

## 2013 RICE PROGRAM YEAR END REPORT

Rice production Region 12 is at **1,344,972** metric tons forecasted by Bureau of Agricultural Statistics which is **5.8** percent higher compared to last year's production, with a total harvested area of **350,896** hectares at **3.83** metric tons per hectare average yield across all ecosystems. Sufficiency level is also up by **1.6** percent since it is pegged to be at **129** percent this year.

This growth in rice production across all ecosystems in the region is believed to be attributed to the frontloading of investment of the Department of Agriculture through the Agri-Pinoy Rice Program's long term and sustainable programs, projects and activities. The total number of farmers assisted this year was around **44,854** with a total area of **66,515** hectares; which is **33** percent of the total physical rice areas of SOCCSKSARGEN Region.

In our production support services, we have distributed **76,850** packs of Metarhizium, **15,702** packs of Bio-N fertilizer, and we were able to establish thirteen (13) bio-control laboratories surpassing our 8-unit target.

On the other hand, we were able to procure another Mobile Soil Clinic to further reach far-flung areas and funded one unit Agro-met station to be established in Sultan Kudarat. We also distributed **13,249** bags of certified seeds to calamity-affected areas which we culled-out from our buffer stocks.

Our crop weather-based insurance coverage was also allotted with bulk of funds, where we have insured a total of 15,089 hectares.

In order to attain our food self-sufficiency targets, we have distributed and planted **9,163** bags of certified seeds for our Quick-Turn Around Program (August-September 15 planting) out of our 2,614 hectares target.

Also, to boost higher production, funds were also earmarked in support to hybridization program, wherein we planted 4,200 hectares. Under our Community Seed Banking Program, we were able to distribute 3,879 bags of registered seeds and **1,818** bags of locally-adopted seeds for the farmers to propagate their own seeds which are far better than their own farm-saved seeds.

Moreover, we procured and distributed 20 lots of seed processing equipment which were composed of seed cleaner, seed pallets, weighing scale and electric bag closer. To further support the program, we funded 10 sites of existing seed storage of our rice farmers to be rehabilitated.

Irrigation Support Services was allocated with bulk of funds intended for the construction of nine (9) and three (3) units due for rehabilitation of the Small Water Impounding Projects and Diversion Dams in the selected areas of the region. This is to ensure that the water supply will be properly utilized in irrigating rice areas for maximum growth potential of the crops.

A sum of Two Hundred Thirty Six Million and Seventy Five Thousand Pesos (PhP 236, 075, 000) was set aside for the intensification of Farm Machineries and Postharvest Development Support program. This was to ensure that farming activities from pre-production to post-harvest production were given enough concern to guarantee higher yield by using these up-to-date farm machineries and post-harvest facilities. Some units were procured through our generated savings undergoing bidding process.

Table 1. List of Farm Machinery and Equipment Procured and Distributed in 2013.

PARTICULAR	TARGET	DISTRIBUTED /COMPLETED	% ACCOMP.	REMARKS
<b>A. FARM MACHINERY SUPPORT</b>				
1. Drum Seeder	246	246	100%	
2. Transplanter/Power Tiller& Floating Tiller	5	18	360	9 units power tiller; 4 units floating tiller were procured out of savings
3. Four-Wheel Drive Tractor	9	9	100%	
<b>B. POSTHARVEST DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT</b>				
1. Net Laminated Sacks (@ 10m/unit)	<b>51,434</b>	<b>49,493</b>	96%	On going distribution
2. Thresher	51	58	114%	7 units procured out of savings
3. Palay Shed	70	10	14%	Some units on going construction
4. Multi-purpose Drying Pavement (MPDP)	160	68	42.50%	Some units on going conts.
5. Flatbed Dryers	5	5	100%	
6. Flatbed dryers (rehab)	10			2 failed biddings; for negotiated bidding
7. Mechanical Dryer with MPDP	6			awarded
8. Warehouse construction	2	2	100%	
9. Mini-Warehouse with MPDP	85	65	76%	On going construction
10. Rehab & Expansion of Warehouse	6			awarded
11. Rice Processing Center I	6			For construction
12. Rice Processing Center II	1			For construcion
13. Rehab & retrofitting of biomass furnace	3			On going bidding
14. Moisture Meter	11	11	100%	
15. Combine Harvester	10	10	100%	7units withdrawn by recipients. 3 remaining units (Auto-unloading CH) delivered at Tupi Seed. To be awarded to FIRMUS, Tupi Seed farm and CEMIARC Amas.

Under the Extension Support Education and Training Services, we accomplished around **134.95** percent. We were able to establish technology demonstration sites, conducted Farmers' Field School and Training of Trainers for Palayamanan/Palay Check. We mobilized 92 local farmer technicians (LFT) as an extension arm of the Department to teach rice farmers - not yet reached by our agricultural extension workers - with latest and appropriate technologies.

Due to these extension services, we were able to showcase the technologies that will boost farmers' income by increasing their production. Tri-media also served as our way of extending the information through our School-on-the-Air (SOA) program, radio plugs and jingles, radio and TV guestings. We were able to distribute print-outs like leaflets, booklets and flyers; installed billboards and tarpaulins; showed released video documentations for massive information dissemination.

The Agri-Pinoy Rice Program was able to organize another farm service provider - Rock Wall Builders' Association. These are mostly upland rice farmers who were trained in Barangay Datu Ladayon, Arakan on the establishment of rice terraces which primarily aimed at shaping the said hilly barangay as an 'Agri-Tourism Hub of the Philippines.'

Substantial funds were also allotted for Research and Development Program for the conduct of location specific research activities, adaptability trials of new hybrid and inbred varieties, commercialization of special purpose varieties and impact evaluation and research activities. These were not only conducted by our researchers but also we were able to fund studies undertaken by local government units and state colleges and universities.

Program monitoring and evaluation of projects implemented in the region was also given much funding and attention to ensure that our rice farmers received quality projects based on its standard specifications. Monitoring, Evaluation and Inspectorate teams were created by the Department of Agriculture to lead the monitoring of all projects implemented by the Department.