



Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Regional Field Office No. XII
Prime Regional Government Center
Carpenter Hill, Koronadal City, South Cotabato

January 8, 2021

Statement of the
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Regional Field Office No. 12

On the ABS-CBN's TV Patrol erroneous news report of ASF in South Cotabato

FOR THE INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE OF THE PUBLIC

The Department of Agriculture in region 12 and the South Cotabato Provincial Veterinary Office strongly denies the presence of ASF in South Cotabato contrary to the erroneous report of ABS-CBN's TV Patrol News Report on January 7, 2021.

In the said news report, the source of information came from Samahang Industriya ng Agrikultura (SINAG) Chairman Rosendo So but did not and never mentioned that South Cotabato has ASF or the dreaded disease has entered the said province during his interview.

As of December 21, 2020, the Bureau of Animal Industry reported that South Cotabato still remain ASF-free as measures are being carefully undertaken to ensure entry of such virus would not happen.

The Department of Agriculture-12 thru its Livestock Program and Regulatory Division provided disinfectants, vacutainer, PPEs and other supplies to our partner LGUs for their ASF prevention and surveillance all over the region.

The DA-12 vehemently denies the spread of false information or fake news on the reported presence of ASF in South Cotabato.

We appeal to the ABS-CBN Management thru its TV Patrol news program to retract or to correct the earlier reported news item.

ARLAN M. MANGELEN
Regional Executive Director

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with empowered and prosperous farmers and fisherfolk*

