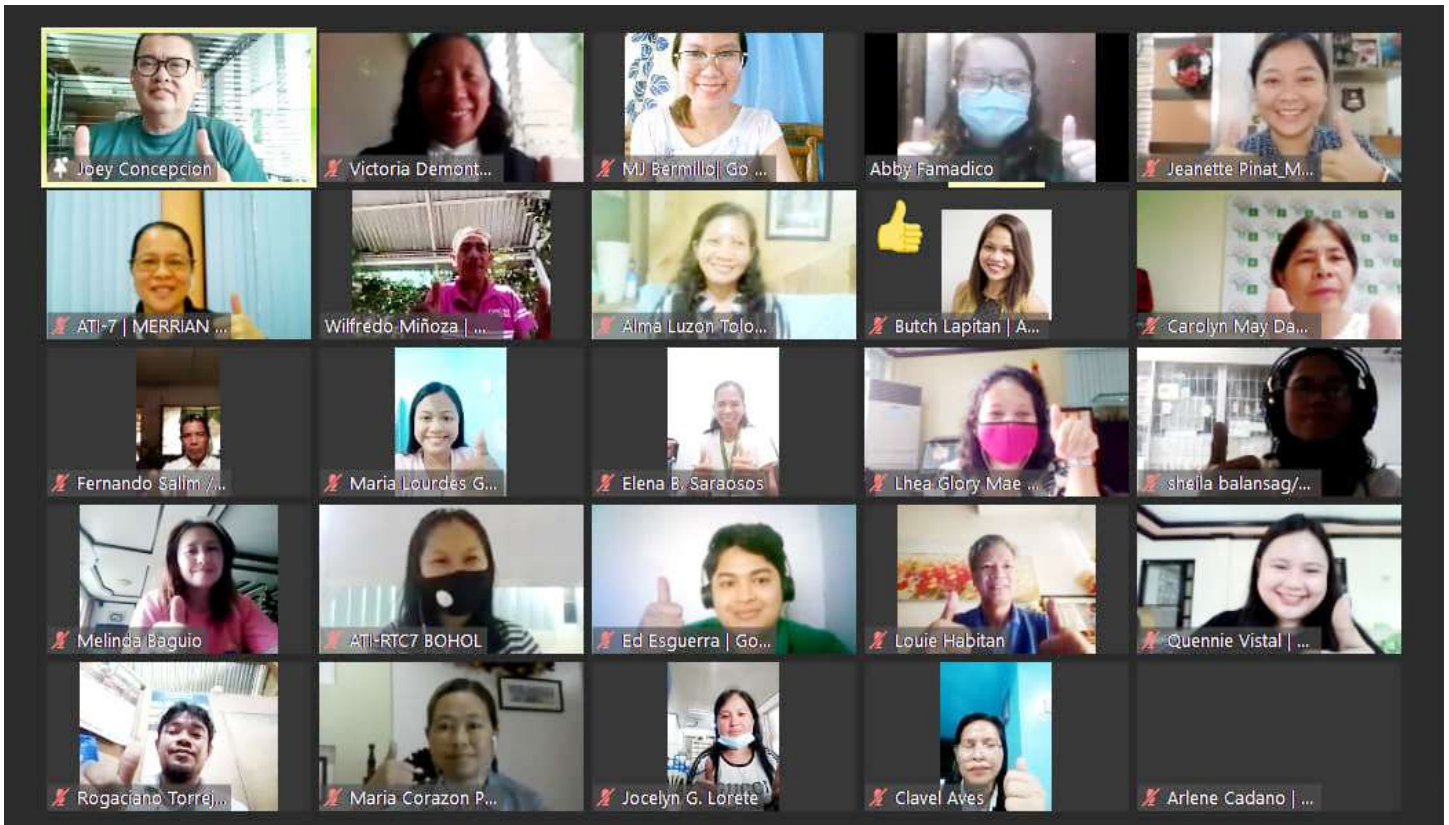
The objective of the training is to enhance the knowledge, attitude and skills of the FFS participants composed of local organic vegetable farmers on the new technologies developed for organic vegetable farming, and help boost their interest to revive the organic vegetable industry in the locality.



*Duero, Bohol FFS site with women participants who were actively involved in all the field activities*



*FFS Graduation at Amlan, Negros Oriental where fresh produce and activity outputs were displayed showcasing their 16-week activity*



## Go Negosyo, KAMMP-7 culminates with 29 mentees

by MERRIAN PIQUERO SOLIVA

**C**ENTRAL VISAYAS. Twenty-nine successful mentees across the region completed the Kapatid Agri Mentor Me Program (KAMMP-7), conducted by Go Negosyo and the Agricultural Training Institute-Regional Training Center 7 (ATI-7). The virtual graduation ceremony was held on December 11, 2020 hosted by Ms. Abby Famadico of Go Negosyo and Dr. Merrian Piquero Soliva of ATI-7.

Gracing the event was Ms. Ginggay Hontiveros-Malvar, Go Negosyo Senior Adviser for Agripreneurship and Mindanao Programs Head and Vice President of Aboitiz, where she reiterated on her message that Agripreneurship and Entrepreneurship are the drivers of economic recovery and the mentees and the mentors are the heart of this program.

Center Director, Dr. Carolyn May

O. Daquio on her opening remarks disclosed that she is very much happy that majority of the KAMMP-7 mentees are learning sites in the region. Moreover, she is grateful that the activity was a success because people need to survive and co-exist with the pandemic.

Secretary William Dar also gave his message of support to the successful mentees for their time and effort to participate in this endeavor. He made mention that KAMMP is a great venue especially for small enterprises in the agriculture sector to become economic drivers of the nation.

Meanwhile, the keynote speaker of the online graduation is the Presidential Adviser for Entrepreneurship and Go Negosyo Founder, Mr. Joey Concepcion III. In his message, he expressed his gratitude to the successful mentees and emphasized that in order to succeed,

everyone must consider the right mindset because it is the ultimate aim of Go Negosyo that no Filipinos must be left behind in terms of economic success. More so, he wanted all the mentees to consider the 3Ms, that is Mentorship, Money and Market.

The nine-module online program kicked-off last October 2, 2020 with the opening program and the session on Module 1 starting on October 6 while Module 9 ended on November 3, 2020. The highlight of the activity was the presentation of individual Business Improvement Plan (BIP) last December 7, 2020.

The KAMMP-7 team of ATI-7 was composed of Reynadez L. Curayag, the Project Officer; Lhea Glory Mae B. Araña, co-project officer; technical support staff, Quennie Lou B. Vistal; Ma. Pamela N. Respecia and Merrian Piquero Soliva.

# From Battlefields to Greenfields: AN INSPIRING ACCOUNT OF KAPITAN DODONG

by MERRIAN PIQUERO SOLIVA, PHD



*Kapitan Dodong's journey in the field is not a walk in the park. His love for farming is not instant, though he grew up with parents who were both farmers. Literally, the field means hardship and success for him because he served in the army for 14 years as combatant before he focused his life into farming, thus, the battle cry "from battlefields to greenfields" is but fitting so to speak.*

### Early life in the battlefield

Celencio Omang Maligsa, 62 years old is Kapitan Dodong to the community. Though he first served as a barangay councilor for many terms but his reign as Barangay Chairman has been engrained in the people's minds.

Prior to his elective post in the community and as a

full-time farmer, Kapitan Dodong was once a military officer serving for 14 years from the fields of Mindanao to Freedom Land or famously known as the Pagasa Island or Spratleys in 1976 onwards.

Though his stint in Mindanao and the Spratleys was short-lived because he was sent to school to take up radio operator, but his battalion served as presidential guards during the Marcos regime then to Abra to



fight for the country from the famous “Balwig” then proceeded to Bicol and faced the insurgents that staged coup d’ etat.

As a military man, their term of service is every three (3) years and renewable for another 3. With the risk they were facing and so timely that their term is ending, their battalion commander Colonel Martillano advised them to apply for honorable dismissal so they can focus for another means of income and the moment, they wanted to go back full throttle, they still can.

Kapitan Dodong vividly recalled that the notice of both his application for honorable dismissal and promotion as Technical Sergeant arrived on same date. But he never doubted his decision to take the dismissal, because of other reasons, thus, he received his compensation from the service in lump sum in the amount of Two Hundred Eighty Thousand Pesos.

## Embracing farming

After his honorable dismissal from the military, Kapitan Dodong did not turn his life into farming yet, instead, he explored a lot of jobs from being a bodyguard to a politician, to body builder in one of the known motor shops in Cagayan de Oro City.

In May of 1990, he met his wife, Victorina Caliao in Makilala, Cotabato and tried farming. Though, Nenen as she is fondly called has their roots from Pandol, Corella, Bohol same place where Kapitan Dodong is a native but Nenen was born in Makilala where their family settled in.

It was in 1997 that Kapitan Dodong and Nenen decided to come home to Pandol, Corella, Bohol to start their life as a couple. At first, they tilled the half-hectare rice field as tenant and were blessed to harvest nearly 70 sacks in 50kilos each for their first tillage.

## Transforming his life to the greenfields

From that experience that his rice yields were high and they were able to sell some to the community because the harvest is too much for their consumption, Kapitan Dodong decided to focus full time in farming.

His first acquaintance with the Agricultural Training Institute in Central Visayas started in 1997 when his farm was used as demonstration farm through the

inter-agency collaboration with Training Specialist III, Precioso A. Patindol and Training Specialist II, Manuel G. Jayectin who implemented the Farmers’ Field School (FFS) on rice through the Municipal Agriculture Officer, Edmundo Tajantajan.

In 2010, the Provincial Agriculture Office in Bohol implemented the Bahay-Kubo FAITH (Food Always in the Home) Gardening where Kapitan Dodong’s garden emerged as the municipal and the provincial winner respectively.

That farming feat encouraged him to continue making his farm productive even without accolade waiting, because farming for him is indeed a notable passion. Before the organic practice was mainstreamed, Kapitan Dodong already practiced and applied said inputs to his farm.

With the support of the Local Government Unit of Corella, he was sent to various training conducted by ATI-7 and other agencies where his knowledge on farming widened and finally, he was nominated to





become the town's Magsasaka Siyentista and the connection and partnership went on and on.

## Farming, a notable passion

With his time fully devoted to farming, Kapitan Dodong became the first President of the Ubi Growers in Bohol as well as for Corn and served as Vice President of the Municipal Agriculture and Fishery Council (MAFC) in the municipality of Corella plus a numerous active participation and affiliations on farmers' group in the province.

Kapitan Dodong is the third child of 5 children of parents Aquilino Maligsa and Juana Omang. He recalled in verbatim: *"sa panguma, kung maningkamot lang, lupigon pa ang sweldo sa mga mamumoo nga naa sa pangagamhanan tungod kay sa akoang nasinati, ang yuta nga akoang gitikad nga adunay gidak-on 970 square meters, nakahatag kanako kini og halin nga limpyo nga Ph37,000.00."* (If we take farming seriously as a profession, our income is way much bigger compared to that of a government employee, for example, the net yield of a 970 square meters lot reach as high as Ph37, 000.00)

With that, he is more encouraged to continue farming because his income for a week, the usual range from Ph2,000 to 3,000 on the diversified gardening using natural inputs is way much higher especially when he concentrates producing crops that is in demand in the market like ampalaya, eggplant, cucumber and lettuce.

Besides, he and his wife were able to provide additional income to neighbors who sells their products to the community and to the cooperative where they give one-fourth of the total net sales. Moreso, big hotels in the city also bought their products fresh in a competitive price.

Meanwhile, since, the lot that they tilled is already their own out from the earning of his retirement that he received from his service, Kapitan Dodong is now truly happy and inspired to share that farming is indeed a notable passion, he will live and die for his services in the land because he never regretted to transform from battlefields to greenfields.



# Livestock Program

by VHERNEY C. CABASAG II

## Back to Basics Project Update



Sagbayan, Bohol Municipal Agriculturist, Arlene Aparri (second from L) receives the after training support of Back to Basics Livelihood Project through ATI-7 Livestock Focal Person, Mr. Vherney C. Cabasag II (2nd from R) comprise of 1 unit incubator, 70 sacks of feeds and 20 modules for 20 farmer-beneficiaries last October 2020. Back to basics is a Project under the National Livestock Program

The Livestock Program of the Agricultural Training Institute in Central Visayas spearheaded by its Focal Person, Agriculturist I, Mr. Vherney C. Cabasag, II conducted the BACK TO BASICS - a Scientific and Sustainable Livestock and Poultry Production Project.

The activity generally aims to promote, introduce and sustain the production of swine and poultry raisers particularly free-range and duck for livelihood and for food production in the four provinces of Region 7. It is expected to serve a total of 140 swine and poultry raisers from the region identified by both the provincial and municipal Local Government Units (LGUs).

These participants will be provided with technical inputs through Chicken Production Seminar and other forms of information, education and communication (IEC) instructions and they will be awarded with intended modules (animals outlay) and other biological assets support.

The distribution took place last November 3 to December 28, 2020 in the four provinces with the assistance of the LGUs and ATI-7 technical staff deployed.

## 11 units Egg incubator awarded to LGUs

Six (6) LGUs in Bohol (Candijay, San Miguel, Sikatuna, Lila, Sagbayan and Loon) received 1 unit egg incubator with 300 egg capacity respectively.

In the province of Siquijor, 2 units were distributed for Larena; 2 units for Maria and 1 unit for Enrique Villanueva.

## 223 Modules and other biological assets awarded

ATI-7 distributed a total of 223 modules for poultry production wherein a module comprises 2 cocks and 10 pullets to identified farmer-beneficiaries in the region. Six (6) LGUs from the province of Bohol namely: Candiyay, San Miguel, Sikatuna, Lila, Sagbayan and Loon and another six (6) from the province of Siquijor which include Larena, Maria, Enrique Villanueva, San Juan and Lazi.

Aside from these modules, the above-mentioned beneficiaries also received feeds and chicken nets.

*Back to Basics Project a Scientific and Sustainable Livestock and Poultry Production Project under the National Livestock Program*

### Swine Dispersal for Negros Oriental

Forty-five farmer-beneficiaries in the province of Negros Oriental received 2 piglets and 2.5 bags of feeds. These municipalities include Siaton (10 farmers); Valencia (12 farmers); Ayungon (11 Farmers) and Tanjay City (12 farmers).

#### AI sa Barangay

With the objective of promoting the use of artificial insemination (AI) technique and enhance breeding productivity of swine farmers. The ATI-7 awarded three (3) farmers in the region with two (2) breeder boars; AI paraphernalia and Laboratory equipment.

The following farmers awarded were Rogaciano Torrijano of Anislag, Corella, Bohol, Veronica Paman of Tubigon, Bohol and Jose Chanel Sedillo of Amlan, Negros Oriental.



A brief technical input on livestock raising was given to farmer-beneficiaries of the Swine Dispersal Project of ATI-7 to recipients of Barangay Lico-lico, Bonawon, Siaton, Negros Oriental. The briefing was made possible by the Office of the Municipal Agriculturist of Siaton

### ATI awards Certificate cum Financial Assistance to LS

by ENGR. RIZALDY C. MERCADAL



L-R: PASS Staff, Agriculturist II, Engr. Rizaldy C. Mercadal with Center Director, Dr. Carolyn O. Daquio pose with Dr. Nestor Pestelos and son of Kahayag Farm during the awarding of LS Certificate and MOA Signing

CENTRAL VISAYAS – As of the last quarter of 2020, the Agricultural Training Institute (ATI) in this region, awarded four (4) Learning Sites with financial assistance for the enhancement of their respective farms.

Center Director, Dr. Carolyn May O. Daquio together with Partnership and Accreditation Services Section (PASS) Chief, Senior Agriculturist, Lydia B. Borbano

awarded the cheque to Mayor Lucas Asotigue Permaculture Learning Farm of Triple Union, Catigbian, Bohol; Arjhel's Agricultural Farm of Subayon, Bilar, Bohol; Balloca's Family Farm of Bulilis, Ubay, Bohol and Labonite Family Farm of San Isidro, Pilar, Bohol.

The awarding of cheque was held at the regional center based in Cabawan District, Tagbilaran City.

Meanwhile, three (3) LS inked their Memorandum of Agreement with ATI and were awarded with their Certificate. These farms are South Farm of Bolod, Panglao; Treetopz Farm Escapade of Pantad, Bahi, Alburquerque and Kahayag Farm and Social Action Center of Laya, Bacayon, all from Bohol province respectively.



Another LS Certificate handed to Treetopz Farm Escapade of Pantad, Bahi, Alburquerque, Bohol

# High Value Crop Development Program

by JOEMELYN ALLIANIC-SUMAGANG

## KAKRISMASRO's community garden conducts harvest festival



Members of KAKRISMARSRO's together with the Office of the Municipal Agriculturist of Maribojoc, Bohol and ATI-7 personnel during the harvest festival even amidst the threat of the pandemic

**B**OHOL – Upon the onset of COVID 19 outbreak, the Department of Agriculture's programs and priorities have been focused on the Plant, Plant, Plant Program to ensure that every Filipino family can survive amidst pandemic with enough food on their tables.

In support to the program, the Agricultural Training Institute Region 7 implemented the establishment of Community Gardens under Urban Agriculture Program. One of the grantees of this program is the Kaponongan sa Kristohanong Mag-uuma sa Sto. Rosario (KAKRISMASRO) located in Bayacabac, Maribojoc, this province. This group was provided with agricultural inputs such as various vegetable seeds, seedlings, vermicast, seedling trays, polyethylene bags, garden hose, and gardening gloves to enhance their gardening operation.

On December 4, 2020, the ATI in Central Visayas together with the members of KAKRISMASRO joined the Nationwide Harvest Festival 2020 at the community garden in Bayacabac, Maribojoc, Bohol. The activities included were Field Day, Ceremonial Harvest, Display of Harvest and Free Seminar on Healthy Juices.

## FAITH Community Garden hold groundbreaking ceremony

**T**AGBILARAN CITY – Through the collaborative effort of ATI in Central Visayas and the City Government of Tagbilaran thru the City Agriculture and Veterinary Office, the groundbreaking ceremony of the FAITH Community Garden in this city was held last November 19, 2020.

Gracing the activity is City Mayor Baba Yap, City Councilor Dulce Glovasa, ABC President Odysseus Glovasa, Chairman of Barangay Affairs Alvin Alquisar and CAVO-OIC, Dr. Gennette Mae D. Egos together with ATI-7 Center Director, Dr. Carolyn May O. Daquio; Training Specialist II, Jorge F. Trinidad and High Value Crop Development Program (HVCDP) Focal Person and Training Specialist I, Joemelyn Allianic-Sumagang.



L-R: Joemelyn Allianic-Sumagang with Dr. Gennete Mae Egos, Jorge F. Trinidad, City Councilor Dulce Glovasa, City Mayor John Geesnell "BABA" Yap and ABC President Odysseus Glovasa

*"If you have a garden and a library, you have everything you need." ~ Marcus Tullius Cicero~*

# Corn Program

by JEFFREY O. AWAS



ATI-7 Technical Staff, Engr. Daphny Tumala facilitated the second batch of barangay-based Corn-based Farming System Training held at Barangay Logucan, Maria, Siquijor on October 13-14, 2020

## Barangay-based Training on Corn held

The increase of productivity has always been the primary concern of every agricultural development effort. This manifestation encourages our government thru the Department of Agriculture to extend much efforts in designing various farming strategies to increase income of our corn farmers.

The Agricultural Training Institute-Regional Training Center 7 conducted a batch 2 Barangay-Based Training on Corn-Based Farming System. The said training was held at Brgy. Logucan, Maria, Siquijor on October 13-14, 2020. Twenty (20) farmers at twenty (20) were given individually input assistance/after-training support namely; 1 bag of open pollinated variety corn seeds, 1 bag vermicast, 1 bag complete fertilizer (14-14-14), 1 bag urea, 1 kilo of mungo and peanut seeds.

The resource persons of the two-day training tackled the Corn-based Farming System, Corn Production Technology, Prevention and Control of Fall Armyworm (FAW) and the Mycotoxin. The activities were supported by the Local Government Unit wherein the Local Chief Executive together with the municipal agriculturist and the provincial agriculturist were present during the training aforementioned.

Due to covid-19 pandemic, the face-to-face training had followed quarantine protocols like wearing of face masks, social distancing from 1-2 meters, regular handwashing and use of alcohol during its conduct. Temperatures were monitored during the duration of the activity and accepted participants aging between 21-59 years old.

## Corn farmers undergo Financial Literacy Training

The Department of Agriculture (DA) crafted a financial literacy program for farmers and fisherfolks to ensure an efficient budgetary management for the industry.

Thus, the Agricultural Training Institute (ATI) as the training arm of the department will conduct series of financial literacy trainings. Last November 25-26, 2020, the ATI-RTC 7, conducted Financial Literacy Training at Cadayday's Garden, Tambacan, Poblacion, Santa Catalina, Negros Oriental.

The two-day training was participated by some twenty (20) corn farmers and each one of them received 1 bag of OPV corn seeds and 1 bag complete fertilizer.

The training aims to inform the farmers the importance of managing their finances well.

The successful conduct is through the collaboration of LGU-MAO Sta. Catalina spearheaded by their Municipal Agriculturist Mr. Renato T. Cadayday and Ms. Lorna Petra Z. Fusio, Corn Technician.



Strictly following healthy protocols against COVID-19, the ATI-7 through the Office of the Municipal Agriculture of Sta. Catalina, Negros Oriental, conducted a two-day Financial Literacy Training with 20 corn-farmer participants last November 25-26, 2020 at Cadayday's Garden, Tambacan, Poblacion, Santa Catalina, Negros Oriental



Amidst the pandemic, ATI in Central Visayas continue to serve its clientele to effectively deliver extension services in the field. Center Director, Dr. Carolyn May O. Daquio (3rd from L) personally handed over ICT equipment to Municipal Agriculturists of Guindulman, Dimiao and Mabini in the province of Bohol. In photo: Dr. Gracia F. Arado, TCS I (extreme Left) with Geoffrey Gulay; Jayrell Adanza of Dimiao; and Hipolita Ayuban of Alicia with FITS Focal Person, Doris Isabel Racho (extreme Right)

## Bohol FITS Centers Receive Computers

by DORIS ISABEL J. RACHO

**B**OHOL - To equip the Farmers' Information and Technology Services (FITS) Centers in the province with additional Information and Communication Technology (ICT) tools, the Agricultural Training Institute – VII (ATI- 7) handed Netbooks, Global Positioning System (GPS), tablets, pocket wifi, Bookshelves, and assorted Information, Education and Communication materials to four (4) FITS Centers in the region on October 22, 2020, at the ATI-7 Regional Training Center, Cabawan, Tagbilaran City.

ATI being the lead agency in implementing extension services of the Department of Agriculture is keen on bridging the gap of farmers' access to Rice Crop Manager by tapping the FITS Centers. FITS is an information and technology delivery service facility that aimed at improving access of farmers, traders, processors, entrepreneurs, and other stakeholders to information and technologies in agriculture and fisheries.

The FITS Centers are mostly located in the Municipal/City Agriculture Offices in every municipality/city. With the enhancement project, ATI will be able to expand its extension services to a greater number of stakeholders.

A total of 6 Municipal Agriculture Officers (MAOs) availed of the project this year namely Alicia, Dimiao, Guindulman, and Baclayon in the province of Bohol, and Bacong and La Libertad for the province of Negros Oriental. MAOs of the said municipalities in the province of Bohol attended the turn-over.

Meanwhile, ATI-7 Center Director Carolyn May O. Daquio, Ph.D. in her message, mentioned that she is confident that the equipment provided by ATI will help in the delivery of extension work.

# KAUGMARAN



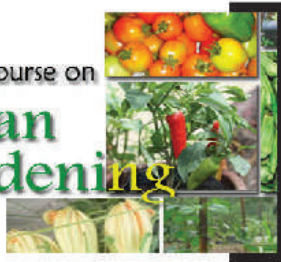
Celencio Mallgsa

## FROM BATTLEfields TO Greenfields

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ati\_7cv@yahoo.com



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+63 917.321.8524  
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### INFORMATION SERVICES SECTION

Agricultural Training Institute-Region 7 (ATI-7)  
Cabawan District, Tagbilaran City, Bohol 6300  
www.ati.da.gov.ph/ati-7 | aticv.7@gmail.com  
0917-321.8524

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