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When canned medium becomes a trend in extension

8-10



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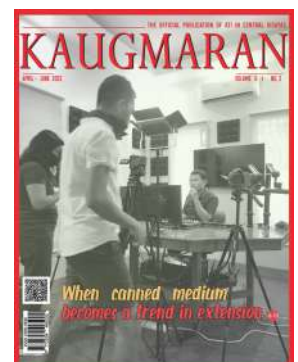
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On our cover features
"canned medium" becomes
a trend in extension



KAUGMARAN
(n) Cebuano-Bisaya term
for development

BJMP UBAY, ATI-7 COLLABS PDLs GARDENING PROGRAM

by doris isabel j. racho

BOHOL – Showcasing Agri products produced by Persons Deprived of Liberty (PDL) at Ubay District Jail, this province, the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP) on its thrust on food security partnered with ATI to conduct their gardening program.

It can be known that on January 27 this year, after Ubay was badly battered by Typhoon Odette, Agricultural Training Institute-VII (ATI-7) directorate led by Dir. Carolyn May O. Daquio, Ph.D. turned over seeds and agri-kits to Ubay District Jail through Sr. Jail

Officer IV Edgar Del Rosario.

This is in support to cultivating gardens in jail where the Persons Deprived of Liberty (PDL)/inmates will participate in establishing and maintaining the jail gardens to develop their knowledge and skills



in agriculture and be self-sufficient as the shortage of food is seen as the province was badly hit by Super Typhoon Odette.

“Every day is a Harvest day for us here at Ubay District Jail,” Sr. Jail Officer IV Edgar del Rosario said. PDLs are the ones doing the land preparation, nurturing, and harvesting of the vegetables.

“Our produce from the backyard farming is more than enough to augment our daily needs thereby giving our PDL the nutritious vegetable they deserve to enjoy. We are giving some of them already to our neighbors, friends, and stakeholders as a gesture of gratitude for the abundant farm blessings.” Mr. del Rosario quoted.



AEWS UNDERGO INNOVATIONS AND PRODUCTIVITY TRAINING



NEGROS ORIENTAL – Organizational creativity and productivity, and enhanced competitiveness in the agriculture sector can only be realized if workers and employer are equipped with requisite knowledge, skills, and understanding and appreciation of agricultural extension innovation. Hence, on May 31–June 2, 2022 the Agricultural Training Institute Regional Training Center 7 conducted Training Course on Agricultural Extension Innovations and Productivity (Batch 1) at the Hotel Essencia, Dumaguete City, this province.

This training targetted agricultural extension workers (AEWs) from the provinces of Negros Oriental and Siquijor. A total of 20 AEWs from the cities/municipalities of Amlan, Bacong, Bais City, Bindoy, City of Bayawan, City of Guihulngan, City of Tanjay, Dumaguete City, Pamplona, San Jose, Sibulan, and Valencia from Negros Oriental and from the municipalities of Larena, Lazi, and San Juan in Siquijor were able to complete the three-day training.

This training aims to inculcate the value of innovation and productivity among participants to be more effective in the delivery of extension services. In the course of

the three-day training, participants learned about innovation and its importance; organizational business excellence framework; and productivity and its tools and measurement.

The participants visited Vicamo Farm in Apolong, Valencia, Negros Oriental to witness and learn different innovation initiatives done in the farm around agriculture.

Dr. Vilma M. Patindol, a consultant and a previous Center Director of ATI RTC in Region 8 shared her expertise on the topics discussed as resource person while Jeffrey O. Awas and Charlou A. Ampit supported the training as members of the training management team.

“The resource person is effective in delivering points and insights and is very interactive with the participants, especially during delivery of outputs in the workshops. I have a feeling that we will maintain the relationship we built from here in the future training. The whole experience gave me an idea on how to handle training in the future.” said Jhea Manginsay, the OIC Provincial Veterinarian of Siquijor province, – one of the training participants.

ORGANIZATIONAL MANAGEMENT TRAINING FOR AEWs

TAGBILARAN CITY – A three-day training dubbed as Dare to Lead: An Organizational Management Training –Batch 2 was conducted last June 7-9, 2022 at Bohol Sunset Villa, Taloto District, this city.

Twenty (20) participants completed the course with the intention of capacitating them to become competent leaders through organizational management in order for them to function effectively as well as manage and influence other employees in their workplace. Each participant is expected to come up with their doable re-entry plans which will be monitored six (6) months after the conduct of training.

The resource speakers during the training were: Alfie D. Mahumot, TESD Specialist II, TESDA Provincial Training Center-Bilar together with Karina Mae Uy, Human Resource Management Officer, City Government Office of Tagbilaran City, Bohol and Atty. Alma A. Aparece, Coordinator of Friends Peace Teams Asia West Pacific, Tagbilaran City.



REGULAR *activities*

by maryjane flor patulilic and merrian piquero soliva, phd

NEGROS ORIENTAL PWDS TRAIN ON WORK ACCESS

NEGROS ORIENTAL – In order to address the challenges of Persons' with Disabilities (PWDs) and provide better access to agricultural opportunities, the Agricultural Training Institute-Regional Training Center 7 conducted a three-day Training on Health and Wellness last May 31 to June 2, 2022 in Bacong Central Elementary School, Bacong, this province.

The training hopes to develop the knowledge, skills, attitude and spirit of differently-abled persons to engage in basic home vegetable/herb gardening. Topics discussed include rights, privileges and benefits of PWD's; promotion of their active participation in the society; common ailments and their home intervention remedies; medicinal plants for treatment of common illness; local medicinal herbs and vegetables; healthy lifestyle and seek proper health care services; how to prepare home remedies for common ailments; and how to Formulate Farm Plan (FARMACY) and establish home garden.

Cristino L. Villamor, Jr. from St. Peter Academy of Alegria Foundation Inc. (SPAIFI), Alegria, Cebu; and Florenda P. Villamor from LGU-Alegria, Cebu shared their expertise as resource speakers with Jorge Trinidad, Training Specialist II as the Project Officer while Ryan Joshua Villena served as a member of the training management team.

"Sa tulo ka adlaw nga training, daghan mi nahibal-an sama sa pag-gama og juice nga tanglad, pipino, ug uban pa. Sa maong training, ma improve na unyang among mga panginabuhì isip usa ka PWD kay magamit man namo ni nga mga kahibalo sa among pag-uli. Daghan salamat!" said Ingracio D. Pintor – one of the training participants.



ATI-7 EQUIPS AGRICULTURAL LEADERS BETTER ORGANIZATIONAL MANAGEMENT

NEGROS ORIENTAL – The Agricultural Training Institute, as the capacity builder, knowledge bank, and catalyst of extension, is mandated to train agricultural extension workers and lead in the delivery of extension services for agriculture and fisheries.

ATI continues to organize capacity development strategies for AEWs which includes soft skills training around organizational management and leadership. Further, with the implementation of Mandanas' Ruling, which will provide opportunities for improving service delivery through enhanced decentralization, the role of the local government units in providing agricultural extension and on-site research services and facilities, through the provincial, city and municipal agriculture offices, will be deepened. With this, leadership development programs are crucial to the long-term success within the local government units, specifically in the agriculture offices.

On April 5-7, 2022, the Agricultural Training Institute Regional Training Center 7 conducted the Dare to Lead: An Organizational Management Training in Hotel Essencia, Dumaguete City, Negros Oriental.

The said organizational management training was participated in by 20 agricultural extension workers – majority of the participants are heads of the agriculture offices in the provinces of Negros Oriental and Siquijor.

Karina Mae Uy from the Local Government Unit-Tagbilaran City, Bohol; Atty. Alma E. Aparece from Friends Peace Teams-Asia West Pacific; and Alfie D. Mahumot from TESDA Bilal, Bohol shared their expertise on the topics discussed as resource persons while Angelie B. Menede supported member of the training management team with Maryjane Flor Patulilic, Project Officer.



POOL OF PGS TRAINERS IDENTIFIED IN REGION 7

CENTRAL VISAYAS – The second batch of the Training of Trainers on Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) was held on May 16-27, 2022 at ATI RTC 7 Training Complex, Cabawan District, Tagbilaran City, Bohol.

Twenty-one (21) farmers and agricultural extension workers (AEWs) who represented the four provinces of Bohol, Cebu, Negros Oriental and Siquijor were able to complete the 10-day extensive training.

The first batch of this training was conducted in Negros Oriental last March 14-25, 2022 respectively.

The training aims to capacitate PGS Groups on the establishment and operations consistent with the organic agriculture standards and corresponding technical regulations. In the course of the whole training, participants learned about the salient provisions, including the implementing rules and regulations, of the Organic Agriculture Act as amended by RA 11511 on Participatory Guarantee Systems (PGS); the

Organic Agriculture Standards and the National List of Permitted Substances for Organic Agriculture; the general requirements and procedures for accreditation of PGS group; how to conduct peer review and certification protocols; and the current Philippine National Standards (PNS) for organic agriculture.

Spearheading the pool of trainers were Ma. Gracia S. Pungay, Training Specialist III at the same time the Project Officer with Andrew M. Macaambac, Project Evaluation Officer I.

With them were Mae Montecillo from the Department of Agriculture Regional Field Office 7; Emmanuel A. Odtohan from DA-Provincial Agriculture Technology Coordinating Office with Maryjane Flor S. Patulilic as member of the training management team.

Moreso, Antonio Jesus C. Orbida, a member of National Organic Agriculture Board, also discussed the role of the LGU in the implementation of the PGS and Sagip Saka Act.

GENDER-BASED OAP TECH FOR AEWs

TAGBILARAN CITY – The ATI in Central Visayas with its pursuit to incorporate gender in all aspects, a five-day Gender-Based Training on Organic Agriculture Production Technologies was conducted last April 18-22, 2022 at the B&J Guesthouse, Dampas District, this city.

The regionwide training had 21 participants with 13 females and 8 male completers coming from the provinces of Bohol (with 11 participants), Cebu (with 3 participants), Negros Oriental (with 4 participants) and Siquijor (with 3 participants) with the objective of enhancing their knowledge and skills on organic agriculture production technologies and its related topics.

In order for the agricultural extension workers (AEWs), especially the new generation, to have a unified understanding on how the organic agriculture activities shall be, it is imperative that the lead implementers/focal persons should be acquainted and briefed on the organic agriculture production technologies and related subjects. Hence, the participants learned about the importance of organic agriculture as a sustainable farming system; legal basis and the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of the Organic Agriculture Act, certification standards and other principles and components.

They also learned how to



ATI-7 CONDUCTS SOA ON ORGANIC AGRICULTURE IN CAMOTES ISLAND

CAMOTES ISLAND – The ATI in Central Visayas through its Information Services Section spearheaded in the conduct of the one-month airing of the School-on-Air (SOA) on Organic Agriculture Technology on this island from May 23, 2022 to June 23, 2022 over dyNH 99.1 FM reaping 474 farmer-graduates out of 500 enrollees.

The objective of the SOA is to improve the knowledge, skills and orientation of radio-listener/ participants on the comprehensive technologies in organic farming and also enable them to take the OAP NCII Competency Examination at TESDA at their own pace and expense.

The topics discussed include the Organic Agriculture Act of 2010 or RA 10086; its Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) and other laws related to sustainable/ Organic Agriculture Industry highlighting the modules set by TESDA on OAP NCII protocols; Soil Fertilizer Management/Organic-Based Technology; ingredients and steps in the preparation

of all kinds of organic fertilizers products and also the Organic Crop Production and Protection Harvest and Post-Harvest to all commodities (rice, corn, vegetables).

Farmcaster and Information Officer II of ATI-7, Mr. Jun Alguin B. Oliver, who is also the SOA Coordinator in the region, served as the project officer/ lecturer who made the full use of non-formal education technique and process



demonstrate skills in various organic agriculture practices such as Bokashi composting, Jadam organic farming, customized feed formulation using locally available ingredients, and integrated diversified organic farming system; and appropriate production technology for specific farm activities and management.

Merigine C. Otara and Ma. Gracia Soliva-Pungay from ATI RTC -7; Dionisio Limbaga Palingcod Jr. from Palingcod Agricultural Farm, Batuan, Bohol; Mae Montecillo from Department of Agriculture Regional Field Office 7; Marjoe Rey A. Labonite from Office of the Provincial Agriculture, Tagbilaran City, Bohol; and Roland V. Villegas from Department of Education Region VII / Sudlon, Lahug, Cebu City have shared their expertise on the topics discussed as resource persons while Maryjane Flor Patulilic-Bonilla served as member of the training management team.



ORGANIC AGRICULTURE *activities*
by jun alguin b. oliver and merrian piquero soliva, phd

WHEN “CANNED” MEDIUM *becomes a trend in extension*

When I was in my junior year in college, my professor asked us to submit a some-sort-of-canned output for our final presentation in our Radio and TV class. With scarce resources where gadgets and home-studios were once a luxury (especially in the '90s), we ended up recording our canned project at government-owned studios, careful not to overuse nor damage the reel-to-reel audiotape for we were allowed to record using their equipment for free.

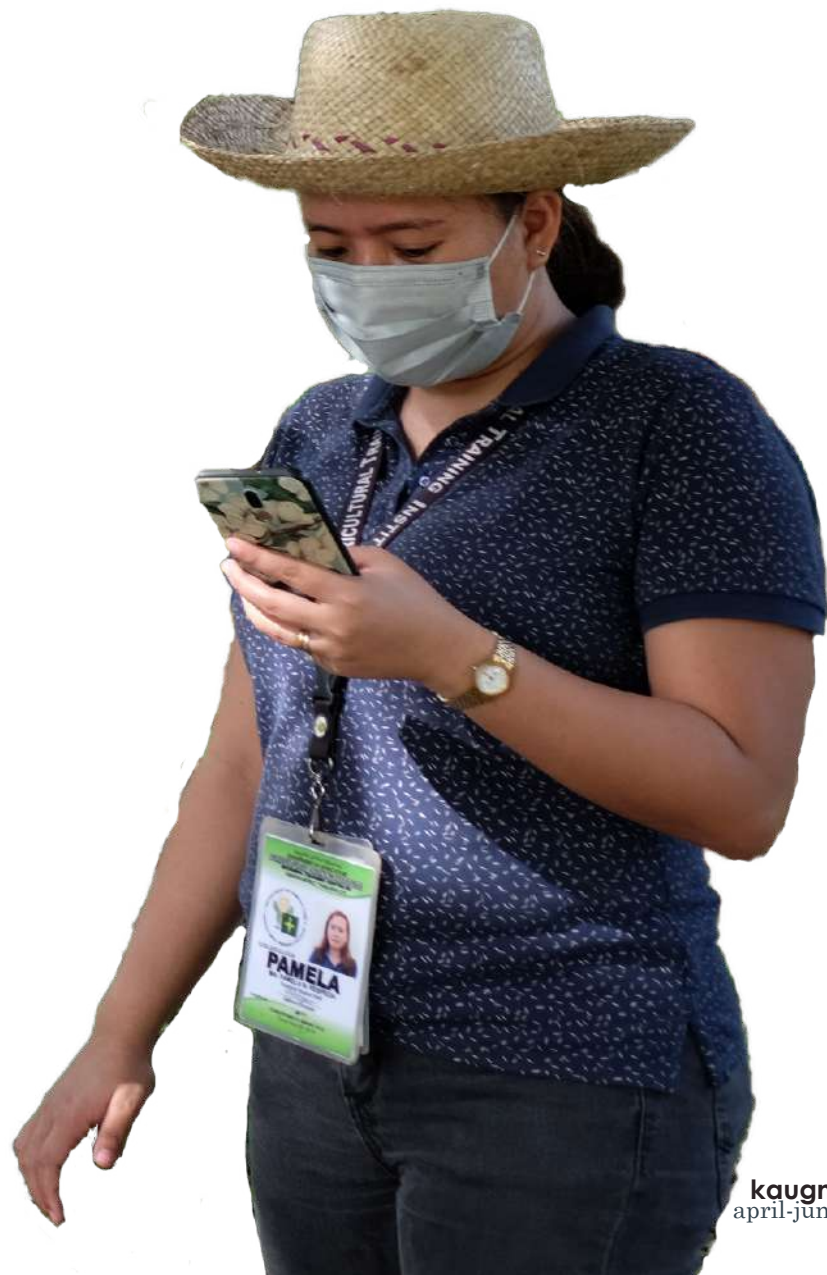


Honestly, the activity was too taxing because we were extra careful not to retake our part, more than thrice because obviously of the above reason. As I imagined this scenario and experience it single-handedly, it made me realize that our class effort before, was a product of utmost dedication and focus plus the skill of mastery.

Fast-forward. When I entered government service years ago, the equipment we use was not that categorized as “high-tech” and readily available because the process was still a bit slow, though it is already mechanical. But if you compare it today, we are at par way beyond because almost everything is accessible including gadgets, cameras, and home-studios since, it is no longer a luxury but a necessity.

When the COVID-19 pandemic struck the entire humanity, our usual goings were affected. Many if not the majority in an instant were stunned about the 180-degree turn of events. In short, the fast-paced society becomes a Neanderthal-like scenario where large gatherings are prohibited, curfew in-place, checkpoints in tow, travels banned and protocols strictly implemented.

Thus, we in the Agricultural Training Institute in Central Visayas, in which the area of coverage are the island provinces of Bohol, Cebu, Negros Oriental, and Siquijor, just like others is largely affected. Our extension and training activities were aligned to fit in with the needs of our clients and at the same time proceeded with a slight delay, target numbers dwindled and its delivery sorted to “canned” medium.



The word “canned” means, prepared beforehand and remains unaltered during the presentation.

ATI-7 sorted to “canned” medium in delivering our training and extension because not all of our clients have stable or accessible internet connection. Some areas do not even have mobile signals; thus, the online means is way beyond reality.

Before sorting to this kind of medium, the small interim group brainstormed and sorted to enroll online classes and at the same time researched simple yet effective “canned outputs.”

The first run of this extension modality was the conduct of the Rice Competitiveness Enhancement Fund (RCEF) Information Caravan with two (2) priority provinces in the region, Bohol and Negros Oriental that caters 39 towns with a total of 800 farmers while the second is the Extension Delivery Services (EDS) Training for newly-hired agricultural extension workers in the region.

Using the **“canned medium”**, it gave me three (3) lessons that I consider it so valuable. These are patience, self-confidence, and trust.

Why patience? The preparation is no simple for it entails a lot of hard work. Imagine, transforming your four-hour topic into an hour or less to eradicate monotony with inputs concise and full. With the repetition of video recording and editing to perfect and sync the presentation entails a bucket of patience.

The three-week leeway in sending the video in Universal Serial Bus (USB) flash or thumb drive through courier takes patience because chartered boats and planes' schedule is unstable. There are no other means of sending the file especially those areas with no stable or internet connection. With this delay, we must be patient as well to receive the reports that we



COVER STORY
by merrian piquero soliva, phd

need on what had happened in the field.

The second lesson that I consider valuable is self-confidence. Preparing materials and other resources to be delivered are a plus to extension workers. Facing the camera, however, is yet another dimension to be explored. It takes a lot of courage especially us, extension agents who are equipped and experienced in touch-based approach or shall I say, face-to-face.

Building self-confidence in facing the camera is yet another hurdle to face. It is not instant, but with the need to deliver our extension services beyond boundaries, we must face our demons. By facing such, we explore means through how-to videos, braving ourselves to take and retake every scene until near perfection, and accept the fact that this is our responsibility to our partners and clients.

Finally, trust is a big word. Through “canned medium” we build trust between our partners and our institution. We trusted our side to produce what is ought to be given, while we trusted our partners to deliver the extension services in our behalf.

Trust here played a great role in everything we do. Since, we trusted that the “canned medium” is one of the means to deliver our

training and services in this time of pandemic, us partners, we also forge that mutual trust with each other. To continue learning, we face a lot of risks.

Yesterday's experiences of the once slow-paced world re-emerge because the pandemic gives us a lot of lessons to somehow make our life full by taking a pause, to breathe, and use our common sense that is now uncommon of all. We, at ATI, strive to keep these values at heart so that, whatever means we think that we can use and innovate, new or old, as long as the purpose of touching and changing the lives of our farmers, fishers, youth, women, and our clientele are achieved and in-place.



TOT ON CORN PRODUCTION CONDUCTS 3 BATCHES

CENTRAL VISAYAS – Three (3) batches of the Training of Trainers on Corn Production was conducted last April 19-21, 2022 at Manhattan Suites Inn, Dumaguete City for the Negros Oriental participants while on May 24-26, 2022 was at Hagnaya Beach Resort, Brgy. Hagnaya, San Remigio for Cebu and on June 14-16, 2022 for Siquijor, was at the Oceanview Farm and Cottages in Olang, Maria respectively.

A total of 63 agricultural extension workers from the region were successfully trained with the objective of enhancing their knowledge and skills on extension and the technical activities in corn production technologies for sustainable agricultural development.

Among the topics tackled were the cultural management practices of Corn production; identification of insect pests and diseases of Corn; determination of the prevention and control of fall armyworm; examination of the mycotoxin control measures; recognition of the Site-Specific Nutrient Management (SSNM) for Maize; and Climate Change-Adaptation and Mitigation Initiative in Agriculture (AMIA) as well as on Extension particularly its Approaches, Strategies and Methodologies. Mr. Jeffrey O. Awas, Corn Focal Person was the Project Officer with Technical Staff, Charlou Ampit as the Support Staff. Meanwhile, the pool of trainers came from DA-RFO7 through Bienvenido D. Acabal Jr., Agricultural Center Chief III; Jorge A. Odiaman, Agricultural Technologist; Elmer P. Alcoseba Agricultural Technologist; Ofelia M. Acabal Agricultural Technician I and Christopher R. Paran, Laboratory Inspector III.

From Negros Oriental, they are Harvey Neil F. Revelegia, Agricultural Technologist, DA-PATCO and Fe S. Pilosopo, Agricultural

CORN PROGRAM activities
by maryjane flor patullilic and merrian piquero soliva, phd



Technologist, Provincial Agriculturist Office, Dumaguete City. Together with Marya Zea A. Villaganas, Agriculturist II/ Chief, Crops Division/ Provincial, Office of the Provincial Agriculturist, Cebu City and Jimbo Israel C. Casalta, Agriculturist II, Office of the Provincial Agriculturist, Helen, Larena, Siquijor. Dr. Merrian Piquero Soliva, Media Production Specialist II of ATI-7 completes the lists.

Cornversations
2:00 PM
28-30 JUNE 2022
facebook LIVE
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JEFFREY O. AWAS
Licensed Agriculturist,
CORN Focal Person

JAYRELL G. ADANZA
Municipal Agriculturist
LGU-Dimiao, Bohol

URSULO V. TAGANAHAN
LSA Cooperator, Corn Farmer
Bisangay Cabanbanan,
Dimiao, Bohol

EPISODES

- EPISODE 1 – STATUS AND DIRECTION OF THE CORN INDUSTRY IN THE PHILIPPINES
- EPISODE 2 – CORN PRODUCTION TECHNOLOGY
- EPISODE 3 – CORN BEST PRACTICES

Smart MANILA BULLETIN AGRI TALK

AGRITALK 2022 BRINGS CORNVERSATIONS

VIA VIRTUAL – The annual conduct of AgriTalk in the region was done live via the center's Official Page. AgriTalk is a collaborative project of the ATI, Manila Bulletin Publishing Corporation, and SMART Communications. This is in line with the ATI's thrust to strengthen the competitiveness and capacities of the country's agriculture and fisheries sector.

This year, ATI in Central Visayas produced a three-episode topic on Corn dubbed as "Cornversations" which highlights Corn-Farmer-Practitioner and Learning Site for Agriculture Cooperator, Mr. Ursulo Taganahan of Cabanbanan, Dimiao, Bohol.

The online activity gathered 152 participants composed of corn farmers, practitioners, enthusiasts and the general public which ran from June 28-30, 2022.

The topics tackled include Status and Direction of the Corn Industry in the Philippines by Mr. Jeffrey O. Awas, ATI-Technical Staff and Corn Focal Person and Corn Production Technology by Mr. Jayrell G. Adanza, Municipal Agriculturist of LGU-Dimiao, Bohol, who both are licensed agriculturist.

Dr. Merrian Piquero Soliva, Media Production Specialist II is the Project Officer with May Joy P. Luzon, Technical Support Staff.



6 BATCHES OF ASF TRAINING CONDUCTED IN THE REGION

CENTRAL VISAYAS – With the objective of capacitating Barangay Biosecurity Officers (BBOs) in the region where their knowledge and skills on collecting specimen for laboratory testing were honed and enhanced, six (6) batches of BABay ASF: Training on Specimen Collection for Barangay Biosecurity Officers were conducted in the region from April 5-6, 2022 in Balamban, Cebu; June 7-8 and June 14-15, 2022 in ATI-7 Training Complex, Cabawan District, Tagbilaran City; June 16-17, 2022 in Bacong, Negros Oriental; June 14-15, 2022 in San Juan, Siquijor and on June 16-17, 2022 at Bantayan Island, Cebu.

A total of 188 participants from Central Visayas completed the two-day activity and were able to perform actual specimen collection.

Included in their inputs were: principles of appropriate handling and restraining technique; proper transport of specimen and the proper preparation of supplies, materials, tools in collection of samples; selection and preparation of good animals for collection; skills for collecting different specimen; and the proper handling, packaging and transport of specimen. Moreover, the participants were required to formulate their doable re-entry plans that will be monitored six (6) months after the conduct of training.

The trainers during these series of training were from partner agencies composed of Carlo Eugenio N. Tutor, Agriculturist II, Provincial Veterinary Office, OPV-Bohol; Jhea G. Manginsay, OIC-Provincial Veterinary, OPV-Siquijor; Melody Dulce Amor L. Vilan, ACC I, Provincial Veterinary Office, Dumaguete City; Frederick P. Madriñan, Veterinarian, Office of the Provincial Veterinarian-Capitol Annex, Tagbilaran City; Estrella B. Mellomida, Veterinarian II and Ma. Maureen M. Manito, Veterinarian II of DA-Ubay Stock Farm, Lomangog, Ubay, Bohol; Daniel C. Ventura Jr., Supervising Agriculturist; Joven Galleposo, Agricultural Technologies and John Jamael Patagoc, Veterinary II of the Department of Agriculture RFO-7; and Vherney C. Cabasag II, Development Management Officer-I/ Livestock Focal Person, ATI-7.



The project officers of the said training were Ma. Gracia S. Pungay, Training Specialist III; Reynadez L. Curayag, Agriculturist I and Vherney C. Cabasag, II.



12-DAY FFS ON RCEF HELD IN NEGROS ORIENTAL

NEGROS ORIENTAL – The Training of Trainers on Production of High-Quality Inbred Rice, Seed Certification, and Farm Mechanization-Batch 2 was conducted in Julsam Pension House, Bayawan City, this province last April 18-29, 2022 with the first batch held in Bohol.

FARMERS, AEWs IN BOHOL EQUIPPED FOR RICE-FARM MECHANIZATION

BOHOL – On May 17-19, 2022, a Capability Enhancement Course on Rice Crop Establishment using Mechanical Rice Transplanter was conducted in Labonite Family Farm, San Isidro, Pilar this province.

This is the first batch of the said training; with another batch to be conducted in other provinces within the region. Thirty-two (32) farmers and agricultural extension workers (AEWs) from the municipalities of Alicia, Bien Unido, Candijay, Carmen, Dagohoy, Duero, Guindulman, Mabini, Pilar, Sagbayan, San Miguel, Trinidad, and Ubay from Bohol province successfully completed the said three-day training.

The training aims to equip the participants with the knowledge and skills on rice crop establishment using the mechanical rice transplanter. In the course of the three-day training, participants learned about the rice field preparation for mechanical transplanting; seedling preparation for mechanized rice transplanting; and operation and maintenance of the mechanical rice transplanter.

Jose G. Labonite from Labonite Family Farm, San Isidro, Pilar, Bohol; and Engr. Severino B. Salera, Jr. from Bohol Island State University, Bilar, Bohol shared their expertise on the topics discussed as resource persons while Angelie M. Bitas served as member of the training management team with Engr. Jonathan O. Sumagang as the Project Officer.

“Kining maong training daghan ko ug nakat-unan kabahin sa pag-operate sa mechanical transplanter nga diin produktibo ug mo minus ang among gasto sa pag-uma. Daghan kaayong salamat, nga naka-apil ako niini,” said Nemesio Anay from Carmen, Bohol –

Twenty-eight (28) participating farmers and agricultural extension workers (AEWs) from Gomentoc Valley Farm, Joeltess Organic Farm, CAGRI Complex Learning Farm, Ayungon, Bacong, Bais City, Bindoy (Payabon), City of Bayawan (Tulong), City of Tanjay, Jimalalud, Mabinay, Pamplona, Santa Catalina, Siaton, Valencia (Luzurriaga), and Zamboanguita in the province of Negros Oriental were able to complete the 12-day extensive training.

The training aims to enable the participants to assist the implementation of the modified season-long Farmer Field School on the Production of High-Quality Inbred Rice Seeds. In the course of the twelve-day extensive training, participants learned about the sense of mission to help the farmers become competitive through RCEF; how to explain the concepts and principles of the PalayCheck System specifically on the production of high-quality inbred rice seeds; learn how to improve training management skills and knowledge on basic financial



management.

A special session about Adaptation and Mitigation Initiatives in Agriculture - Decision Support Tools (AMIA-DST) in farming activities was also introduced to the farmers. Here, they learned about the different weather information products that they could use in farming system.

Merigine C. Otara, Joemelyn A. Sumagang, Ma. Pamela R. Macaambac, and Jorge Fat Trinidad of ATI RTC 7; Engr. Noel Benzon Hamor, Jenbee Guancia Dormido, Edgar S. Tenefrancia, Jr., Elijah T. Aseral, Doni Boy S. Gino, Valdimer Cayetano, Jezreel A. Didal of City Agriculture Office, Bayawan City, Negros Oriental; Christine Calamba of BPI-NSQCS in Ubay, Bohol; Roskie Ariola Gabutero of DA- LGU Bayawan City; Bienvenido D. Acabal Jr of DA-RFO 7, Maguikay, Mandaue City, Cebu; Rico Rommel A. Varquez of Department of Agriculture- Bohol APC, Dao District, Tagbilaran City; Francisco S. Yaeso, and Romely H. Alson of LGU-Bayawan City; and Dexter S. Puyat of PCIC-Dumaguete City, Negros Oriental shared their expertise on the topics discussed as resource persons with Engr. Jonathan O. Sumagang, who is also the Project Officer.

RICE PROGRAM *activities*
by maryjane flor patulilic and merrian piquero soliva, phd



ATI CERTIFIES 6 LEARNING SITES IN THE REGION

CENTRAL VISAYAS – Another four (4) Learning Sites for Agriculture (LSA) in the region has been certified by the Agricultural Training Institute (ATI) for a period of five (5) years which date of effectivity ranges from April 19, June 8 and 23 and due for renewal on 2027 respectively.

The following farms are the newly-certified LSAs. For Bohol, they are: Dreamer's Farm of Purok 6, Villa Teresita, Ubay with Maria Antonniete Q. Talam as farm co-operator and Green Garden of Hope Integrated Farm of Purok 5, San Roque, Balilihan with Emmanuel A. Gamonez as farm co-operator.

For Cebu, it is Primetech Skills Institute, Inc. of Mantija 1, Danao City with Michael L. Rellama, farm co-operator while in Negros Oriental is the J' Rodriguez Farm



of Mansalaway, Cabcaban, Bindoy with Jeshua A. Rodriguez, farm co-operator.

The Learning Site for Agriculture (LSA) is a farm practicing applicable agricultural technologies, employing doable farming strategies and operating successfully, thus, worthy of emulation. The farmer/farm family-owner is relatively advanced compared to the rest of the farmers.



TOT CACAO-COFFEE FOR HVCDP AEWS IN REGION 7

CENTRAL VISAYAS – With the aim of equipping and/or enhancing the knowledge, attitude and skills the Agricultural Extension Workers (AEWs) under High Value Crops Development Program (HVCDP) on coffee and cacao planting material propagation techniques and production following proper nursery management, a four-day Training of Trainers on Coffee and Cacao Planting Material Propagation and Plant Nursery Accreditation was conducted last April 26-29, 2022 in Cebu City and on May 24-27, 2022 in Dumaguete City with 54 participants coming from the island provinces in the region.

The four-day course enabled the participants to learn about plant propagation principles and practices, propagation environment, plant propagation for profit, nursery certification/accreditation. They also learned the demonstration on making more plants as a science, art and joy of plant propagation.

“The training is important, timely, and applicable for me as a Plant Material Inspector. This is also important for Negros Oriental Research and Development Center (NORDC) accreditation. Looking forward to another training on rehabilitation,” said Benjie Melanio Jr. of DA-RFO 7 – NORDC-San Jose Station.

Henry S. Binahon from Binahon Agroforestry Farm (BAFF) in Bukidnon; and Marcheta C. Brina from Bureau of Plant Industry - National Seed Quality Control Services (BPI-NSQCS 7), BES Gabi, Ubay, Bohol shared their expertise on the topics discussed as resource persons while Angelie Mencede served as member of the training management team with Joemelyn A. Sumagang, Training Specialist II as the Project Officer.

FOOD SAFETY-GMP TRAINING HELD

CEBU CITY – Twenty-Five (25) Agriculture Extension Workers, Learning Sites for Agriculture Operators and Academe practitioners from the four provinces of Region VII participated in the Safer Food, Better Health: A Food Safety and GMP Training at MJ Hotel and Suites on April 19-21, 2022, this city.

The topics discussed includes an introduction to food safety and good manufacturing practices (GMP), food safety contaminants and hazards, GMP and program, sanitation standard operating procedures, good aquacultural practices, fish handling, and meat safety.

Resource speakers were Bryan Ybanez and Anne Michelle Ramirez of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) VII, Laila Bragat of the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) VII, and Ma. Liz Calunsag of National Meat Inspection Service (NMIS) VII.

The training aims to capacitate participants' knowledge, skills, and orientation/attitude with knowledge on food safety, good manufacturing practices, and other food safety-related regulations.

A plant tour at Profoods International Corporation-the largest Philippine-based dried fruit producer located in Mandaue City also highlighted the event. It allowed participants to learn and appreciate how manufacturing processes work and the importance of food safety and GMP.

A one-year re-entry plan was crafted by the attendees after the training. Safer Food, Better Health was facilitated by Doris Isabel J. Racho, Information Officer II and ATI-7 Food Safety Officer assisted by May Joy P. Luzon.



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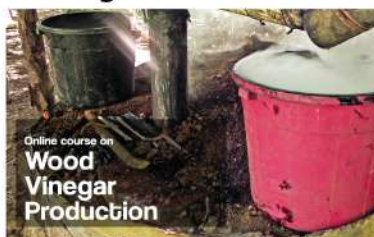


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