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DZRH's *Ito ang Palad ko* features two CPAR success stories on ubi and ducks

photos by Ma. Eloisa E. Hernandez



Agriculture Secretary Arthur C. Yap hosts the 30-minute program which airs on DZRH.

BAR Director Nicomedes P. Eleazar (second from left) discusses BAR's efforts in helping farmers through CPAR and NTCP. Engr. Antonio Du (right), CPAR coordinator for CENVIARC, discusses the economic benefits of ubi growing while Mr. Nestor Deloy (left), farmer-cooperator of the CPAR Ubi project, shares his farming success from adopting the technology.

Pursuant to the 10-point agenda of President Gloria-Macapagal Arroyo to create 6-10 million jobs by 2010, the Office of the Presidential Adviser for Job Creation (OPAJC) created a radio program titled "Ito ang Palad ko." The 30-minute program is hosted by the Department Agriculture (DA) Secretary Arthur C. Yap, concurrent OPAJC president.

In cooperation with DZRH, the radio program that airs Monday to Saturday at 1:30 pm features success stories of farmers and fisherfolk who have adopted best agricultural practices. It also provides available livelihood and entrepreneurial opportunities resulting in jobs. Moreover, it highlights the income benefits acquired from the featured life story.

The Bureau of Agricultural Research (BAR), a coordinating and funding agency of the DA for R&D related activities, provided stories of successful farmers-cooperators that adopted the Community-based Participatory Action

Research (CPAR) project. Stories were also published in BAR R&D Digest, a quarterly publication of the Bureau, which features some of the latest technologies and innovations in research and development.

The episode titled "Mighty Ducks" was participated in by Bicol Integrated Agricultural Research Center (BIARC) Manager Elena delos Santos, Duck Industry Association of the Philippines (DIAP) President Leandro Santos, CPAR Farmer-cooperator Fred Lanusga and wife, Ms. Laila Lanusga, and BIARC Assistant Manager Cora Orbon.

Featured is the life story of Mr. Fred, a farmer-cooperator of CPAR's "Diversified Farming Systems Agribusiness

Development Project in Bicol Region".

In 2003, his rice farm became the model farm and DA awarded him 100 ready-to-lay ducks. He practices raising ducks in a rice-based farming system.

During the interview with the Secretary, Mr. Fred shared CPAR's considerable assistance in rice-farming to improve livelihood by providing value-adding benefits to the farmers. DIAP President Leandro Santos gave an overview of the duck raising industry in the Philippines. At present, the country has 11 million ducks valued at P 5.7 billion. Duck raisers are largely grown in Central Luzon.

Ms. delos Santos discussed the

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Luzon Cluster A moves forward with technology commercialization; 9 technologies presented

Researchers from Luzon Cluster A, consisting of Regions I, II, and Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR), presented nine commercializable technologies during its 2nd Regional Technology Forum on 27 June 2007 at the Baguio Convention Center in Baguio City. Hosting this year's forum is CAR.

The nine commercializable technologies presented included: 1) Improved technologies for Arabica coffee production; 2) Minisett rapid multiplication for processing type yam

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photo courtesy of DA-CAR

BAR Director Nicomedes P. Eleazar (right), DA-CAR Director Cesar D. Rodriguez (center), and Baguio City Mayor Reinaldo A. Bautista Jr. (left) lead the ribbon-cutting ceremony during the opening of the Luzon Cluster A Technology Forum in Baguio City.

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BAR Chronicle is the official monthly publication of the Bureau of Agricultural Research (BAR) of the Department of Agriculture (DA), which is mandated to ensure that all agricultural research is coordinated and undertaken for maximum utility to agriculture.

This publication provides regular updates on BAR's activities as the country's national coordinator for agriculture and fisheries R&D; and highlights features and news articles concerning NaRDSAF-member institutions.

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DA to unify GIS with support from Taiwanese government

The full potential of GIS can only be realized through a common ground – a unified approach to agriculture and fisheries information management.” Thus stressed Department of Agriculture (DA) Assistant Secretary Salvador S. Salacup at an inter-agency meeting for the drafting of a proposal for possible funding from the Taiwanese government on 28 June 2007 at the DA Main Office, Diliman, Quezon City.

This led the Bureau of Agricultural Research (BAR), a coordinating and funding agency for agriculture and fisheries research and development (R&D), to draft a proposal titled “Using Geographic Information System (GIS) for Agriculture and Fisheries Development in the Philippines – Installing Unified Information System”.

The important role of information and communication technology (ICT) and GIS to gain competitive edge in the marketing aspect of DA was recognized.

BAR views that ICT and GIS can result in a competitive agriculture and fisheries (AF) sectors providing employment opportunities, especially in rural areas.

The project was designed to enhance the application of geospatial technologies in the planning and management of the AF R&D. It will also provide mechanisms for information exchange on the application and utilization of GIS in AF R&D.

Through funding support from Taiwan, the GIS can be fully operationalized in the DA-National Research and Development System in Agriculture and Fisheries (NaRDSAF)

that can provide beneficial strategy in the implementation of the programs, projects, and activities of the Department. The role of the Taiwanese government is seen as an immense investment in modernizing the Philippine agriculture and fisheries sector.

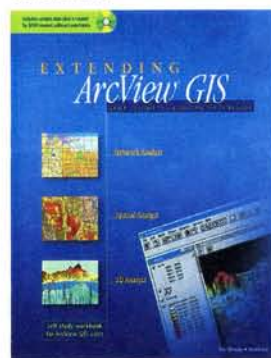
GIS sets new directions on the 1) expansion of opportunities and innovations in production, 2) expansion of production areas, 3) development of new production areas, 4) development of agribusiness-oriented manpower, 5) installation of new agribusiness management systems of productions, and 6) identification of new uses of information.

The BAR GIS was established and became operational in 1992. The initial stages led to the rapid development and use of GIS application in AF R&D and participation in the Agriculture and Fisheries Research and Development Information System (AFRDIS).

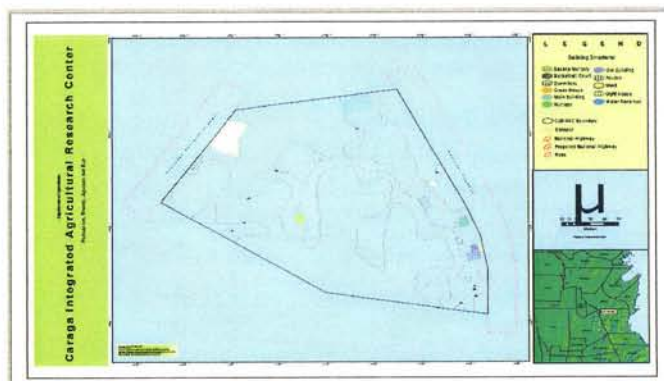
The Bureau, through its BAR Spatial Analysis Information Laboratory (BARSAIL), handles extensive data in many disciplines in agriculture and fisheries also coming from GIS users from other R&D institutions.

GIS or Geospatial is a technology utilizing maps for management of resources, communities, industries, and environment. This has opened doors in effectively managing resources that provide more opportunities for organizational development needed to propel efficient agribusiness actions. GIS includes GPS and Remote Sensing (RS). (Ma. Eloisa E. Hernandez)

photos and images courtesy of
Joel B. Abunda



ArcView GIS software



Topographic map of CARAGA produced at DA-BAR through its Geographical Information System (GIS) Unit.

BAR links up with private sector to establish bio-fertilizer production facilities in the regions



BAR Director Nicomedes P. Eleazar (left) and AFCSI President Rene T. Naguiat (right) sign the Memorandum of Agreement.

(L-R, backrow) Other signatories were OIC BAR-RCD Tito Z. Arevalo, AFCSI Director Sergio T. Naguiat, and BAR Accountant Roberto S. Quing.

photos by Anthony A. Constantino

Biofertilizer production facilities will be established in 16 Regional Integrated Agricultural Research Centers (RIARCs) of the Department of Agriculture-Regional Field Units (DA-RFUs).

This was stipulated in a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) signed recently by Bureau of Agricultural Research (BAR) and the Agro-Forestry Crop Systems Inc. (AFCSI), a private entity.

The MOA was signed in line with Executive Order (EO) promoting and developing organic agriculture in the Philippines.

The 18 pilot experimental sites where the biofertilizer production facilities will be tested are: Baguio City (CAR), La Union (RFU I), Isabela (RFU II), Tarlac City (RFU III), Lipa City, Batangas, and Quezon Province (RFU IV-A), Camarines Sur and Camarines Norte (RFU V), Iloilo (RFU VI), Cebu City (RFU VII), Leyte (RFU VIII), Zamboanga del Sur (RFU IX), Bukidnon (RFU X), Cotabato City

(ARMM), Davao City (RFU XI), Kidapawan City (RFU XII), and Agusan del Sur (CARAGA).

The MOA was signed by BAR Director Nicomedes P. Eleazar and AFCSI President Rene T. Naguiat on 21 June 2007 at the RDMIC Building, Visayas Avenue, Diliman Quezon City. Other signatories were Mr. Tito Z. Arevalo, OIC of the Research Coordination Division (RCD) of BAR; Mr. Roberto S. Quing, accountant of BAR, and Mr. Sergio T. Naguiat, director of AFCSI.

The pilot sites, to be managed and operated by RIARCs, will also serve as model farms or show windows highlighting the benefits and savings generated from using organic fertilizer. RIARCs will promote the adoption of bio-fertilizer production technology in collaboration with the local government units (LGUs), regional cooperative partners, and in harmony with the Community-based Participatory Action Research (CPAR) program of DA-BAR.

CPAR is a platform for

technology assessment involving the participation of the community together with the experts and researchers in identifying the most appropriate technologies that meet the community's priority needs. Its ultimate goal is to increase total farm productivity and income within the context of a sustainable production system following the farming system approach.

The promotion of biofertilizer production technology is hoped to generate income not only for the farmer-cooperators of CPAR but ultimately to improve the economic activities in the regions as a whole. Through this project, resource utilization in the regions and satellite stations of DA are optimized while at the same time protecting the environment through proper disposal and utilization of farm and agro wastes.

One of the major concerns today is the continuous use of chemical fertilizers, resulting in imbalanced nutrient composition in the soil and tremendous harm to the environment. An answer to this is biofertilizer, an environmental-friendly fertilizer, which is now widely-used in most countries. It increases the salinity of the soil and chemical run-offs from the agricultural fields.

Biofertilizers are organisms that enrich the nutrient quality of soil, the main sources of which are bacteria, fungi, and *cyanobacteria* (blue-green algae). These organisms are known to deliver a number of benefits, including plant nutrition, disease resistance, and tolerance to adverse soil and climatic conditions. (Rita T. dela Cruz)

ERRATUM

In the April issue, a headline appeared stating that "BAR is DA's focal agency on biofuels" (Volume 8, Issue No. 4). The management would like to clear that BAR is the lead agency only on the R&D aspect of the program. The Biofuels Group of DA is implementing and leading the Biofuels Program to reduce our dependence on imported oil and to provide cheaper and more environment-friendly alternatives to fossil fuels.

The editorial staff would like to apologize for any inconvenience that this may have brought.

Managing Editor

ARMMIARC conducts in-house review and planning workshop

The Autonomous Region on Muslim Mindanao Integrated Agricultural Research Center (ARMMIARC) under the Department of Agriculture (DA) conducted its 10th in-house Review and Planning Workshop on 25-27 June 2007 at Hotel Castro, Inc. in Cotabato City.

The annual activity was designed to review, consolidate, and evaluate the completed and on-going researchers, studies, and development projects from 2000 to 2006. It specifically aimed to identify technologies requiring field testing, verification, piloting and mature technologies ready for packaging and dissemination; identify research gap and new areas for research; and present JICA-TCP4 project accomplishment.

The review likewise sought to determine possible researches for commercialization.

On the first day, the research results presented were from the six provinces of ARMM: Maguindanao, Lanao del Sur, Basilan, Tawi-tawi, Sulu, and Shariff Kabunsuan.

Director for R&D Salik B.

Panalunsong welcomed the participants while DA Regional Secretary Sajid S. Druz Ali, Al-Haj delivered a message.

Mr. Tito Z. Arevalo, OIC head of the Research Coordination Division (RCD) of the Bureau of Agricultural Research (BAR), delivered the keynote speech in behalf of Director Nicomedes P. Eleazar.

In his speech, he acknowledged ARMMIARC's effort in intensifying the research, development, and extension activities for the region through conduct of researches and studies in agriculture and fisheries. He likewise stressed the role of BAR's Community-based Participatory Action Research (CPAR) in assisting the agribusiness development of the region.

The regional priority agenda for the next five years were presented on the second day.

The Research, Development and Extension Agenda and Programs (RDEAP) manual for 2005-2010 serves as a guide for the formulation and implementation of priority RDE programs and projects. This was the result of the 14 consultation meetings

conducted in the regions to identify, assess, and prioritize the R&D needs in the agriculture sector.

The event was well-participated by RDE partner-institutions with representatives coming from the Philippine Rice Research Institute (PhilRice), pool of experts from the Upi Agricultural College (UAC), Mindanao State University (MSU) and Kabacan, research outreach station superintendents, provincial coordinators and researchers.

Mr. Rolando V. Kintana, assistant division head of RCD and Mr. Ricarte V. Castro, research coordinator for ARMM—both from BAR, also participated in the event.

ARMMIARC's mission is to serve as an effective instrument in consolidating and strengthening the regional agriculture research and development system for increased effectiveness and efficiency. ARMMIARC aims to cut across on the following thrusts: food security, poverty eradication and people empowerment, productivity and income, sustainable agriculture development, and global competitiveness. (Ma. Eloisa E. Hernandez)

BAR participates in DA's ICT and ISSP review workshop

A "Workshop on the Review of the Department of Agriculture's (DA) Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Programs and Services, and Information Systems Strategic Plan (ISSP)" was held on 19-20 June at the Philippine Rice Research Institute (PhilRice), Maligaya, Muñoz, Nueva Ecija.

The workshop reviewed the ICT capabilities of the Department as well as identified the gaps and prioritized unified and implementable ICT services in agriculture and fisheries.

Spearheaded by the Information Technology Center for Agriculture and Fisheries (ITCAF) of DA and PhilRice, the workshop was participated in by DA staff bureaus and attached agencies. The Bureau of Agricultural Research (BAR) was represented in the workshop by Ms. Julia Lapitan, Ms. Melissa Resma, and Mr. Herminigildo Quibuyen from the Management Information System Division (MISD).

The vital role of ICT in nation-building and the need to create an information-friendly environment that

will support and ensure the availability, diversity, and affordability of ICT products and services are recognized by the Republic Act 8792 or the E-Commerce Act of 2000.

The government, as a model user, pioneers the use of new technologies in delivering core public services. Hence, the two-day activity aimed to develop unified ICT programs and services in the agriculture and fisheries sectors.

On the first day of the review workshop, DA-Agribusiness and Marketing Assistance Service (AMAS) Director Francisco Ramos III, represented by Ms. Rowena Genete, discussed the DA agribusiness framework which will serve as the benchmark in developing and implementing ICT services and programs.

This was followed by the presentation of ICT initiatives, status and directions from the BAR, Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR), Bureau of Agricultural Statistics (BAS), Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI), National Food Authority (NFA), PhilRice, and ITCAF.

The presentations of the staff

bureaus and attached agencies and critiquing of the outputs were followed by the synthesis of outputs for integration and adoption on the following day.

During the workshop, the participants identified the gaps of their respective ICT service, which could hamper the functions of each participating bureau and agency in the long run. In this regard, pertinent actions will be taken by BAR together with the other bureaus and agencies to bridge the identified gaps and implement ICT services and programs under the agribusiness framework. (Ellaine Grace L. Nagpala)



FCSSP holds 19th Scientific Conference;



Dr. Mina N. Gabor, president of the PhilSMED, serves as the plenary speaker during the opening. Also in the picture is Dr. Virgilio Villancio, outgoing president of FCSSP.

Yap promotes sustainable technologies to increase farm productivity and income

The Federation of Crop Science Societies of the Philippines (FCSSP) held its 19th Scientific Conference on 13-15 June 2007 at the Grand Ballroom of the Development Academy of the Philippines (DAP) Conference Center in Tagaytay City.

FCSSP is composed of six societies: 1) Crop Science Society of the Philippines (CSSP), 2) Society for the Advancement of the Vegetable Industry (SAVI), 3) Philippine Fruits Association (PFA), 4) Philippine Seed Industry Association (PSIA), 5) Philippine Association of Plant Tissue Culture (PAPTC), and 6) Conservation Farming Movement (CFM).

FCSSP conducts a scientific conference annually to promote, share and exchange technological innovations and solutions to agricultural production and commercialization constraints. This year's conference focused on "Promoting Innovations and Entrepreneurship in Agriculture," which hopes to make business out of agriculture.

Providing the keynote address in behalf of DA Secretary Arthur C. Yap was Dr. Alicia G. Ilaga, director of the Biotechnology Program Implementation of DA.

In his message, Secretary Yap commended the FCSSP for hosting the forum and for assisting the Department regularly in its relentless efforts to modernize Philippine agriculture. This is done through the regular conduct and

promotion of sustainable technologies that will increase farm productivity and income.

He said this year's theme fits the major thrust of the enabling farmers and fisherfolk to earn profitably by adopting innovative technologies.

"With appropriate training, affordable credit, and direct market linkage, including postharvest facilities, we are able to transform our farmers and fisherfolk into entrepreneurs," he stressed.

Yap was enthusiastic that with combined value of production of the crops sectors that amounted to P 458.8 billion and with the continued cooperation of DA and members of the FCSSP, the agriculture sector will surely flourish.

Following the opening program was a plenary session on "Developing Agri-based Small and Medium Enterprise" presented by Dr. Mina Gabor, president of the Philippine Small and Medium Enterprise Development Foundation.

The second day, 14 June, was devoted to concurrent scientific sessions covering topics on soils and plant nutrition, extension and education/socio-economics, plant breeding and genetics, crop physiology and biochemistry, farming systems, crop protection and postharvest handling, processing and utilization.

The third day, provided venue for farmers to learn the latest breakthroughs and developments in agriculture from a panel of resource speakers and experts.

In the opening remarks of Dr.

Virgilio T. Villancio, he addressed the researchers, scientists, and farmers as target beneficiaries of the forum. He said that today, farming goes beyond the farm level and there is a need to transform the farmer to a businessman. This could only be possible if farmers are informed on the latest developments in the sector.

Dr. Villancio advised the farmers to not be contented with just producing their crops but should also see to it that they get the most out of what they produce or profit from what they reap. He hoped that the farmers would learn more on how to augment their incomes from farming and become entrepreneurs in the process.

Dr. Teodoro S. Solsoloy, assistant director of the Bureau of Agricultural Research (BAR), presented the National Technology Commercialization Program (NTCP) of DA.

Dr. Solsoloy gave a brief insight into the DA technology commercialization process, which focuses on specific crops, animals, fisheries, industries, communities and people. NTCP serves as a vital tool for the development of enterprises and the improvement of agriculture- and fisheries-related industries anchored on appropriate activities emphasizing on technology transfer, patenting, promotion, utilization, application, adoption, and commercialization.

Other topics presented during forum were: 1) The Philippine Energy Scenario and Innovations in the Biofuels Industry (Mario C. Marasigan, director of the Energy Utilization and Management Bureau, Department of Energy); 2) Opportunities in Tropical Fruit Wines and Distilled Spirits (Dr. Alexander R. Madrigal, regional director, DOST Region IV); 3) Innovations and Entrepreneurship in the Fruit and Vegetables Industry (Dr. Rodel G. Maghirang, director of DA-High Value Commercial Crops Program); and 4) The DA Agribusiness and Marketing Assistant Services (Francisco A. Ramos III, director of DA-AMAS)

The three-day event culminated with the Awards and Recognition Night, where the newly-elected FCSSP officers were inducted. Dr. Jose E. Hernandez of the CSSP took over the helm of the Federation from Dr. Virgilio Villancio, who represented the Conservation Farming Movement.

The federation also gave recognition to the following:

- **Dr. Hernani G. Golez** – FCSSP 2007 DA-Khush Award for his development of integrated production and pest management strategies for the Philippine 'Carabao' Mango

- **Dr. Samuel C. Dalmacio** – 2007 CSSP Honorary Fellow for significant role in introducing the

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tubers; 3) Calcium-enriched polvoron; 4) Namnama and ASHA: the seeds of hope of peanut farmers; 5) Small ruminant production technologies; 6) Multiple handline: improved catching efficiency; 7) Seaweed: a supplemental source of income for women; 8) Bagoong cubes or fish paste cubes; and 9) Use of gibberelic acid for aster hybrid bolting.

These technologies, when adopted, are expected to give positive impact in the Northern Luzon area, especially since the local economy of the three regions covered thrives mainly on agriculture.

In general, the regional technology forum, initiated by DA's National Technology Commercialization Program (NTCP) through the Bureau of Agricultural Research (BAR), aims to identify mature technologies with potential features for commercialization that could be disseminated and promoted to a larger society.

This year's technology forum is different from last year since a presentation of the "Good Agricultural Practices as a tool Towards a Globally Competitive Market" was added. Also known as GAP, the presentation focused on standards to prevent risks to food safety, quality produce, environment and workers safety in production, harvesting, and postharvest handling of fresh fruits and vegetables.

The event kicked off with the opening of exhibit through a ceremonial ribbon-cutting led by BAR Director Nicomedes P. Eleazar, DA-CAR Director Cesar D. Rodriguez, and Baguio City Mayor Reinaldo A. Bautista Jr.

The exhibit and fair showcased agriculture and fishery products developed by R&D centers, private companies, SCUs, farmers groups and other partners from Regions 1, 2, and CAR.

The opening ceremony followed the opening of the exhibit. Director Cesar D. Rodriguez delivered the keynote address in behalf of DA Secretary Arthur C. Yap, who was unable to attend the event.

In his message, Secretary Yap emphasized that technologies must be developed and packaged in such a way that they could be easily commercialized. He also stressed that research projects should be demand-driven, market-oriented, innovative,

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BAR, Optiserve orient regions on e-Pinoy project and its potentials



Staff from BAR and Optiserve Technologies lead the participants from the regions.

The Bureau of Agricultural Research (BAR), in cooperation with Optiserve Technologies, Inc., conducted an orientation and briefing on the e-Pinoy project in Zamboanga Sibugay and Zamboanga del Norte on 5-7 June 2007.

Zamboanga Sibugay and Zamboanga Del Norte are two of the three pilot areas identified for the operationalization of e-Pinoy FARMS ©. Another area selected is Camarines Norte in Region 5.

The purpose of the orientation was to introduce the e-Pinoy Farms © program into the community as a proprietary applications software developed by Optiserve for the agribusiness sector. The program is designed as a farm management system to enable farmers' organization, cooperatives, and agribusiness enterprises to record efficiently baseline data, business transactions and operations; and provide timely access to information for effective decision-making.

The importance of e-Pinoy farms mainly lies on improving the documentation of BAR's Community-based Participatory Action Research

(CPAR) program.

The implementation of ICT as a tool for rural development was also emphasized during the briefing with the Western Mindanao Integrated Agricultural Research Center (WESMIARC) staff, representatives from the local government units (LGUs), farmer leaders, and non-government organizations (NGOs).

It was agreed that partners would be reoriented on CPAR as a strategy for rural development and come up with a standard approach for effective project monitoring and evaluation system. An efficient reporting mechanism that would allow sensible communication between and among partners, would also be established.

The team, composed of representatives from BAR and Optiserve, recommended focusing on few priority commodities in the province such as rubber, banana, and cacao. The duties and responsibilities of all stakeholders and the issue on how to sustain the system after the project objectives were also discussed.

Mr. Ric Castro, BAR coordinator for the Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR) and the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) led the team together with Ms Mariko Ramos of PDD-BAR, CEO of Optiserve Cheryl Marie Natividad and two members of her staff—Mr. Froilan Orlanda and Mr. John Michael Vincent Radoc.

The team was welcomed by Regional Executive Director Oscar O. Parawan, Regional Technical Director Constancio G. Alama, and WESMIARC Manager Francisco G. Geromo. (Mariko M. Ramos)



Participants during their photo op session.

photos courtesy of Mariko M. Ramos

IP awareness continues with staff bureaus

RITA T. DELA CRUZ



photos by Anthony A. Constanino

To show consistency and continuity in the Bureau of Agricultural Research's (BAR) endeavor to increase the Intellectual Property (IP) awareness level in the agriculture and fisheries R&D sector, the Bureau conducted the "Intellectual Property Awareness Training Workshop" on 7-8 June 2007 at the BAR Conference Room, RDMIC Building, Visayas Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City.

The workshop was a follow-up to the IP training workshop held in May. This time, participants came mostly from the staff bureaus of the Department of Agriculture (DA).

The lecturers were Dr. Andrea B. Agillon, head of BAR's Intellectual Property Rights Office (IPRO); Atty. James Dennis C. Gumpal, legal and IP counsel of BAR; and Engr. Merito J. Carag, chief of the IP Philippines' Bureau of Patents.

The two-day training workshop hoped not only to provide awareness but also a deeper understanding on the

important policies and issues of IPR to strengthen R&D. The activity paved the way for a better IPR system—particularly for the benefit of the agriculture sector.

Importance of IPR in agriculture

IPR plays a crucial role in the field of agriculture, particularly in R&D. The underlying objective of IPR is to protect the scientists'/researchers' rights to be appropriately acknowledged for their work, be it in the form of an invention, technology, information, process, or method.

IPR puts in place a mechanism that would provide the scientists and the researchers a way of controlling the utilization and optimization of their works, and thereby ensuring that they are properly rewarded for such inventive endeavors.

Having effective and easily 'implementable' IPR system encourages and stimulates the creation of more innovations and its ingenious use that eventually would benefit the agriculture and fisheries sectors. This proves that the

producer of a protected work is not the only beneficiaries of this endeavor but also the users of technologies themselves.

IPR also provides a secure environment in which the general public could have access to protected high quality research without the fear that the original work may not be acknowledged.

The need for information awareness

As the saying goes, before full understanding takes place, first, there must be information awareness.

Before the policies and implementing guidelines are set, it is important to first set the level of awareness among those who need to be informed. No intellectual property system can make an effective contribution to economic and technological development of a country unless the system is known to, and used by those whose benefits are known.

An IP system is established not only to serve the needs of traders, manufacturers, industrialists, researchers, and businessmen but also the consumers. The list of potential users and beneficiaries is inexhaustible, and the benefits to be derived from an effective use of IPR cut across sectoral lines within an economy.

It is crucial, therefore, to promote among owners and users, as well as among potential owners and users, the importance of a good IP system. Also to create awareness of its nature and of how its main components can be developed and successfully exploited in various sectors to serve better the national interest and national goals of development.

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and cost-effective as to ensure to profitability of the stakeholders, and at the same time provide the consumers with accessible and affordable basic items.

After the presentation of the technologies, a post-forum activity and technology business meeting was held for technology generators,

entrepreneurs, and government financial institutions.

Participating in the forum were representatives from DA-Regional Field Units (RFUs); Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) from Regions I, II, and CAR; state colleges and universities (SCUs) in Northern Luzon; and representatives from the private sector. (Ellaine Grace L. Nagpala)



BAR's booth during the trade fair featuring commerciable technologies.



BAR-MISD OIC Julia A. Lapitan receives plaque of appreciation in behalf of BAR Director Nicomedes P. Eleazar.



CPAR Farmer-cooperator Engr. Wilfredo Lanusga (center) addresses a booth visitor on balut production and processing.

photos courtesy of Julia A. Lapitan

BAR highlights CPAR projects at 6th Agraryo Trade Fair

In celebration of the 19th anniversary of the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program (CARP), the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) conducted its 6th Agraryo Trade Fair on 6-10 June 2007 at the Megatrade Hall 2, 5th Level, Building B, SM Megamall, Mandaluyong City.

With its mandate to develop partnership toward an improved agriculture and fishery sector, the Bureau of Agricultural Research (BAR) participated in the trade fair by being one of the co-sponsors of the event, together with the Department of Agriculture (DA), Department of Tourism (DoT), Land Bank of the Philippines (LBP), Manila Bulletin, Agrarian Reform Community Development Program-World Bank 2, National Historical Institute, and First Asia Realty Development Corporation.

With the theme "Blazing the Marketing Trail", this year's Agraryo trade fair was organized by the Bureau of Agrarian Reform Beneficiaries Development (BARBD) of DAR.

An opening ceremony was conducted on the first day of the event.

DAR Secretary Nasser C. Pangandaman welcomed the guest and participants in the Agraryo Trade Fair in his opening remarks. Likewise, he expressed his gratitude on behalf of the people behind the successful conduct of the trade fair for six years now.

Secretary Pangandaman also stressed the need to further support agrarian reform programs that will lead the nation towards progress.

Hon. Jeffrey M. Galan, undersecretary for support services of DAR, acknowledged and awarded plaques of recognition to the institutions that co-sponsored the event. Ms. Julia Lapitan, OIC, Management Information System Division (MISD) of BAR, received the plaque citation for the

Bureau.

Unlike in the past celebrations of the Agraryo Trade Fair, this year's keynote speaker for the opening program came from the private sector. Mr. Roberto R. Gandioco, chairperson of Julie's Franchise Corporation. In his message, he shared the success of Julie's Bakeshop, starting from a home business to today's most franchised bakeshop in the country.

A ceremonial ribbon cutting and sounding of chimes signaled the opening of the trade fair. The ribbon cutting and sounding of chimes was led by Secretary Pangandaman assisted by Mr. Gadionco, Mr. Solomon D. Badoy, president of Philippine Fruit and Vegetable Industries, Inc., and the secretary's wife, Mrs. Yasmin P. Pangandaman.

The trade fair showcased a wide array of products—from agricultural and fisheries product to non-food products.

The regional offices of DAR showcased the products of the Agrarian Reform Communities (ARC) developed in their respective regions. These include fresh and processed vegetable and fruit products, processed dairy products, poultry products, and handicrafts.

BAR will continue supporting activities that will provide sustainable development for the marginalized sectors

BAR exhibited and sold products from its partner institutions such as sweet sorghum wine and vinegar from Mariano Marcos State University (MMSU), salted eggs, *balut*, and dehydrated pineapple from Region 5, fresh, pickled and dried mango from LA Trading, Bio-N fertilizer and growth enhancer from the University of the Philippines Los Baños (UPLB), and seaweed products from the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources in Region 4A. Publications that feature recent technologies from UPLB and BAR were

also distributed. Other participants of the trade fair include government institutions that promote CARP, NGOs and private institutions.

A series of seminars and cooking demonstrations were also featured during the trade fair wherein invited speakers from BAR's CPAR projects participated.

Engr. Wilfredo Lanusga, a CPAR farmer-cooperator of the project "Diversified Farming Systems Agribusiness Development Project in Bicol Region", shared his success and the know-how's on duck egg production of salted egg and balut which is a component of the project.

Mr. Roberto Abrera, the Regional Fisheries Research and Development Center (RFRDC) manager of Region 4A, lectured on the production of seaweeds and the possible uses of its by-products.

Dr. Heraldo Layaoen, vice president for administration, planning and external linkages of MMSU and overall coordinator of the BAR sweet sorghum project, lectured on ethanol production from sweet sorghum which is the main component in producing biofuels.

On the last day of the Agraryo Trade Fair, Ms. Lapitan delivered a closing message in behalf of BAR Director Nicomedes P. Eleazar, wherein she acknowledged the relevance of the activities conducted by DAR in promoting the manufactured products of the agrarian reform beneficiaries in the country. Ms. Lapitan said that BAR will continue supporting activities that will provide sustainable development for the marginalized sectors. (Ellaine Grace L. Nagpala)

ACIAR taps Philippines to conduct joint impact assessment studies

photo courtesy of ACIAR

The Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) conducted a seminar-workshop in collaboration with the Philippines through the Agricultural Credit Policy Council (ACPC) on 29-30 May 2007 in Pasig City.

ACIAR has long been a partner in the development of the Philippines in responding to the needs of the farming and fishing communities. It addresses emerging issues and concerns within the Southeast Asian region, including the Philippines.

Since the Philippines and the Australian government began cooperating through ACIAR, numerous programs and projects have been implemented to address the problems facing the country. ACIAR is committed to continue its role as a partner in the overall growth of the Philippines.

To come up with programs that will focus on emerging issues and concerns in the country, ACIAR tapped the expertise of partner-institutions that it has worked with before to evaluate the impact of projects that have been implemented in the past. Assessment of previous endeavors will help ACIAR develop better plans and strategies for its ventures in the Philippines.

The two-day seminar-workshop focused on identifying studies conducted previously and assessing their impacts on agriculture and fisheries in the country. It paved the way for coming up with a program of activities for the upcoming collaborative work between the Philippines and ACIAR.

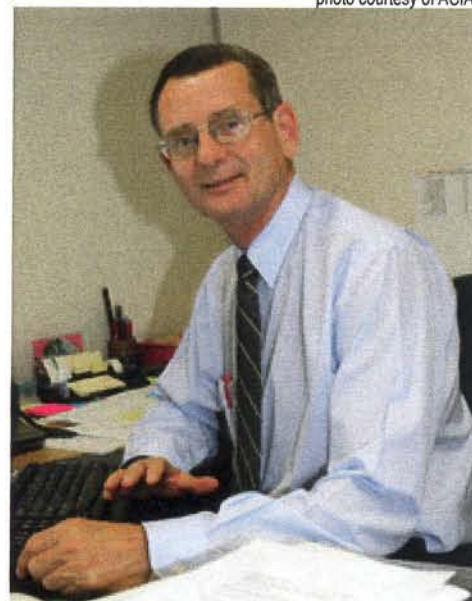
Dr. Danilo C. Cardenas of the Philippine Council for Agriculture, Forestry

and Natural Resources and Development of the Department of Science and Technology (PCARRD-DOST) gave a welcome message while Dr. Jeff Davis, program manager on policy linkages and impact assessment of ACIAR, gave a background on the agenda of the meeting. Ms. Cecille Honrado, ACIAR Philippines country manager, gave an overview of the issues and concerns discussed during the previous meeting at the Bureau of Agricultural Research (BAR) on 27 September 2006.

Dr. Davis has worked on a number of projects in the Philippines in the past. He presented the developments at ACIAR with increased emphasis on the Philippines. This was followed by the different agencies invited to the occasion to present the ACIAR-funded projects implemented by their respective institutions.

Present during the seminar-workshop were representatives from PCARRD, Philippine Council for Aquatic and Marine Research and Development (PCAMRD), BAR, Bureau of Agricultural Statistics (BAS), Bureau of Postharvest Research and Extension (BPRE), Philippine Rice Research Institute (PhilRice), University of the Philippines Los Banos (UPLB), SEAMEO Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture (SEARCA), and Philippine Institute for Development Studies (PIDS).

Ms. Josefina Lantican, technical adviser of BAR, presented the Research Prioritization for Philippine Agriculture Project (RPPAP), which was conducted



Dr. Jeff Davis, ACIAR's program manager on policy linkages and impact assessment

from March 1988 to April 1991. The objective of project was to design, develop, and utilize an information system that would support research priority assessments in agricultural research. Also present were Dr. John Mullen, economics coordinator and principal research specialist at the New South Wales Department of Primary Industries and James Corbishley of the Centre for International Economics (CIE). Dr. Mullen spearheads the conduct of impact assessment of ACIAR-funded projects in the Philippines, while Mr. Corbishley serves as observer and consultant to the group. (Jude Ray P. Laguna)

DZRH...from page 1

CPAR development project in Bicol. She stressed the Agribusiness Development project serves as offshoot of CPAR in response to the 10-point agenda of President Arroyo. She also acknowledged BAR's support to the project in line with the Department's twin-goal.

A feature story presentation on on *ubi*, titled "Pamana" was participated in by BAR Director Nicomedes P. Eleazar, CPAR Farmer-cooperator Nestor Deloy, and CPAR Coordinator for Bohol Engr. Antonio Du.

Director Eleazar discussed BAR's efforts in helping farmers through the CPAR Projects and the National

Technology Commercialization Program (NTCP). He mentioned other projects conducted by the Regional Integrated Agricultural Research Centers (RIARCs) and the Regional Fisheries Research and Development Centers (RFRDCs) which are aligned with the priority commodities of the respective regions. He also highlighted the initiatives of BAR through the NTCP in technology sourcing of activities. BAR likewise focuses on the conduct of downstream or applied research through CPAR.

Engr. Du discussed the economic benefits of *ubi* growing. Mr. Nestor Deloy, farmer-cooperator of the CPAR Ubi Agribusiness Development Project, shared



Recording of the Diversified Farming Systems CPAR Project in Bicol Region.

his success story on adoption of the project.

In closing, Secretary Yap pledged to support the product development for ducks and establishment of a processing plant for *ubi*. "Pamana" will be aired on 30 June 2007 while "Mighty Ducks" will be heard on 7 July 2007. (Ma. Eloisa E. Hernandez)

Linking info gap through GAP



Dr. Edralina P. Serrano provides the lecture on Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) on fruits and vegetables. She is a horticulture professor and former head of the Postharvest and Seed Sciences Division, Crop Science Cluster of the College of Agriculture, University of the Philippines Los Baños (UPLB).



photos by Anthony A. Constantino



Participants from Regions 1-5 and CAR attend the activity. The orientation-seminar hopes to increase awareness among stakeholders on food production and security, food safety and quality, and the environmental sustainability in agriculture.

The Bureau of Agricultural Research (BAR), through its Research Coordination Division (RCD), conducted an orientation-seminar on "Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs) for Fruits and Vegetables" on 19 June 2007 at the BAR lobby, RDMIC Building, Visayas Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City.

The purpose of the orientation-seminar was to create awareness among stakeholders on the importance of food production and security, food safety and quality, and environmental sustainability in agriculture.

Dr. Edralina P. Serrano, horticulture professor and former head of the Postharvest and Seed Sciences Division, Crop Science Cluster of the College of Agriculture, University of the Philippines Los Baños (UPLB), gave the lecture on GAP for fruits and vegetables.

GAPs are sets of recommendations that can help improve the quality and safety of the commodity grown, which can be adapted and/or incorporated into any production system. GAPs focus on four primary components of production and processing: soil, water, lands, and surfaces. (ISU, 2004).

Last year, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), which includes the Philippines, released a publication titled "ASEAN GAP: Good Agricultural Practices for Production of Fresh Fruits and Vegetables in the ASEAN Region." The publication details voluntary standards to prevent risks to

food safety, produce quality, environment and workers in production, harvesting and postharvest handling of fresh fruits and vegetables. It sets the standard practice for on-farm production activities, as well as that of local industries where the produce are processed and packed for sale.

The ASEAN GAP was developed based on the criteria and experiences of national GAP implementation in Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand.

The BAR orientation-seminar is an offshoot of the "Luzon-wide Zonal Research Center Meeting-Workshop" held in Baguio in May. The workshop's main agenda was the development of R&D plans for fruits and vegetables. In the orientation-seminar, most of the participants came from Regions 1-5 and Cordillera Administrative Region

(CAR).

It is hoped that through this activity, a draft R&D proposal will be finalized for presentation at the next zonal meeting, which is tentatively slated in Palawan.

Other key attendees of the orientation-seminar were Mr. Tito Arevalo, OIC head of RCD, who also provided the welcome remarks in behalf of BAR Director Nicomedes Eleazar; and Mr. Amador Macabeo, head of Crop Section-RCD. (Rita T. dela Cruz)

Sources:

1. "On-farm Food Safety: Guide to Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs): Iowa State University, University Extension. 2004.
2. ASEAN-GAP: Good Agricultural Practices for Production of Fresh Fruits and Vegetables in the ASEAN Region. 2006. Jakarta.



RCD OIC Tito Z. Arevalo (left) and RCD-Crop Section Head Amador C. Macabeo (right) provide welcome remarks and introduction of the speaker, respectively.



Over the past few years, the country has witnessed the rise of a new approach in natural resource management (NRM), which consequently convinced policymakers and key players of the agriculture and fishery sectors, to involve the local communities and stakeholders in the management and conservation of the



photo courtesy of BSWM

“Review and Planning Workshop” of the project on 19 June 2007, and “Stakeholder's Forum on Ensuring Sustainability Community-based Watershed Management” on 20 June 2007.

The review and planning workshop aimed to present the project accomplishments from June to December 2007 in the pilot sites while at

Providing livelihood and protecting the environment through community-based watershed management

country's natural resources.

The community-based natural resource management (CBNRM) approach addresses not only collaboration among the key players that influence access to natural resource but also empowers the local people, particularly the marginalized farmers, to actively participate in resource management.

Watershed management and the role of the community

Since most of the inhabitants in upland areas practice subsistence farming, they greatly depend on rainfed agriculture, which subsequently becomes a risk-prone agriculture practice due to soil erosion. The degradation of watershed areas and mountain ecology is one of the critical environmental concerns the country is facing today.

It was through this scenario that the project titled “Community-based Watershed Management Approach in Improving Livelihood Opportunities in Selected Areas” came to a realization in 2005. With the Bureau of Soils and Water Management (BSWM) and the Federation of Free Farmers (FFF) implementing the project, the Bureau of Agricultural Research (BAR) funded this two-year project.

In collaboration with Regional Field Units (RFUs) I, III, VII, the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-arid Tropics (ICRISAT), and the local government units (LGUs)—the project was finally implemented in four pilot provinces of the country: Ilocos Sur, Bulacan, Tarlac, and Bohol.

The projects hopes to provide

RITA T. DELA CRUZ

employment opportunities for the local community through various natural resource-based livelihood activities while at the same time, taking care of the environment by minimizing land degradation through sound soil and water conservation and management technologies to promote sustainability.

Specific outputs from the project are employment opportunities for the rural communities; best and sustainable practices in soil and water conservation; locally acceptable, ecologically sound, and sustainable land-use system; and farmers who are trained and knowledgeable in the utilization of technologies for watershed management.

But more than that, the watershed project is an attempt to demonstrate effective cases of local initiatives and active community involvement and participation in managing the country's natural resources, which are principally based on local wisdom and knowledge with technical support from the government.

Stakeholder's forum on watershed management

After the project's second year of implementation, BSWM, together with FFF and BAR, conducted two activities regarding the watershed project:

the same time conducting future activities, work, and financial plans for the project. Also presented was the “Baseline Characterization of Benchmark Community-based Watershed in Four Sites of the Philippines”

The second activity was attended by BSWM Director Silvino Q. Tejada, BAR Director Nicomedes P. Eleazar, and FFF President Leonardo Q. Montemayor, who each gave their messages for the accomplishments of the project. Highlighting the day was the presentations and testimonies of success stories in the pilot sites, stakeholder's response, and the farmer's perspective.

The activity featured “Partnership and Linkages with Government and Private Sectors” as presented by various agencies concerned with marketing support, product packaging, project facilitation, community participation, and funding support.

Capping the activity was a closing message from BSWM Assistant Director Wilfredo E. Cabezon.

photo courtesy of BSWM



Socio-economic profiling of the watershed project

International conference on coconut proposed

photo by Rita T. dela Cruz



BAR-MISD OIC Julia A. Lapitan (left) meets with President and CEO Danilo Coronacion of CIIF (2nd from left), Ms. Dolores Velasco (2nd from right), and AIM Associate Director Corazon Jimenez (right) during a preliminary briefing proposing the conduct of an international conference on coconut this November.

To further boost current efforts and competitive advantage of the coconut sector, an "International Conference on Coconut" was proposed by President and CEO Danilo M. Coronacion of the Coconut Industry Investment Fund (CIIF), Coconut Oil Milling Group, Philippines during a preliminary briefing on 27 June 2007 at the Malaysian Room, Asian Institute of Management (AIM), Makati City.

Also present during the briefing were AIM Associate Director Corazon T. Jimenez, Ms. Dolores I. Velasco, and Bureau of Agricultural Research-Management and Information System Division (BAR-MISD) OIC and Assistant Head Julia A. Lapitan.

"A consolidated effort would be more effective in enhancing competitiveness of the coconut sector by addressing common concerns and issues especially on the supply side such as obsolete technology, product standards, farm productivity, tariffs and low farm income and trade issues on market access, export competition and domestic support," President Coronacion said.

When asked how the conference is different from the National Coconut Week spearheaded by the Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA) and celebrated during August, he said that the activity has a different target audience since it hopes to focus not only on world trades and joint ventures, but

more on the policy, business, and social aspects of the coconut industry.

Specifically the conference hopes to: 1) share opportunities in the coconut sector available to both existing and potential investors such as China market, technology, and other joint ventures; 2) strengthen policy implementation for a more competitive coconut sector in the Philippines through cooperation with other key players in the industry; and 3) support initiatives to promote farm level productivity programs.

Tentatively, the one-day international conference is scheduled in November 2007 in connection with the coming Asian and Pacific Coconut Community (APCC) Session to be held in Manila also in the same month.

Among the institutions proposed to be involved in the conference are: AIM Policy Center; CIIF, PCA, DA-BAR, University of the Philippines Los Baños (UPLB), International Finance Corporation (IFC), Asian and Pacific Coconut Community (APCC), United Coconut Associations of the Philippines, Inc., (UCAP), and Asian Vegetable Oil Club (AVOC).

It was agreed that AIM Policy Center will be the Secretariat for the event.

Other nitty-gritty aspects of the conference will be further discussed at the next meeting wherein all organizations involved will be invited. (Rita T. dela Cruz)

FCSSP holds...from page 5

Bt corn technology in the Philippines

- **Dr. Elda B. Esguerra** – 2007 CSSP Achievement Award in Crop Science Research for her contribution to the advancement of postharvest physiology and handling of tropical fruits and vegetables in the Philippines.
- **Ms. Flora D. Gagni** – 2007 CSSP Achievement Award in Crop Science Extension for her outstanding contribution as an advocate of food sufficiency and sustainability in Region I
- **Mr. Leon M. Arceo** – 2007 CSSP Achievement Award in Research Management for outstanding contribution as leader and Director General of the Philippine Sugar Research Institute Foundation, Inc. (PHILSURIN)

For copies of the complete proceedings and papers presented at the conference you may contact the FCSSP secretariat at fcssp@gmail.com c/o Dr. Jose Nestor Garcia, Secretary of the FCSSP, with contact number (049) 536-2459 or Ms. Gretchen S. Ocampo, Executive Secretary, Crop Science Society of the Philippines, gretchen.ocampo@gmail.com. (Jude Ray P. Laguna)



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