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LASOVEGA: *Together moving forward*

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La Suerte Organic Vegetable
Association of Pilar, Bohol"



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KAUGMARAN
(n) Cebuano-Bisaya term
for development

DAGOHOY HIGH SCHOOL WINS ORGANIC AGRICULTURE QUIZ BEE 2022

by shanemie carelle d. pradera



BOHOL – The Department of Agriculture (DA)-Agricultural Training Institute (ATI) in Central Visayas hosted its agriculture-based quiz bee contest for senior high school students (SHS) at Bohol Cultural Center on November 16, 2022.

The purpose of the program was to increase youth participation and increase knowledge on organic agriculture among young people.

Furthermore, to inspire young farmers and students to pursue organic agriculture, as well as showcase diverse technology through an agricultural quiz competition.

Additionally, to inform students on recent developments in organic agriculture technology and broaden their knowledge by presenting solutions to trivia questions.

Around 27 selected SHS students from various schools in Bohol joined the quiz bee.

The quiz bee's contents cover agricultural theories and legal considerations including the 2010 Organic Agriculture Act (OA Act), integrated diversified organic farming systems, organic agriculture, production of crops, livestock, and poultry, Philippine national standards on OA, and current affairs.

The quiz bee was divided into three rounds — easy, moderate, and difficult rounds. The following are the winners:

1st Place – San Miguel Puertos High School, Dagohoy

- Brenda Sinadjan
- Camille Esto

2nd Place – Mayor Pablo O. Lim Memorial High School, Valencia

- Clauden C. Ydulzura
- Mariel T. Pahayac

3rd Place – San Isidro Technical Vocational High School, Pilar

- Angelika R. Mapang
- Meriam M. Lipasana

Other Participating Schools:

- Bantolinao National High School, Antequera
- Canhayupon National High School, Dimiao
- Francisco L. Adlaon High School, Carmen
- JAPER Memorial High School, Sagbayan
- Mahayag National High School, San Miguel
- San Miguel Technical Vocational School, San Miguel.

Aside from plaque and certificate of recognition for the first, second and third placer, they also received cash prizes amounting to PHP 5,000.00, PHP 4,000.00, and PHP 3,000.00, respectively. In addition, they also received ATI-CV advocacy materials.

On another hand, PHP 1,000.00, a certificate of appreciation and advocacy materials were also given as consolation prizes to the students of participating schools.

Proclamation No. 1030, s. 2015 declares the month of November of every year as Organic Agriculture Month, which has been implemented annually to heighten public awareness of organic agriculture practices to address issues related to malnutrition and poverty and attainment of self-sufficiency.



DISASTER RESPONSE TRAINING LEVELS UP



BOHOL – Agricultural Training Institute-Central Visayas (ATI-CV) implemented the Disaster Risk Reduction and Management: Skills Training in Handling Hazards for ATI Employees at ATI 7 Training Complex, Cabawan District, Tagbilaran City, this province on November 15-17, 2022.

The three-day training aimed to apply standard first aid in a workplace, demonstrate how to perform basic bandaging, apply different carrying rescue techniques, demonstrate how to perform firefighting techniques, demonstrate how to use rope in rescuing, perform Earthquake Simulation, and perform Fire Drill Exercise.

"Nalipay ko nga ni-attend ko ani nga training kay dako ni siya'g tabang in case mahitabo gyud ang linog ug sunog. Ang akong masulti sa training management team is maayo ang pagdumala sa ani nga training. Sa Resource persons, expert sila, jolly ug knowledgeable. Daghan tag makat-onan. Sa participants, participative pod sila. Sa training is nadugangan ang akong kahibalo about sa paghandle sa victim

ug unsay angay buhaton nato sa ani nga panghitabo. Sa foods, lamian ra pod kay healthy foods kasagaran," expressed Ms. Hazeel May B. Roche, Technical Staff. Mr Jericho L. Yarte explained the Standard First Aid Procedure.

On the other hand, Mr. EJ Anthony E. Lacea discussed Carrying Techniques with a return demo. Moreover, Mr. Ronel R. Lofranco talked about Knot tying, Rope rescue techniques, and Basic Rappelling. In addition, Mr. Lord H. Pacheco shared the Basic Fire Safety Protocol. Furthermore, Mr. Fritz Dennis B. Ruyeras expounded on the Bandaging/Triangular Bandaging with Demo & Return Demo. Likewise, Mr. Kelvin Tiu spoke about Firefighting safety gear and techniques. Additionally, Ms. Pearl Marie P. Galia talked about Fire Brigade Structure.

"Pasalamat ko sa ATI nga nakaapil ko ani nga training. Gamit kaayu siya para nako ug sa atung opisina. Daghang Salamat," shared Fidel D. Monteron, Jr., Admin staff of the center.

A total of 38 ATI-CV employees composed of 16 males and 22 females participated in the activity.

YEAR-END CUM MANAGEMENT REVIEW HELD IN THE CENTER

TAGBILARAN CITY – The Agricultural Training Institute in Central Visayas (ATI-CV) conducted the annual Year-End and Management Review held at ATI-CV, Cabawan District, this city on December 19-21, 2022.

The three-day activity aimed to have an overall management review, assess the performance and accomplishments for the year 2022 and strengthen the implementation of plans for the succeeding years.

In addition, assess the program performance of the centre, identify issues and concerns on the program implementation, craft strategies to address identified issues, and how to strengthen overall program implementation for better decision making, and contribute strategies in compliance and conformance to the ISO standards.

"Ang activity, for the project officer and training management team, salamat sa pagpahiluna sa activity and sa food, so far, so good. Sa tanang staff nga niattend, salamat kaayo for three years nga experiences and learnings, dili man nako matagsa tagsa ang tanan sa pagpasalamat, akong ikasulti lang nga, it is now a goodbye but it is the day until we meet again," share d Angelie B. Mecedo, Technical Support.

Additionally, the following awards were announced during the assessment:

please turn to page 6...

ATI-7 CAPACITATES LGU ON MONITORING AND EVALUATION

REGIONWIDE – Monitoring and Evaluation is an essential process of an organizational basic support system that could provide valuable information on the ongoing operations of the organization and relevant areas of concern.

Thus, the Agricultural Training Institute in Central Visayas (ATI-CV) conducted the Capability Enhancement and Strengthening: Basic Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) for Local Government Unit (LGU) held at ATI-CV, Cabawan District, Tagbilaran City, Bohol on October 11-13, 2022.

The three-day activity aimed to enhance the knowledge of participants on proper monitoring and evaluation of their programs, projects, and activities. In addition, define monitoring and evaluation and their purpose; describe the basics of evaluation and its process; describe problem structuring, and problem analysis; discuss the Theory of Change & Impact Pathways; discuss Project Monitoring Structure Framework; and discuss Results Chain, Project Evaluation, and Impacts of a Project.

"I am happy to be part of this training. I learned a lot. I was able to attend training like this and I already have an idea, but this training enables me to refresh my learnings and adds a lot more. Thanks also to ATI, my co-participants that are very cooperative and willing to share ideas. Each province may have a different situation and with this group, I gained ideas that I could apply. In every project, we should consider that it would provide an impact. We should not settle on output like just building various infrastructures then we don't know if it was useful or provision of machinery and equipment that is needed by our clients. This training values monitoring and evaluation more. Food was very good and thanks once again to ATI facilitators and project officers," shared John Rey Sedigo, a participant from LGU – Danao City.

Gracia F. Arado, Training Center Superintendent I from ATI-CV explained the Theory of Change. In addition, Lhea Glory Mae B. Araña, Development Manager I from ATI-CV discussed the Results Chain; Workshop 5: Impacts of the Project. Moreover, Emilia M. Rosalinda, Consultant from Ubojan, Tagbilaran City, Bohol talked about the Overview, Problem Structuring, Project Monitoring Structure Framework, and Project Evaluation.

A total of 30 participants across the region attended the activity.

ISO TECHNICAL GUIDANCE HELD ANEW

TAGBILARAN CITY – The Agricultural Training Institute in Central Visayas (ATI-CV) conducted the ISO Technical Guidance held at the ATI-CV Training Complex, Cabawan District, this city on December 1-2, 2022.

The two-day activity aimed to capacitate ATI personnel on the proper identification of risk-based thinking and formulation of quality objectives; identify common mistakes in identifying risks; identify lapses in the formulation of quality objectives; learn the proper risks identification and formulation of quality objectives; and apply learning on Risk Assessment and Quality Objective formulation.

"I learned about the updates of the Risk Assessment review of our different sections from the Administrative and Finance Services Unit Career Development Management section, Partnership and Accreditation Section, Planning Monitoring and Evaluation Unit to the Information and Services Section. This activity is so important and useful to our field and daily work updates," expressed Ryan Joshua V. Villena.

Charlie G. Labrador, Consultant /Trainer/Auditor from TUV-SUD explained the Risk Assessment Plan Review, how it is supposed to be done, Guided Workshop and Critiquing, Quality Objective review, how it is supposed to be done, Guided Workshop and Critiquing.

"Importance of Risk Identification and Risk Assessment Plan. In this orientation, I can say that I have learned a lot. For me this is very useful for us to be aware of the proper ways/procedures/documents needed," shared Hazeel May B. Roche, one of the participants.

A total of 37 ATI-7 staff attended the activity. Tagbilaran City.





YEAR-END CUM...

please turn to page 6...



Information Section

- First Place in Agri Solutions Pitch Poster Presentation
- Second Place in Agri Solutions Paper Presentation on their proposal, Distribution of Knowledge Products (KPs) through "iBasa" App Development
- Notable Accomplishments in the implementation of the Digital Farmers' Program
- Local Media Engagement in the Promotion and Implementation of ATI Programs in the Region

Corn Program

- Second Place Physical and Financial Accomplishments

Organic Agriculture Program

- Second Place Physical and Financial Accomplishments

Special Award

- Attaining 100% of the participants rated the training and other AF-related activities as relevant and appropriate to clientele needs.

The center stays committed to its mission to provide relevant and appropriate extension initiatives under the leadership of its Officer-in-Charge, Gracia F. Arado, PhD.

A total of 46 ATI staff and employees participated in the activity.



RBO COORDINATORS IN THE REGION UNDERGO CAPABILITY ENHANCEMENT TRAINING

REGIONWIDE. – The Agricultural Training Institute in Central Visayas (ATI-CV) implemented the Training Course on Capability Enhancement Training for RBO Coordinators held at ATI-CV, Cabawan District, Tagbilaran City, Bohol on November 23-25, 2022.

The three-day activity aimed to equip the RBO Coordinators with tools, attitudes, skills and knowledge in organizing, maintaining and sustaining the 4-H/RBOs and their activities. In addition, discuss the 4-H Club/RBOs History, operational background, legal basis and significance ceremonies among others; describe the organizing procedures for 4-H Clubs and RBOs; identify the opportunities for 4H and other RBO members /officers both local and international; exercise reorientation towards positive values; explain and discuss the concept of the Extension Delivery System; provide them with a relatable tool in developing IEC Materials which can help them in mainstreaming RBO in their community.

"I Learned a lot about the RBO program in any land of RBOs like RIC, 4-H, P4MP, MS, IP's and also about extension and Canva. Thank you for sharing your knowledge Resource person. I gain additional knowledge about RBO, most especially the 4-H Club and gives me a brighter perspective on how to improve our organization in our Municipality, on

the extension delivery system, I get to know the differences in approaches, methods and strategies. The Canva app greatly has many things to help everybody to complete tasks easier and faster," shared Ariel Cadavid, a participant from San Miguel, Bohol.

Ma. Pamela R. Macaambac, Technical Support Staff from ATI-CV explained the Constitution and By-laws of 4-H and other RBOs' Rituals Ceremonies Activities and events to sustain interest in 4-H and other RBOs' Recognition and awards. In addition, Merrian Piquero-Soliva, Media Production Specialist II from ATI-CV discussed the Extension Delivery System.

Furthermore, May Joy P. Luzon, Administrative Staff from ATI-CV spoke about the topic on Beyond Design: Intro to Canva platform with workshop, and 4H/RRBO Innovative Program Pitching. Additionally, Shanemie Carelle Daquio-Pradera, Information Officer II from ATI-Central Luzon expounded on the topic of Organizing 4-H and other RBOs. Moreover, Lydia B. Borbano, Senior Agriculturist from ATI-CV talked about What to know about RBO's Historical Background and Legal Basis.

A total of 50 participants across the region attended the activity.

HUNGER AND POVERTY REDUCTION THROUGH GOVERNMENT-AGENCIES

CENTRAL VISAYAS – The ATI in Central Visayas through the Enhanced Partnership Against Hunger and Poverty (EPAHP) Program is a collaborative effort among national government agencies such as Office of the President-Office of the Cabinet Secretary, Department of Social Welfare and Development, Department of Agriculture, Department of Agrarian Reform, Department of Health, Department of Interior and Local Government, and Department of Education, among others.

The program is in support to the government's efforts to address critical concerns on hunger mitigation, food nutrition insecurity and poverty reduction. The program is also in pursuit of the government's commitment to the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and in attaining "Ambisyon Natin 2040" which are consistent with the Philippine Development Plan 2017-2022's goals of inclusive growth and poverty reduction.

In support of this program, the Agricultural

Training Institute Regional Training Center 7 has committed to support 60 individuals for "Capacity Development for Farmers". These individuals were identified and are part of DSWDs' Sustainable Livelihood Program and/or beneficiaries of 4Ps. On top of providing technical knowledge on vegetable farming and financial literacy, capacitated participants were also provided with starter kits which include vegetable seeds, garden hose, seedling tray and some garden tools.

In collaboration with the DSWD Regional Office 7 and the local government units, two batches of training were already successfully conducted, reaching 62 individuals. The first training was conducted in Barangay Ermita, Cebu City, Cebu on September 21 – 23, 2022, reaching 30 individuals who are 4Ps beneficiaries. The training focused on urban gardening as this barangay was located in an urban community. The second training was conducted in La Union, Trinidad, Bohol on September 29-30, 2022, reaching 32 individuals. Trained participants are members of the Sustainable Livelihood Program Association in Trinidad.

The Department of Agriculture, along with its bureaus, like the Agricultural Training Institute, would strive to support the government's effort to address critical concerns on hunger mitigation, food and nutrition insecurity, and poverty reduction in urban and rural communities including marginalized communities.

ATI-7 LEADS REGIONAL STAKEHOLDERS CONSULTATION WORKSHOP ON ORGANIC AGRICULTURE PROGRAM FOR 2023-2024

REGIONWIDE. The Agricultural Training Institute-Central Visayas (ATI-CV) organized the Regional Stakeholders Consultation Workshop on Organic Agriculture Training and Extension Program FY 2023-2024 on October 14, 2022, via Google Meet.

The activity aimed to organize and identify relevant training and extension agenda for CY 2023 and 2024. In addition, updates on the Center's Accomplishments covering the period January to July 2022 were shared. The activity was also able to come up with training and extension plans and interventions for 2023 based on the needs of the stakeholders and the priority agenda of the Department of Agriculture.

"It is motivating and inspiring to get updated on programs, to know the status of implementation and more importantly, to get involved in the crafting of training programs. Looking forward to being able to participate in any of the training, either as a trainee or as a resource person. I am hopeful that more farmers will become more productive as they get more knowledge and practice what they learn. Some of my learnings include the updates on NOAP; Region 7 OAP Budget and implementation; ATI/RTC 7 Programs and Services; ROAC date and venue; dates of BAFS pre-assessment of core PGS farms," expressed Grace Cenas, one of the participants.

Moreover, Antonio Jesus C. Orbida, a Member of the Board of Directors from the National Organic Agriculture Board, shared some updates about organic agriculture in the country.

Furthermore, Dr Gracia F. Arado, OIC-Center Director of ATI-CV discussed the commitments of ATI-CV during her welcome message.

The activity was attended by 44 Agricultural Extension Workers (AEWs) from across the region.



COVER *story*
by shanemie carelle d. pradera

LASOVEGA ▶▶ Together Moving Forward

Farming is a vital part of our community, as it provides us with the food and produce we need to survive. It is also an important economic activity, providing jobs and income for farmers and farm workers.

In addition, farming also plays an important role in preserving the environment, by helping to maintain soil fertility and water quality. Additionally, many farms are also used for recreational activities such as hunting, fishing, and bird-watching. Farming is essential for our community's health, economy, and environment, and it is important to support our local farmers and their efforts.

Moreover, as a farmer, being a member of a farmers association is a great way to stay informed on the latest developments in the farming industry.

It can provide access to resources and valuable information that can help make farming more efficient and profitable. It can also provide support and networking opportunities to help farmers work together to share best practices and develop new ideas. Joining a farmers association can also give farmers a voice in advocating for better policies that can benefit the entire agricultural industry.

Furthermore, excellent leadership is essential for any organization, and this is especially true for a farmer's association. Effective leaders can help the association to achieve its goals by bringing people together, inspiring them to work towards a common purpose, and providing direction on important decisions. Good leadership can also help to ensure the association is running in an efficient and organized manner while maintaining a healthy and productive working environment.

Leadership also helps to ensure proper communication, collaboration, and trust between all members of the association, which is vital for a successful organization. Ultimately, excellent leadership is essential for any farmer's association to succeed in its mission.

The case is true, for LASOVEGA or La Suerte Organic Vegetable Growers Association based in Pilar, Bohol. Ms. Helen Labesores Dagulpo, Manager of the organization, envisions of expanding the group's resources and horizon since its establishment in 2010.

The dedication and enthusiasm of the officers have been major contributors to LASOVEGA's success.

Despite the pandemic's difficulties, the group persevered in trying to build a sustainable business. The DA accreditation of LASOVEGA improved its reputation as a reliable farmers' organization.

When they started out, they longed to avail the services of government agencies to help them develop their skills.

With the support of agencies such as the Agricultural Training Institute (ATI) in Central Visayas, skills like Partnership development, product selection for promotion, market study chain, cluster commitment setting, agri-enterprise plan and mobilization, product supply arranging, and test marketing were among the expertise gained through the training initiatives attended by the organization's members.

Challenges Along the Way

Just like any other organization, LASOVEGA has its fair share of bumps on the road. For instance, they dream of having their own stable supply of water to irrigate their crops.



Moreover, they have to battle logistical issues like having decent transportation to travel their goods along the province.

However, this didn't hinder the organization from excelling and expanding its network.

In 2020, through the assistance of the Department of Agriculture - Regional Field Office VII (DA-RFO VII), minor equipment like crates, a multi-cultivator, water pump, and knapsack sprayer were given to the organization.

The group expressed its appreciation for the modest award



because it significantly aided them in making it easier to prepare organic mixtures. The usage of the crates helped them handle their products by lowering postharvest losses.

Farmers have always had difficulties in the market, but the organization overcame even that during the pandemic. In 2020, they joined the DA's KADIWA program, where they frequently sold and transported their goods to adjacent barangays.

Even with the difficulties of the time, they were pushed to produce by the constant market at the height of the pandemic. The group, determined to realize its vision, rented a place where its members could get together frequently.

Ways Forward

From 2010 to 2018, LASOVEGA's production was seen as being on a small scale. The organization has however set its sights on going commercial scale by increasing its production area from five (5) hectares in 2010 to 17.5 hectares in 2021 after the Agriculture Forestry Fishery (AFF) enterprise clustering training.

In 2022, LASOVEGA became one of the Agricultural Training Institute's (ATI) Learning Sites for Agriculture (LSA) in the region.

The group wants to be able to communicate and impart useful agricultural technologies and farm management techniques to other individuals who are inclined to agriculture.

Furthermore, the organization wants to upgrade to an agricultural school by 2024, which will require more investments.

Daguplo claims that the idea is really ambitious. Nevertheless, it is essential because dreams are what motivates every firm.

If other farmers' associations start to view the issues as obstacles that must be conquered, then LASOVEGA's tale may also serve as a lesson for all organizations.





CEBU AEWS GRADUATES FROM CORN SSNM TRAINING

CEBU CITY –Nutrient management is one of the important considerations in successful corn production. Improper nutrient management has various implications on the growth and yield performance of the corn plant.

Hence, the Agricultural Training Institute in Central Visayas (ATI-CV) conducted the Training of Trainers cum Refresher Course on Corn Production Technologies Specialized in the Site-Specific Nutrient Management (SSNM) held at One Central Hotel this city on October 11-13, 2022.

The three-day activity aimed to discuss the status of the Philippine Corn Industry; explain the principles of SSNM for Maize production; discuss the Fertilizer and Fertilizer Use with Varieties: OPV, Hybrid and Traditional; demonstrate the use of Nutrient Expert Module for Maize production; and formulate a doable re-entry plan.

"Isip usa ka bag-ong empleyado sa LGU Liloan, ako nagpasalamat sa chance na makaapil ani nga training. Ang akoa nakat-onan kay creating cost and return analysis and NEMPH utilization which dako jud ni siya ikatabang sa among mga farmers labi na kay na belong mi sa low ug corn production.

Hinaut nga makaapil pami sa sunod na sama ani nga training. Salamat kaayo ninyo tanan, Sir Jayson and sa ATI," expressed Carisse Jade Angulo, a participant from LGU-Liloan.



17 COMPLETE FSTP PHASE II

SAN JUAN, SIQUIJOR. The Agricultural Training Institute in Central Visayas (ATI-CV) implemented the Farmer-Scientists Training Program (FSTP) Phase II held at Brgy. Timbaon, this town on April 19 – October 13, 2022.

The season-long activity aimed to conduct hands-on experience and research in the corn-based production system as the basis for scientific farming. Moreover, they also perform experimental plots of corn in a farming system to compare different technological trials and determine the best farming practices in mixing yield and income potential in their farm; demonstrate integrated pest management (IPM) using biological control agents and natural enemies of pests and disease-causing organisms and proper use of pesticides; promote farming as a business enterprise through the formation of farmers' organizations, cooperatives and marketing networks; and develop self-reliant and sustaining farmers and communities through maximum production of corn and other economic crops to supply the market demand.

"Ang akong hikot onan sa eskwela sa FSTP ang pag pogas ug mais usa o duha ra ang itanom kay kini ang maayong abot o daghang ani sa mais. Ang akong pag husu ug banay pag cross breed sa mais. Ang akong kahibalo sa FSTP akong ishare sa uban ug silingan," shared Rose Nerry E. Quilicon, a participant from LGU-Liloan.

Furthermore, FSTP aimed to develop the technical and scientific capabilities of farmers in growing corn, vegetable fruits, root crops and other crops to enhance their knowledge of appropriate farming technologies and make them succeed in the business of farming and live in prosperity. Farmers were given some decision tools on what technologies to adopt based on the best results of their experiments.

A total of 17 farmer participants completed the FSTP Phase II.



WALANG ARAY SA AI TRAINING PRODUCES 17 GRADUATES

REGIONWIDE. The Agricultural Training Institute in Central Visayas (ATI-CV) organized the training dubbed Walang Aray sa AI: Swine Artificial Insemination Training at ATI 7 Training Complex, Cabawan District, Tagbilaran City, Bohol on August 30 – September 01, 2022.

The three-day activity aimed to discuss the management of breeding boars; discuss the different parts and functions of the male and female urogenital system; explain the basic hygiene and sanitation principles in the laboratory; perform laboratory exercises such as semen dilution, semen evaluation and care of AI equipment; discuss the AI Boar and the art and science of AI; and demonstrate semen Insertion.

"Pasalamat ko sa mga resource person nga nadugangan ang among kahibalo. Daghang salamat sa mga kauban, ug sa nag dumala ani nga training. Nakat-onan naku ang process sa pagkuha sa sa semen gikan sa boar," shared John Paul Alcuirez, a participant from Carcar, Cebu.

Ma. Vendra B. Dongel, Veterinarian from the Office of the Provincial Veterinarian explained the AI Boar and the Art of Science of AI along with Hygiene and Sanitation. In addition, Rhea E. Carandang, Training Specialist II from ATI-International Training Center for Pig Husbandry (ATI-ITCPH) discussed the Laboratory Exercises.

Moreover, Marjorie A. Licatan, Veterinarian from the Provincial Veterinary Office talked about the Anatomy and Physiology of the Urogenital System.

"Nalipay ko ani nga training, sa pagkaon lamian pud, sa among gipuy-an maayo pud. Ilabina sa nagdumala ani nga training, ug sa mga resource person. Approachable ra pud ang tanan pati ang akong mga kauban sa training, unta naa pay lain nga training nga sama ani," expressed Michael Asibal, a participant from Maria, Siquijor.

A total of 17 participants completed the training.

ATI-7 RAMPING UP ASF PREPAREDNESS & PREVENTION

REGIONWIDE. African Swine Fever (ASF) is a viral disease affecting pigs and wild boar with up to 100% case fatality rate. Since the Department of Agriculture (DA) confirmed the first outbreak started in July 2019, as of July 2022, 53 provinces, 704 cities/municipalities, and 3,832 barangays have experienced ASF outbreaks.

Thus, the Agricultural Training Institute in Central Visayas (ATI-CV) spearheaded the African Swine Fever (ASF) Preparedness Tabletop Exercise cum Consultation-Workshop at Bohol APC, Dao District, Tagbilaran City, Bohol on October 12-13, 2022.

The two-day activity aimed to assess the preparedness capacity of the Philippines against ASF specifically in Bohol Province; identify gaps that need to be resolved to strengthen preparedness against ASF, and enhance interaction and communication between participating offices, especially among the taskforce members per LGUs.

"I am greatly honoured to have been here in this very important activity. Dako kaayu bagay nga ang atoang community ma mobilize nato, so how to mobilize. Sana ma cascade pud sa tanang concerned agencies sa tagsa-tagsa nato nga Municipalities especially those from the coastal Barangays. Thank you to the facilitators, sa mga nag organize ani nga seminar. Salamat pud sa time na spend together with you all my co-attendees, for knowing you for quite some time and it's a great experience. Again, thank you and be safe sa pag uli natong tanan. Salamat!" shared Rully M. Lauron, a participant from the Philippine National Police (PNP) - Bohol.

Samuel Joseph M. Castro, from the Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI)- Central Office explained the Good Animal Husbandry Practices (GAHP) Requirements for Certification.

In addition, Christian Owen A. Vallejos, Team Head from the Philippine Crop Insurance Company (PCIC) discussed the Swine Raiser Insurance Policy. Moreover, Joshua F. Cruz, Science Research Specialist II from BAI talked about the ASF Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs).

Likewise, Ermyn D. Ermitanio, Veterinarian II from BAI spoke about Local Task Force Roles & responsibilities. Furthermore, Roxanne Elyse B. Bunayog, Science Research Specialist II from BAI expounded on ASF Biosecurity.

The participants crafted the ASF preparedness plan with the supervision of Dr Castro. A total of 44 composed of various stakeholders participated in the workshop.



3,000 NEG-OR FARMERS GRADUATE IN THE SOA-SRA PROGRAM

In response to the urgent need to scale cutting-edge technologies while aiming for Philippine agriculture modernization and competitiveness, the Agricultural Training Institute in Central Visayas (ATI-CV) conducted the School-on-the-Air on Smart Rice Agriculture (SOA-SRA) via radio broadcast over Radyo Bandera Sweet FM 106.9 every Monday to Friday at 5:30-6:00 PM which started on September 26, 2022, until October 21, 2022.

In the province of Negros Oriental, 3,000 farmers now have access to innovative agricultural technologies that could increase their output.

The SOA-SRA, branded as "*Palay Aralan: Makabagong Pagsasaka sa Himpapawid*," had the sole intent of aiding in the development of agricultural modernization by educating smallholder farmers and regional middlemen on cutting-edge and creative methods and smart technology for producing rice. Additionally, radio helps in amplifying information to reach areas that are restricted to agricultural extension personnel.

In partnerships with the Department of Agriculture (DA) -Central Visayas, Philippine Rice Research Institute (PhilRice), Negros Oriental State University (NORSU), Philippine Information Agency (PIA), Provincial Agriculture Office, City Agriculture Office, Local



Government Units (LGU) of the City of Bayawan and Santa Catalina, the program was able to produce 3,000 graduates.

To monitor the listenership of the enrollees, the program administered short quizzes, long exams, and final exams to determine the level of knowledge gained among the SOA-SRA students. Based on the total score or percentage of the said exams, the top ten students were selected in each municipality and were given medals and awards during the culmination activity.

A total of 40 episodes were aired for the program with the following individuals as the resource persons: (1) Francis S. Yaeso, Senior Agriculturist of LGU-Bayawan City; (2) Romely H. Alson, Admin Aide IV of LGU-Bayawan City; (3) Jorge F. Trinidad, Training Specialist II of ATI-CV; and (4) Merrian Piquero Soliva, PhD, Media Production Specialist II of ATI-CV.

NRAM 2022 URGES

"RICE-RESPONSIBLE" CONSUMPTION AND SUPPORT REGIONAL FARMERS

TAGBILARAN CITY, BOHOL -- In keeping with this year's National Rice Awareness Month (NRAM) celebration, the Agricultural Training Institute – Central Visayas (ATI-CV) recently held its culmination on November 11, 2022, at Island City Mall, Dao, this city.

Under Proclamation No. 524, s. Every November, NRAM is organized to increase public knowledge on rice, fight poverty and malnutrition, and attain rice self-sufficiency. In this regard, the organization encourages consuming brown rice, which is higher in protein, fibre, vitamins, minerals, and antioxidants, as well as other rice mixtures that are carbohydrate-enriched, like those with adlay, maize, and banana.

In line with the NRAM celebration this year, an On-the-spot Poster Making Contest and On-the-spot Photo Contest were conducted aiming to promote the NRAM advocacies to all stakeholders, including farmers, consumers, academe members, and policymakers.

Additionally, ATI-CV's Rice Focal Person, Engr. Jonathan O. Sumagang discussed the training and extension services offered by ATI-RTC VII to its clientele and stakeholders.

The following are the winners of the On-the-Spot Poster Making Contest: (1st) Jerry Jun Baguio; (2nd) Al Jean Robante; and (3rd) Jhon Arvie Olaivar. Moreover, the following are the winners of the On-the-Spot Photo Contest: (1st) Mercy Grace Sevilla; (2nd) Justina Bongato; and (3rd) Engr. Gilmar Compo.

"Malipayon mi kay nakadaog mi sa photo contest. And maayo gyud ug mindful gyud sa atong ginakaon. Mukuha lang ug unsay mahurot na kan,on. Dili mag-usik usik kay dili lalim magtanum ug humay," shared Jhon Arvie Olaivar, On-the-Spot Photo Contest winner third placer.

A total of 100 participants graced the activity composed of farmers, fishers, youth, and women, among others.

RICE PROGRAM *activities*
by shanemie carelle d. pradera



ATI CERTIFIES 3 LEARNING SITES IN THE REGION

CENTRAL VISAYAS – The Agricultural Training Institute (ATI) has certified additional three (3) Learning Sites for Agriculture (LSA) in the region for the fourth quarter of 2022.

The following farms are the newly certified LSAs. For Negros Oriental, they are: Barras Farm Family Association – RCEF- LSA located at Barras, Mabihay with Jimmy V. Lahica as farm co-operator, and Maharlika Learning Farm – LSA I situated at Sitio Martesan, Brgy. Kalomboyan, Bayawan City with Rene C. Caballero as farm co-operator.

For Siquijor, it is Bounti Farm -LSA based at Dumanjog, Siquijor with Arthur P. Pacatang as the farm co-operator.

The Learning Site for Agriculture (LSA) is a farm that employs



workable farming techniques, practices appropriate agricultural technologies, and runs successfully as a result. Comparatively speaking to the other farmers, the farmer/farm family owner is quite advanced.

ATI CENTRAL VISAYAS CONDUCTS TRAINING COURSE ON VEGETABLE SEED PRODUCTION AND PLANT PROPAGATION

TAGBILARAN CITY. To ensure the continuous production and supply of quality vegetable seeds in the market amidst the threat of COVID-19 the Agricultural Training Institute in Central Visayas (ATI-CV) conducted the Training Course on Vegetable Seed Production and Plant Propagation held at ATI-CV, Cabawan District, this city on December 13-15, 2022.

The three-day activity aimed to provide technical knowledge to the farmers to enhance their attitude and skills in vegetable production. In addition, explain Vegetable Seeds Production and Plant Propagation; demonstrate the proper techniques in seeding and potting media preparation; and identify the different ATI e-Learning Programs (online courses on urban agriculture, crop production, and other agricultural technologies.

The participants of the said activity were community garden beneficiaries of the center.

"Ang impression naho about sa training is maayo og sakto step by step sequence, unya easy to undertand ra.

Hilabi na first time ni naho maka attend og seminar ang aho lang maikastorya is nice unya naa jud koy nakat-unan. Sa facilitators, maayo pod ang ilang pagfacilitate, kung i-rate naho from 1 to 5, 5 ang ahong ihatag. Sa

RP, unya dali rapod masabtan ang discussion. Sa co-participants kay participative unya mobuhat jud sila sa gi-instruct sa facilitator. Edescribe nalang naho one word para madali so excellent, very nice," shared Stephen Ralph N. Lucip, a participant from San Miguel, Bohol.

Joemelyn A. Sumagang, Training Specialist II from ATI-CV explained the topic of Climate Change and its effect on Agriculture, Health, Food Security and Ecosystem; and Nursery Establishment.

In addition, Merrian Piquero-Soliva, Media Production Specialist II from ATI-CV discussed the ATI e-Learning Program.

Moreover, Jessa S. Polo, Training Staff from ATI-CV talked about the Cultural Management Practices in Organic Vegetable Production emphasizing Varieties and Seed Selection, Land Preparation, Seedbed preparation and seed sowing, Soil Management and Fertilization, Water Management, Weed Management, Pest Management with a hands-on activity.

A total of 30 participants across the region attended the activity.



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