

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF ATI IN CENTRAL VISAYAS

KAUGMARAN

JANUARY - MARCH 2023

VOLUME 7 | NO. 1

Isidrita Tadem Bernante:

Teacher with a farmer's heart

8-11



Contents

January - March 2023

VOLUME 7 NO. 1

3 **ATI-CENTRAL VISAYAS CELEBRATES** 36TH FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY



4-7 **REGULAR activities**

- AGE GRACEFULLY: A HEALTH AND WELLNESS TRAINING FOR SENIOR CITIZENS
- NEWLY APPOINTED, PROMOTED PERSONNEL TAKE OATH
- ATI-CENTRAL VISAYAS UNDERGO ISO 9001:2015 SURVEILLANCE AUDIT
- GEARING UP: TARGET SETTING OF FY 2023
- IS DISTRIBUTES IEC DURING 22ND UBE FESTIVAL



8-10 **COVER story**

ISIDRITA TADEM BERNANTE
A TEACHER WITH A FARMER'S HEART



11 **CORN and ORGANIC AGRICULTURE activities**

- KASAMA MO SI CASSAVA: A REFRESHER COURSE ON CASSAVA PRODUCTION
- 17 COMPLETE FORGANIC FARMERS INVEST TO BECOME PGS CERTIFIEDSTP PHASE II



12 **LIVESTOCK PROGRAM activities**

- P10M SWINE MULTIPLIER FARM BREAKS GROUND IN AMLAN, NEGROS ORIENTAL
- TRASH TO CASH: ANIMAL WASTE MANAGEMENT AND UTILIZATION
- BASIC TRAINING COURSE ON ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION (AI) AND PREGNANCY DIAGNOSIS (PD) FOR LARGE RUMINANT



14 **RICE PROGRAM activities**

- DIGITAL AGRICULTURE COURSE GAINS 40 GRADUATES



15 **HVCD PROGRAM activities**

- FROM BEAN TO BAR: TRAINING OF TRAINERS ON CACAO AND COFFEE POST-HARVEST HANDLING AND PROCESSING
- ATI-7 REAPS 20 GRADUATES ON EDIBLE LANDSCAPING AND URBAN GARDENING
- CAPACITATING NURSERY OPERATORS TO INCREASE ACCREDITED NURSERIES IN THE REGION TO ENSURE AVAILABILITY OF QUALITY PLANTING MATERIALS



18 **Learning Sites in Agriculture**

- ATI-7 CERTIFIES 9 LEARNING SITES IN THE REGION



Editorial Board

Editors

MA. GRACIA SOLIVA-PUNGAY
MERRIAN PIQUERO SOLIVA, PhD

Writers

MARYJANE FLOR S. PATULILIC
SHANEMIE CARELLE D. PRADERA

Cover Design

MA. PAMELA RESPECIA-MACAAMBAC

Layout

SHANEMIE CARELLE D. PRADERA

Consultant

GRACIA F. ARADO, PhD



We'd love to hear from you

ATI-RTC 7 Training Complex,
Cabawan District, Tagbilaran City
6300 Bohol, Philippines
+63917.321.8524 | 038.411.3661
aticv.7@gmail.com; ati_7cv@yahoo.com
<https://ati2.da.gov.ph/ati-7>

Say Hello on Social Media



facebook.com/aticvisayas
instagram.com/aticentralvisayas
youtube/aticentralvisayas

On our cover features
"ISIDRITA TADEM BERNANTE",
Public School Teacher, Rice Farmer and Rice
Seed Producer from Pilar, Bohol



KAUGMARAN is published four (4) times annually by Agricultural Training Institute-Regional Training Center 7 (ATI-RTC 7) in Central Visayas. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be used without the expressed written permission of the publisher. Copyright 2023.

KAUGMARAN
(n) Cebuano-Bisaya term
for development



ATI-CENTRAL VISAYAS CELEBRATES 36TH FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY

by shanemie carelle d. pradera



TAGBILARAN CITY, BOHOL -- The Department of Agriculture - Agricultural Training Institute (DA-ATI) Central Visayas held its 36th Founding Anniversary on January 27, 2023 at the DA-ATI 7 Government Complex, Cabawan District this city with selected Learning Site for Agriculture (LSA) cooperators, retired employees, and partner agencies in attendance.

The event themed "ATI LEADS: Innovate, Transform, Empower Embracing Extension Modernization for a Progressive and Sustainable Agriculture and Fisheries," gave tribute to the employees and staff who were recognized by the DA-ATI Central Office for their dedication to the agency.

This year's Loyalty Awardees and their years in service are: Merrian Piguero- Soliva –Twenty Years; Ma. Gracia Soliva-Pungay and Jun Alguin B. Oliver – Twenty-Five years.

The agency also recognized Ms. Pablita R. Cabarles, as among the 2022 Civil Service Commission Pagasa Awardees.

Mrs. Cabarles is the Learning Site for Agriculture (LSA) cooperator of Manga National High School. One of ATI-Central Visayas' partners in implementing extension initiatives for the youth in the province.

In addition, the center also recognized the accomplishments of the following:

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.

As part of the celebration, ATI-7 joined the retail selling of products from participating Learning Sites for Agriculture (LSA) cooperators during the anniversary opening ceremony at the ATI-Central Office held on January 22-26, 2023 at Quezon City, Metro Manila.



AGE GRACEFULLY: A HEALTH AND WELLNESS TRAINING FOR SENIOR CITIZENS



SIQUIJOR. Keeping a well-balanced diet is important for senior citizens because it can help maintain their physical and mental health. A balanced diet provides essential nutrients that can help support a strong immune system, promote healthy bones and muscles, and reduce the risk of chronic diseases such as heart disease, diabetes, and certain cancers. Additionally, a balanced diet can improve cognitive function and overall mood, which can help seniors maintain their independence and quality of life as they age.

Thus, the Department of Agriculture (DA)-Agricultural Training Institute in Central Visayas (ATI-7) conducted the training entitled Age Gracefully: A Health and Wellness Training for Senior Citizens held at Ocean View Farm and Cottages, Olang, Maria, this province on March 06-09, 2023.

The three-day activity aimed to enhance the knowledge, attitude and skills of senior citizens on healthy lifestyle and wellness.

In addition, (1) Enumerated the roles, rights, privileges and benefits of the senior citizens; (2) Discussed the lifestyle medicine and importance of nutrition; (3) Determined how to live a healthy life in a toxic world; (4) Described the physical, mental, psychological, and social well-being of senior citizens; (5) Demonstrated on how to manage stress; and (6) Recognized the importance of healthy juices for our body and demonstrate its preparation.

“Una, nagpasalamat ko sa taga ATI nga migahin gyod ug panahon diri kanato. Ang akong nakat-onan niining maong seminar mao kini, nga sa atong pangidaron karon as senior citizen kinahanglan nga atong mabaloan ang mga pagkaon nga angay sa atong panglawas. Ug ang pag-andam sa mga pagkaon nga gitudlo sa trainor nga haom ug angay sa mga senior citizen.

Niining maong seminar nga gipahigayon sa taga ATI akong nakita ug nalantaw nga ang ilang gipangtudlo ug sundon lamang sa matag usa makaingon ko nga malugwayan pa ang atong pagpuyo niining kalibotan,” shared Corazon O. Tingcang, one of the participants.

The following are the resource speakers during the activity: (1) Merigine C. Otara, Planning Officer II from DA-ATI 7; (2) Maria Asuncion A. Jalad, Physician from Jalad Health and Wellness Clinic Bohol; (3) Michelle Edayan-Monceda, Science Research Specialist I from Social Welfare Officer I from Provincial Social Welfare and Development Office (Bohol); and (4) Glenn Ramirez, M.D., Medical Specialist II from Siquijor Provincial Hospital.

A total of 20 participants from across the province attended the activity.

Training Specialist II, Mr. Jorge F. Trinidad, is the Project Officer together with Vanie Picot, Technical Support Staff.

NEWLY APPOINTED, PROMOTED PERSONNEL TAKE OATH

TAGBILARAN CITY, BOHOL. Some newly appointed and promoted employees of the Agricultural Training Institute – Regional Training Center VII (ATI-RTC VII) have taken their oath of office with ATI OIC-National Director Engr. Remelyn R. Recoter, MNSA, CESO III on March 07, 2023, this city.

By strengthening and capacitating its workforce in the region, the ATI in Central Visayas continues to improve its extension efforts and intervention in light of the difficulties that the agriculture sector faces.

The following are the newly appointed personnel:

- **Irene L. Blasco**
Administrative Officer IV
- **Jeffrey O. Awas**
Training Specialist I
- **Quennie Lou B. Vistal**
Administrative Aide VI
- **Maryjane Flor Patulilic-Bonilla**
Media Production Specialist II

The following are the newly promoted personnel:

- **Vherney C. Cabasag II**
Agriculturist II
- **Joemelyn A. Sumagang**
Training Specialist II
- **Jade Genevie B. Carlon**
Administrative Officer II
- **Zandrina L. Prima**
Administrative Officer I

The oathtaking was simultaneously done across the ATI network via Zoom.

The ATI is one of the attached bureaus under the Department of Agriculture. In accordance with Executive Order No. 116, series 1987, the ATI was established to be in charge of all agricultural extension workers' training as well as that of other agricultural and fisheries (AF) clients. The ATI is also in charge of ensuring that trainings address the actual needs of the agricultural sector and that research findings are then disseminated to farmers through the proper training and extension activities.





ATI-CENTRAL VISAYAS UNDERGO ISO 9001:2015 SURVEILLANCE AUDIT

TAGBILARAN CITY, BOHOL -- The Agricultural Training Institute in Central Visayas (ATI-7) has just completed ISO 9001: 2015 Surveillance Audit held at the ATI-7 Training Complex, Cabawan District, this city on February 17, 2023, and has successfully passed the surveillance. The center was the subject of a one-day in-person audit by TUV-SUD.

The TUV-SUD team is spearheaded by Mr. Charlie G. Labrador, Team Leader with Ms. Adorable Aguila, Auditor together with Ms. Marlene Q. Pintac, Administrative Officer IV and Carmina de Mesa, Agriculturist I of ATI-Central Office.

Center Director, Gracia F. Arado, Ph.D., thanked all the staff during the closing program for their dedication and sacrifices in support of ATI- 7's continued growth and development.

Since awarding the ISO 9001:2015 (Quality Management System) in 2018, the certification authority has annually examined the network's compliance.

The center's tangible dedication to enhancing its services with a focus on customer satisfaction may be seen in the ISO 9001:2015 Certification.



GEARING UP: TARGET SETTING OF FY 2023

DAUIS, BOHOL. -- The Agricultural Training Institute-Central Visayas held its Target Setting and Tasking on January 04-05, 2023 at Egay's Hidden Cove, Bingag this town.

The activity aimed to imprint the commitment of ATI extension practitioners and professionals in creating a positive impact on the lives of the farming communities. Specifically, the activity intends to: (1) Present and review the 2023 trainings concerns and other activities; (2) Come up with the Final Tasking of activities and POship; (3) Rate the 2022 IPCR 2nd semester (July-December 2022); and (4) Come up with 1st semester target IPCR (January-June 2023).

Gracia F. Arado, Ph.D, Training Center Superintendent II (TCS II) of the center, discussed the overarching policies for agriculture of the current Department Secretary, President Ferdinand R. Marcos, Jr.

Moreover, Merigine Otara, Project Officer elaborated the importance of the activity and highlighted the activities per program and per section.

The target setting and tasking is an annual event of the center that helps Project Officers stay on track and on schedule of their activities.

A total of 35 ATI employees attended the two-day activity.



IS DISTRIBUTES IEC DURING 22ND UBE FESTIVAL

by shanemie carelle d. pradera

TAGBILARAN CITY, BOHOL. -- The Agricultural Training Institute-Central Visayas joins the celebration of the 22nd Ube Festival held on January 26-30, 2023 at the Old City Airport, Cogon, this city.

The five-day fest is the annual activity of the provincial government showcasing the different varieties of Ube such as: Baligonhon, Binanag, Gimnay, Binato, Iniling, Tam-isan, Kabus-ok, and the famous Kinampay.

The festival highlighted the different contests such as Best Product Display, Highest Volume of Ube Tubers Display, Best Booth, Best Ube Based-processed Products Showcase, and dessert competition.

Shanemie Carelle Pradera, Information Officer II of the center, served as one of the judges for the Best Ube based-processed products showcase held during the afternoon of January 26, 2023.

Moreover, literary-musical contests were held on the second day of the event such as: balak (poetry), jingle, OPM Singing Contest for male and female and kuradang.

Additionally, the following contest was conducted: Most Participative LGU and Pinaka contests participated by municipalities with Ube displayed at their respective booths.

ATI-7 sponsored the Ube production technology updates as part of the celebration on the third day of the festival. Mr. Celencio Maligsa, Masasakang Siyentista and former President of the Bohol Ube Growers Association (BUGA) served as the resource speaker.

The center also distributed information and advocacy materials through its booth during the opening program. In addition, Ma. Gracia Soliva-Pungay, OIC-Training Center Superintended (TCS) I, gave an inspirational message highlighting the activities of ATI in support to Ube industry.

The Provincial Government of Bohol spearheads the festival thru the Provincial Agriculture Office in partnership with the: Department of Agriculture through the Bohol Agricultural Promotion Center (B-APC); Bohol Tourism Office (BTO); Agricultural Training Institute (ATI) and Destileria Barako.



COVER *story*

by shanemie carelle d. pradera

Great teachers have the ability to change lives for the better.

They play a crucial part in society because they foster the social, intellectual, and psychological growth of our children. They inspire pupils to be their best selves and pursue their aspirations, helping to mold the brains of future generations.

In addition, they give children purpose, set them up for success as citizens of our world, and inspire in them a drive to do well and succeed in life. The children of today are the leaders of tomorrow, and teachers are that critical point that makes a child ready for their future.

To ensure that her influence be put to good use, Isidrita Tadem Bernante, a teacher and school head of Estaca Elementary School based in Pilar, Bohol established her mark as one of the women in her community to help children stay in school.

Furthermore, she is championing agriculture that helps promote employment and economic activity in their locality.

ISIDRITA Tadem Bernante *Teacher with a farmer's heart*



"I am a teacher by profession. However, even with my salary, my family needs more budget to sustain our basic needs", shares Isidirta.

"I dreamed that I could be a farmer. I began farming in 1990 and subsequently began teaching at Estaca Elementary School. The two areas of rice land that we till as family can harvest up to 12 sacks of rice. In addition to that, I also grow vegetable that helped me not to buy more dish in the market", adds Mrs. Bernante.

Producing their own rice and vegetables helped augment and secure their food for the family.

This also served as an avenue for them to create employment for their community since they need manpower to tend their land.

"The number one challenge is managing our time. We have difficulty taking control of our time since we have so many children, seven children in fact, and at the same time I became the school head of the Estaca Elementary School and my husband is also a politician", express the school teacher.

Amidst their overlapping schedule, they still find time to fulfill their farming duties. And was recognized for their contribution to their community.

"Recently, I was awarded even in my busy schedule. We were awarded as the Best Implementer in DORP (Drop Out Reduction Program). Even in our busyness, we were able to overcome everything because of perseverance and our deep prayer to the Lord. We hope that we can still serve everyone for a long time", aspires Mrs. Bernante.



Inspiration to Women

When women are empowered, poverty rates and food insecurity decline, they are able to pursue paid, steady employment, and her family's stability, nutrition, and overall health improve.

Accelerating these advantages will be closing the gender wage gap.

Knowing that, **"my advice to women like me is to increase their love of farming."**

My experience have acquired me capital and another source of income that helped me send my children in school.

I was able to extend help and even have a scholar enrolled in Dual Tech Manila.

Now they told me that their life is getting better because the school offered free tuition and free food. This allows them to save money", adds Mrs. Bernante.

Farm Management

"In managing the farm, we make our arrangements beforehand in the evening. My husband will manage in the morning because I am the school head of the school and during the night time I will be the one to manage our workers. That is the time we can spray on our farm. Sometimes we end our work at 12 in the evening.

On top of that, I also manage our seven children. There was also a time that I teach them how to do their assignments. I was able to manage everything.

Even in our busy schedule we always find time to pray to God. Our children's participation in the field when they were little, is that they help in collecting snails. Because spraying was not the norm before.

Also, they assist in picking, carrying, and caring during the planting season", recounts Isidrita.



COVER story—
by shanemie carelle d. pradera

Contribution to the Community

Community service is one of the best ways to help benefit the public or give back to your community. It does not only have positive effects on society, but it will bring benefits to your life and personal development.

Her contribution was the installation of Junior High School in their school which was a huge help for both the parents and students. This allows their children to complete their education and have a shot for a better life.

Moreover, for the womens organization she taught them about farming or gardening so that they can all contribute to their family's economy.

Hope for the Future

Education instills moral principles and aids in the growth of society as a whole. People have the opportunity to shape themselves into more responsible members of society. Additionally, educated people are more likely to acquire well-paying employment and take part in successful trade and commerce operations.

"My plan is to help more people here who are usually tenants, I hope that I will be able to add another year level of senior highschool (Grades 11 and 12) so that we will have a complete educational level in our barangay.

So that there will be no more illiterate children and they can finish their senior highschool", envisions Mrs. Bernante

"Moreover, I encourage the youth to continue farming because it seems that the new generation today do not like to work anymore.

I encourage them to return to farming because farming is our source of livelihood", adds Isidrita.

Indeed, you cannot take the farmer out of the teacher.

Farming and teaching both needs patience and perseverance, and just as the harvest time comes, her labor will not be in vain.



KASAMA MO SI CASSAVA: A REFRESHER COURSE ON CASSAVA PRODUCTION

REGIONWIDE. Strengthening the cassava industry in the Philippines requires strengthening the linkage between production and markets accompanied by improved access to credit, supportive government policies and appropriate technical support, with this the DA-Agricultural Training Institute in Central Visayas (ATI-7) conducted the Kasama mo si Cassava: A Refresher Course on Cassava Production (Batch 1) held at the Agricultural Training Institute-Regional Training Center VII, Training Complex, Cabawan District, Tagbilaran City, Bohol on March 7-9, 2023.

The three-day activity aimed to upskill participants on the production and management of Cassava. In addition, (1) Related the status of Cassava Industry in the Philippines; (2) Discussed the Cassava Production Technologies; and (3) Identified the Pests and Diseases of Cassava plant.

“Sa tulo ka adlaw nga training ako thankful kaayo sa ATI nga naka experience og naka attend ani nga training. Daghan mig nakat-onan sa mga resource speakers, naka-kaon og lamian nga pagkaon og naka uban ang mga technicians sa lungsod. Daghang salamat sa taga training management og God bless kanatong tanan!” shared Dailyn D. Palapar, Agricultural Extension Worker (AEW) from Sevilla, Bohol.

Mr. Jayrell Gamayon Adanza, Municipal Agriculturist from LGU Dimiao-Bohol, discussed the Post Harvest Handling and Pesticide Safety.

While, Mr. Leon M. Parac, Jr. from the Office of the Provincial Agriculturist-Bohol, talked about Cassava Production and its Management.

On another hand, Ms. Christine A. Torlao, Science Research Specialist II from the Department of Agriculture – Regional Crop Protection Center VII (DA-RCPC 7) expounded on Crop Protection: Diseases of Cassava.

Moreover, Mr. Bienvenido D. Acabal, Jr., Agricultural Center Chief III from DA-Regional Crop Protection Center 7 spoke about Crop Protection: Pests of Cassava.

A total of 19 Agricultural Extension Workers (AEWs) from Bohol and 1 from Cebu attended the activity.

ORGANIC FARMERS INVEST TO BECOME PGS CERTIFIED

CENTRAL VISAYAS - “I trust myself, that I can do it. That someday, I will become a certified organic farmer,” said Lilia Ano-os. This is the insight of Ano-os after attending the 10-day Training of Trainers (TOT) on Participatory Guarantee System (PGS).

The said TOT was held at the Plaza Maria Luisa, Dumaguete City on February 13-22, 2023. It was attended by 16 farmers and 4 agricultural extension workers coming from Bohol, Negros Oriental and Siquijor. These farmers and AEWs came from the different municipalities/cities of Amlan, Bais City, Canlaon City, City of Tanjay, Dauin, Manjuyod, Sibulan and Vallehermoso in Negros Oriental province; Larena, Lazi, San Juan and Siquijor in Siquijor province; and Bilal in Bohol province.

The training aims to capacitate PGS Groups on the establishment and operations consistent with the organic agriculture standards and corresponding technical regulations.

Another participant in the name of Raul Tubac, mentioned that this training has enlightened them that their farm practices have a long way to go to become a certified organic. Yet, the experience also offered them knowledge on how to equip themselves on different organic practices leading towards an organic certification. Now, these participants have created their plan of action and are aspiring to build a core PGS group in order to create a pool of peer reviewers who would help small farmers to spend less when undergoing an organic certification application.

One of the outputs from this TOT is the development of their procedures for their manual of operations and their re-entry plan. And now, these farmers are aiming to form a PGS core group in their respective provinces.





P10M SWINE MULTIPLIER FARM BREAKS GROUND IN AMLAN, NEGROS ORIENTAL

AMLAN, NEGROS ORIENTAL -- The Agricultural Training Institute-Central Visayas (ATI-7), local hog farmers, and the local government unit of this town, broke ground on December 15, 2022, for the P10 million swine multiplier and technology demonstration farm project in order to improve the swine industry in the province and entire Central Visayas.

The farm will be able to accommodate 60 sows. It was funded by the Department of Agriculture - National Livestock Program through ATI-7 in collaboration with the Department of Agriculture-Regional Field Office 7.

The creation of this multiplier farm aims to maintain a source of qualified, high-quality hogs that will be available to and accessible to nearby farmers.

Present during the activity is the Local Chief Executive of LGU-Amlan, Mayor Jose Manuel Sycip together with their Municipal Agricultural Officer, Mr. Jovencio Felicilda; OIC-Veterinarian, Ms. Belinda Villahermosa and Mr. Alejandro E. Rapal, PATCO in Negros Oriental with #ATICentralVisayas OIC Center Director, Dr. Gracia Fermentira Arado and Livestock Focal Person, Mr. Vherney Cabasag II.

This is a part of the government's effort to speed livelihood restoration and recovery, particularly for those hog businesses affected by the epidemic and African Swine Fever (ASF).

The swine multiplier farm is aligned with DA's Bantay ASF sa Barangay Program which was created in response to the ASF. The farm addresses one of the program's key components: the repopulation of hogs in areas not affected by ASF.

TRASH TO CASH: ANIMAL WASTE MANAGEMENT AND UTILIZATION

REGIONWIDE. As part of the center's efforts to maximize the use of animal waste, the Agricultural Training Center in Central Visayas (ATI-7) conducted the Trash to Cash: Training on Animal Waste Management and Utilization held at the Agricultural Training Institute-Regional Training Center VII, Training Complex, Cabawan District, Tagbilaran City, Bohol on February 20-24, 2023.

The five-day activity aimed to upskill participants on the basic concept of climate change and to ensure that effluents from piggeries and farm animal establishments are properly managed and utilized as a source of renewable energy. In addition, (1) Explained how the livestock farming influence climate change; (2) Identified and listed down livestock farming practices contribute to climate change; (3) Demonstrated how to make home-made mini Biodigester; and (4) Established or re-echo waste management practices.

"Dako kaayo ko og pasalamat nga naka-apil ko niining maong training. Daghan kaayo ko og mga learnings nga nakuha, nga applicable ra gyud kaayo sa mga gagmayng mag-uuma. Maayo sab kaayo ang among mga resource persons. Maayo silang magpasabot daghan silang nahibaw-an. Daghan salamat sa tanan," shared Teresito C. Verano, Agricultural Extension Worker (AEW) from Ginatilan, Cebu.

Omarbliss B. Dalam, Senior Agriculturist from ATI-11 (Davao Region), discussed the Biodigester (Its Principles and Construction), CSA livestock, -Hands-on Demonstration.

While, Mr. Vherney C. Cabasag III, Agriculturist II from ATI-7, talked about Climate Change, Vermi Composting, A-Z in Hog production.

A total of 20 Agricultural Extension Workers (AEWs) from across the region, attended the activity.



BASIC TRAINING COURSE ON ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION (AI) AND PREGNANCY DIAGNOSIS (PD) FOR LARGE RUMINANT

REGIONWIDE. Artificial insemination (AI) and pregnancy diagnosis are important techniques in the reproductive management of large ruminants. AI involves the introduction of semen into the reproductive tract of the female using various techniques, while PD is the process of determining if a female is pregnant. These techniques can greatly improve the efficiency of breeding programs and contribute to the overall health and productivity of the herd.

The large ruminant industry in the Philippines is comprised of cattle and carabao (water buffalo) farming, which are important sources of milk, meat, and draft power for farmers. The industry faces challenges such as low productivity, inadequate infrastructure, and limited access to finance and technology. However, efforts are being made to improve the industry through various programs and initiatives aimed at increasing productivity and competitiveness.

In this regard, the Department of Agriculture (DA)-Agricultural Training Institute in Central Visayas (ATI-7) implemented the training Basic Training Course on Artificial Insemination (AI) and Pregnancy Diagnosis (PD) for Large Ruminant held at the Ubay Stock Farm, Lomangog Ubay, Bohol on March 06-25, 2023 with 13 participants across the region.

The month-long activity aimed to capacitate and provide technical knowledge and practical skills in Artificial Insemination and Pregnancy diagnosis. In addition, (1) Know the basic anatomy and physiology of the male and female reproductive systems of large ruminants; (2) Discussed animal nutrition; (3) Discussed and explain good animal husbandry practices; (4) Identified/detected heat period of a large ruminant;

(5) Proper evaluated, maintained and monitored the semen quality used for artificial insemination; (6) Know the recent advances in animal breeding and livestock improvement; (7) Performed artificial insemination using the recto-vaginal method; (8) Imparted knowledge on the usefulness of artificial insemination and large ruminant husbandry practices among farmer clientele.

“So, isa ra gud among ma promise as ATI nga all the knowledge, learnings and skills that we gained from the 3 weeks long skills training will be put wholeheartedly to the field with the shared common goals with Unified National Artificial Insemination Program (UNAIIP) in carrying out efficient and effective livestock breeding programs using artificial insemination technology,” shared Franz F. Sumondong, Agricultural Extension Worker (AEW) from Maria, Siquijor.

The following are the resource speakers during the activity: (1) Ma. Maureen M. Manito, DVM, Veterinarian II from DA-Ubay Stock Farm; (2) Carl Leonard M. Pradera, DVM, Instructor from Visayas State University – College of Veterinary Medicine; (3) Jose Edu D. Escudero, Science Research Specialist I from DA-Ubay Stock Farm; (4) Rudito Cortes Mumar, Regional AI Coordinator from DA-Regional Field Office (RFO) VII; (5) Johnny M. Samson, Regional AI Coordinator from the Office of the Provincial Veterinarian (Bohol); and (6) Raul D. Migrino, DVM, VetMed IV and Chief of the Regulatory Division from DA-RFO VII.

Together with trained AI technicians in the person of Emmanuel M. Halasan of LGU-Dimiao and Edilberto M. Ramada, Jr. of LGU-Loon.

Information Officer II, Jun Alguin B. Oliver is the Project Officer with Ryan Joshua V. Villena, Technical Support Staff.





DIGITAL AGRICULTURE COURSE GAINS 40 GRADUATES

REGIONWIDE. Digital Agriculture refers to using digital devices to gather, process and analyze spatial (object) or temporal (time) data. This data can direct focused activities to increase agricultural efficiency, productivity, and sustainability. Digital technologies bring data from our fields and facilities to our fingertips. It can create a sustainable agricultural future by harnessing data's power and training others to do the same.

The Agricultural Training Center in Central Visayas (ATI-7) organized the two batches of Training of Trainers on Digital Agriculture Course (DAC) held at the Agricultural Training Institute-Regional Training Center VII, Government Complex, Tagbilaran City, Bohol on February 7-9, 2023 (Batch 1) and February 21-23, 2023 (Batch 2).

The three-day activity aimed to train farm schools in implementing the Digital Agriculture Course for RCEF. In addition, (1) Explain the components of the Digital Agriculture Course for RCEF; (2) Discuss the course toolkit, modules, and other resources; (3) Conduct a simulation of different in-training scenarios; and (4) Develop a Digital Agriculture Course for RCEF action plan.

“Dako jud akong expectation mahitungod aning training tungod sa paghisgot mahitungod sa Digital Agriculture Course. I believe this 3-days training pinaagi aning akong na learn dako kaayong matabang sa among farmers sa lungsod sa pag market sa ilang produkto. Isa pod ni nga makatabang sa pag learn sa mga farmers sa basic smartphones and parts,” expressed Johnray E. Jaron, Agricultural Extension Worker (AEW) from San Francisco, Cebu.

Merrian Piquero-Soliva, Media Production Specialist II from ATI-7, explained the DAC for RCEF Overview, RCEF 101 Content Overview, and RCEF 102 Content Overview.

On the other hand, Doris Isabel J. Racho, Information Officer II from ATI-7, explained Smartphone 101 and Intro to Social Media Marketing.

Moreover, Shanemie Carelle D. Pradera, Information Officer II from ATI-7, talked about Accessing the Internet, Internet Safety Protocol, and Basic Agri Apps.

In addition, Ma. Pamela R. Macaambac, Technical Staff from ATI-7, discussed the Advanced Agri Apps and Advanced Social Media Marketing.

Likewise, Mayjoy P. Luzon, Technical Staff from ATI-7, spoke about Intro to Social Media Marketing, E-commerce Platform, and Online Payment/Digital Transactions.

A total of 43 participants, composed of AEW, farmers, and youth from across the region, attended the activity.





FROM BEAN TO BAR: TRAINING OF TRAINERS ON CACAO AND COFFEE POST-HARVEST HANDLING AND PROCESSING

REGIONWIDE. Chocolate is a delicious treat that brings joy to many. Its rich and indulgent flavor is hard to resist. Whether you enjoy it as a snack or use it in your baking, chocolate is a wonderful way to lift your mood and satisfy your sweet tooth.

The Philippines has a small but growing chocolate industry, with some companies producing high-quality, single-origin chocolate using locally-sourced cacao beans. However, the industry still faces challenges such as limited supply of cacao beans, lack of infrastructure, and competition from imported chocolates. Efforts are being made to address these issues and promote the growth of the Philippine chocolate industry.

In this regard, the DA-Agricultural Training Institute in Central Visayas (ATI-7) conducted the training entitled "From Bean to Bar: Training of Trainers on Cacao and Coffee Post-Harvest Handling and Processing" held at the Agricultural Training Institute-Regional Training Center VII, Training Complex, Cabawan District, Tagbilaran City, Bohol on March 13-17, 2023.

The three-day activity aimed to capacitate/enhance the knowledge, attitude and skills of our Agricultural Extension Workers (AEWs)/ High Value Crops Development Program (HVCDP) Technicians on cacao and coffee postharvest handling and processing. In addition, (1) Discussed the Situationer of Philippine Cacao and Coffee Industry; (2) Elaborated the postharvest operations and processing of cacao and coffee beans; and (3) Crafted a doable re-entry plan.

"As a first timer on cacao and coffee training, I don't have any background or idea of it. But during the training I am very impressed, especially when we had site visitation/actual demo. Mas nindot gyod nga naay actual vs. lecture in order to experience and understand the main point. So that we will become a good trainer after we go to our respective municipalities. Nga among mapaambit ang among kahibalo ngadto sa among mga farmers," shared Carlo C. Naveo, Agricultural Extension Worker (AEW) from Carcar, Cebu.

Mr. John Dennis R. Ranario, Agriculturist II from LGU DA-Regional Field Office VII, discussed Situationer of Philippine Cacao Industry and the Situationer of Philippine Coffee Industry.

While, Mr. Noel Vecina Tinambacan, Manager from Bohol Chocolate Farm, talked about Harvesting and Post-Harvest Operations of Cacao. On another hand, Mr. John Eric G. Sese, Manager and Farm Owner from Joji's Coffee Farm expounded on Harvest and Post-Harvest Operations and Processing of Coffee.

A total of 20 participants from across the region attended the activity.

Training Specialist II, Ms. Joemelyn A. Sumagang, is the Project Officer together with Moises Zem F. Jayectin, Technical Support Staff.

ATI-7 REAPS 20 GRADUATES ON EDIBLE LANDSCAPING AND URBAN GARDENING

REGIONWIDE. An extra activity is emerging in the plantito and plantita community, feeding not only our stomachs but also our eyes with spectacles.

This time, plants are utilized for both aesthetic purposes and food production. It's referred to as "Edible Landscape," and it involves growing organic fruits, vegetables, herbs, and medicinal plants in a setting that resembles a garden. Crop production is combined with the skill of creating and planning a landscape.

The Agricultural Training Center in Central Visayas (ATI-7) organized the Refresher Course on Edible Landscaping and Urban Gardening in support to Gender and Development held at the Agricultural Training Institute-Regional Training Center VII, Government Complex, Tagbilaran City, Bohol on February 27, 2023 – March 01, 2023.

The five-day activity aimed to equip and/or enhance the knowledge, attitude and skills of our Agricultural Extension Workers (AEWs), teachers, students and their parents on vegetable production and edible landscaping emphasizing on good agricultural practices while recognizing gender roles and responsibilities.

Moreover, the participants also are expected to (1) Discussed the Basic Concepts of Gender and Development; (2) Explained the factors to consider and the challenges in edible landscaping;

(3) Demonstrated edible landscaping technologies and processes; (4) Executed the cultural practices and management of urban containerized gardening and edible landscaping; and (5) Crafted a doable re-entry plan after the activity.

"For our training, practical siya kaayu kay especially karon, uplands are slowly converted to urban. One thing nga ma combat nato ang conversion, we need urban gardening. Usa sa atung gi promote sa Department of Agriculture. During sa atung actual na gyud tay nakat-unan especially sa color and contrast. Thank you!" expressed Ben Emmanuel Lusica, Agriculturist I from the Department of Agriculture – Regional Field Office 7 (DA-RFO 7).

Pablita R. Cabarles, Master Teacher I from Manga National High School, based at Manga, Tagbilaran City, Bohol, explained the Edible Landscaping Technology.

On the other hand, Ma. Gracia Soliva-Pungay, Training Specialist III and currently the Chief-CDMS from ATI-7, explained the topic on Gender and Development.

A total of 20 AEWs from across the region, attended the activity.



CAPACITATING NURSERY OPERATORS TO INCREASE ACCREDITED NURSERIES IN THE REGION TO ENSURE AVAILABILITY OF QUALITY PLANTING MATERIALS

by maryjane flor patullilic

UBAY, BOHOL - “There is money in seeds and seedling production”, said Rufina Artiaga after she attended the 5-day Training of Trainers on Plant Nursery Establishment, Management and Accreditation. ATI Central Visayas conducted this training as there is a need for farmers and agricultural extension workers (AEWs) to understand the techniques and importance of plant propagation, and appropriate production protocol. The training aims to capacitate the LGU-owned and private nursery operators in plant nursery establishment, management and accreditation.

“Aside from producing good quality seeds and planting material, it (nursery establishment) generates income. Scion, bud stick and seedlings can be sold”, said Janice Estoras.

“After this training, I am aiming to establish our own nursery, will secure parent trees, collect different seeds of fruit trees and apply the skills and knowledge of the training,” said Jose Labonite.

The said TOT was held in Pacheco's Inn, Poblacion, Ubay, Bohol on February 20 – 24, 2023. It was participated by 23 participants from

municipalities/cities of Calape, Garcia Hernandez, Loay, Pilar, Sagbayan, San Miguel, Ubay, and Valencia in Bohol province; Alcantara, Asturias, Dumanjug, Mandaue City, and Toledo City in Cebu province; and Ayungon, Basay, City of Bayawan, La Libertad, Santa Catalina and Sibulan in Negros Oriental province.

The participants are farmers who have existing nurseries aspiring to establish their nurseries, agricultural extension workers and teachers from senior high schools offering agriculture courses which also have school nurseries. Certificate of training is also one of the requirements for nursery accreditation and renewal.

Going forth, the Department of Agriculture, through the support of the Bureau of Plant Industry (BPI) through the National Seed Quality Control Services (NSQCS), aspires to accredit more nurseries for the production and distribution of quality planting materials from accredited plant nurseries.



LEARNING SITE *updates*



ATI-7 CERTIFIES 9 LEARNING SITES IN THE REGION

CENTRAL VISAYAS – The Agricultural Training Institute (ATI) has certified additional nine (9) Learning Sites for Agriculture (LSA) in the region for the first quarter of 2023.

The following farms are the newly certified LSAs. For Bohol, they are: Agri Institute and Technology Training Center based at Alicia; GAZEBO de Loondon Eco Farm located in Loon; MONIKSEF Integrated Farm based at Sagbayan; ROMERO Agricultural Farm based at Loay; and REV-AGRI Learning Center based at Bien Unido.

For Cebu, are the following: GRANJA Mercado based at Sogod, and CARCAR ECOFARM Resort Inc. based at Carcar City.

Meanwhile for Negros Oriental, they are: LIVESTOCK Breeding Center based in Bayawan City.



In addition, for the province of Siquijor, it is FARMILIA Ancis based at Lazi.

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.



GRANJA MERCADO



GAZEBO DE LOONDON

WHAT IS AN LSA ?

LEARNING SITE FOR AGRICULTURE IS AN INNOVATIVE EXTENSION MODALITY CONCEPTUALIZED BY THE ATI WHERE SUCCESSFUL FARMERS WORTHY OF EMULATION AND WILLING TO SHARE THEIR TECHNOLOGIES RIGHT IN THEIR OWN FARMS WILL BE PARTNERS IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TRAINING AND EXTENSION INTERVENTIONS PARTICULARLY FOR HANDS-ON TRAINING OR ON-THE-JOB INSTRUCTION TO COMPLEMENT CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION.



MONIKSEF INTEGRATED FARM

The official publication of ATI in Central Visayas

KAUGMARAN

January - March 2023

Vol 7, No. 1



aticv.7@gmail.com
ati_7cv@yahoo.com



www.ati.da.gov.ph
www.e-extension.gov.ph/elearning



+63 917.321.8524

Isipite Iadem akronante:

**Teacher
with a
farmer's
heart**



Enrol now

at <http://e-extension.gov.ph/elearning>

Online Course on

**Urban
Gardening**



**Wood
Vinegar
Production**



Yummy Yam

Online Course on Ubi Production

Published by:

INFORMATION SERVICES SECTION

Agricultural Training Institute-Region 7 (ATI-R7)

Cabawan District, Tagbilaran City, Bohol 6300

www.ati.da.gov.ph/ati-7 | aticv.7@gmail.com

0917-321.8524

Copyright 2023