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MANILA BULLETIN:

Makati LGU releases Kadiwa schedule for 2024

BY PATRICK GARCIA

May 27, 2024 12:31 PM

The Makati City local government on Monday, May 27, announced the schedule of the Kadiwa ng Pangulo (KNP) program in the city for this year.



(Photos from Makati LGU)

"Sa pangunguna ng Economic Enterprise Management Office, Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) at ng Department of Agriculture (DA), ang Kadiwa ng Pangulo ay gaganapin sa Makati City Hall Quadrangle mula 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (Under the leadership of the Economic Enterprise Management Office, DTI, and DA, the Kadiwa ng Pangulo will be held at the Makati City Hall Quadrangle from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.)," the city government said.

The schedule of KNP in Makati are as follows:

May 30 - Thursday

June 28 - Friday

July 30 - Tuesday

August 30 - Friday

September 30 - Monday

October 30 - Wednesday

November 29 - Friday

December 17 - Friday

Under the KNP program, the public will have the chance to purchase fruits, vegetables, frozen meat products, and other items at a much lower cost as well as rice worth P39 per kilo.

"Layon ng programa na suportahan at matulungan ang local farmers na maibenta ang kanilang mga produkto (The program aims to support and help local farmers sell their products)," the local government unit (LGU) explained as it urged the public to bring eco-friendly bags to avoid the use of plastics.

In a statement, the DA said that the KNP is the national government's initiative to provide a "lifeline" by granting rent-free selling areas to farmers and micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs), ensuring equitable access to fresh produce.

<https://mb.com.ph/2024/5/27/makati-lgu-releases-kadiwa-schedule-for-2024>

MANILA BULLETIN:

‘Aghon’ hits 21,000 hectares of standing crops—DA

BY JEL SANTOS

May 27, 2024 05:17 PM



DA Assistant Secretary for Operations U-Nichols Manalo/JEL SANTOS/MB PHOTO

Around 21,000 hectares (ha) of standing crops, mostly rice, were impacted by the devastation of Typhoon “Aghon”, an official of the Department of Agriculture (DA) disclosed on Monday, May 27.

DA Assistant Secretary for Operations U-Nichols Manalo said the areas affected by the typhoon were Calabarzon (Cavite, Laguna, Batangas, Rizal, and Quezon), Bicol Region, and Eastern Visayas.

“Base sa estimate namin, in terms of the standing crop, 21,000 hectares, ang nakikita namin na medyo impacted nitong ulan. Well, na dala ng bagyo. Majority of these are rice (Based on our estimate, in terms of the standing crop, we see that about 21,000 hectares have been somewhat impacted by this rain, which was brought by the typhoon. The majority of these are rice crops),” Manalo said in an interview during the “2024 National Farmers and Fisherfolk Month” celebration of the agency in its central office in Quezon City.

Manolo said the DA will verify on the ground whether the crops have sustained total or partial damage.

“Kasi ‘yun po yung dalawang basehan lang kapag tayo ay tumitingin ng damage ng kalamidad (Because those are the only two bases we use when assessing disaster damage),” he stated.

“Kung may tsyansa pa pang matuloy ang tanim, o kaya kailangan nating magtanim ulit at palitan (Whether there's still a chance for the crops to continue growing, or if we need to replant and replace them).”

However, Manalo said, there is still no data available on the amount of agricultural damage inflicted by the typhoon in the three regions.

The agriculture department, he said, has not observed any price increase on agricultural products so far.

State weather bureau Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA) reported that typhoon "Aghon" is forecasted to exit the Philippine Area of Responsibility (PAR) between Wednesday afternoon and evening, May 29.

According to the tropical cyclone bulletin released by PAGASA at 11 a.m. on Monday, May 27, the typhoon will continue its northeastward trajectory across the Philippine Sea before leaving the PAR.

<https://mb.com.ph/2024/5/27/aghon-hits-21-000-hectares-of-standing-crops-da>

MANILA BULLETIN:

DA wants higher agricultural exports to Japan

BY GABRIELL CHRISTEL GALANG

May 27, 2024 04:30 PM

The Department of Agriculture (DA) wants to increase agriculture exports with the help of Japan's new envoy to Manila.

During the courtesy meeting between Agriculture Secretary Francisco P. Tiu Laurel, Jr. and the newly appointed Japanese Ambassador Endo Kazuya, the officials delved into the agricultural relations between Manila and Tokyo and Japan.

Their focus was on the memorandum of cooperation (MOC) between the DA, Japan's Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries, and the recently implemented ASEAN-Japan Midori Cooperation Plan.

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The officials further explored topics on sustainable agriculture initiatives, trade facilitation, market access, and the upcoming inaugural meeting of the Philippines-Japan Joint Committee on Agriculture, which is scheduled for May 30 to 31.

Boosting fruit exports

Tiu Laurel also relayed the request to reduce tariffs on Philippine bananas, gain market access to fresh hass avocados, and revive of Philippine mango exports to Japan, those which have been sought after for quite some time.

According to the DA chief, the tariff reduction would make banana exports more competitive and will increase shipments to Japan. Bananas are the Philippines' top agricultural export, with around 3.4 million metric tons (MT) recorded from 2020 to 2023.

"Between January and April 15 this year, banana exports from the Philippines to Japan reached 241,282 metric tons. Nine varieties of bananas are exported to Japan, but Cavendish is still most preferred in the Japanese market," the DA stated.

Aside from bananas, Tiu Laurel also hoped to finalize the market access for fresh hass avocados this year, given that the work plan on phytosanitary requirements for imports of Philippine fresh avocados to Japan has been agreed upon in December 2023.

Meanwhile, fresh mango exports dropped from 59 MT to 11 MT within the span of 2021 to 2023 owing to strict enforcement of food safety regulations, specifically on the issue of pests and diseases like the Cecid fly infestation.

"We have backed efforts of mango exporters focused on proper pest management aligned with Philippine Good Agricultural Practices," the DA assured.

"These efforts are expected to increase confidence among Filipino exporters and ensure consistent supply to Philippine fresh mangoes to Japan."

The Philippine agriculture and Japan also discussed the possibilities to regionalize the facilitation of processed poultry exports.

<https://mb.com.ph/2024/5/27/da-wants-to-increase-agricultural-exports-to-japan>

THE PHILIPPINE STAR:

DA official: Vegetable retail prices higher by P5/K

[Bella Cariaso](#) - The Philippine Star

May 28, 2024 | 12:00am



Vendors are seen selling various fresh produce at the Baguio City Market on April 25, 2024.

STAR / Andy Zapata Jr.

MANILA, Philippines — A ranking official of the Department of Agriculture (DA) yesterday noted an increase in the retail prices of vegetables amid the impact of Typhoon Aghon in at least three regions in the country.

U-Nichols Manalo, DA Assistant Secretary for operations, said a P5-per-kilo increase in retail prices affected the lowland vegetables from Calabarzon (Region 4-A), Mimaropa (Region 4-B) and Eastern Visayas.

“The movement should not exceed P5 (per kilo). That’s the maximum that we can see,” Manalo said in a chance interview during the 2024 National Farmers and

Fisherfolk Month celebration at the Bureau of Soils and Water Management convention hall in Quezon City.

ADVERTISING

Based on DA monitoring of Metro Manila markets, the retail price of ampalaya (bitter gourd) ranged between P90 and P170 per kilo; string beans, between P80 and P160 per kilo; pechay tagalog, between P70 and P120 per kilo; squash, between P35 and P75 per kilo; eggplant, between P55 and P130 per kilo and tomato, between P55 and P90 per kilo.

“We have enough supply in the market. What should be monitored are those who will take advantage of the situation,” Manalo said.

He also said that at least 21,000 hectares of plantations in the three regions are threatened amid the rains brought by Typhoon Aghon, although the DA central office is still waiting for the field office reports on the extent of damage on standing crops.

“Validation is being done in field offices to determine if the crops were totally damaged or partially damaged and can still recover,” Manalo added.

He gave assurance that the DA has at least P1 billion in quick response fund, which can be used to assist the affected farmers.

<https://www.philstar.com/headlines/2024/05/28/2358480/da-official-vegetable-retail-prices-higher-p5k>

THE PHILIPPINE STAR:

DA appeals to open market in Japan for avocados

[Jasper Emmanuel Arcalas](#) - The Philippine Star

May 28, 2024 | 12:00am



Fruits and vegetables from La Union are available at the Baguio City Public Market. A kilo of avocado, which is abundant this season, is being sold for P120 on August 12, 2021

STAR / Andy Zapata Jr.

MANILA, Philippines — The Department of Agriculture (DA) is hopeful that the Philippines can finally export Hass avocados to Japan starting this year, taking a bite of the East Asian country's \$150 million market.

Agriculture Secretary Francisco Tiu Laurel Jr. has reiterated the government's request to access the Japan market for Hass avocados during his recent meeting with Japanese Ambassador Endo Kazuya.

The DA said Tiu Laurel told Kazuya that the country is "hoping" for the final announcement of market access for avocados this year.

Tiu Laurel noted that the work plan on the phytosanitary requirements for the importation of Philippine fresh avocados in Japan was "agreed in principle" during his visit to Japan last December.

Sanitary and phytosanitary measures are necessary in facilitating the trade of goods since they certify that a product is safe for human consumption and poses no harm to human, animal and plant health.

Avocado is one of the high value crops that the DA is promoting because of its huge export potential. Last year, the government was able to secure market access for the commodity to South Korea.

Japan imported about \$160 million worth of avocados in 2023.

The Philippines is currently exporting avocados to eight markets, including China, Malaysia, South Korea, Singapore, Hong Kong, Brunei Darussalam, United Kingdom and Northern Ireland.

The country exported 1.04 million metric tons (MT) of avocados in 2023, down 30 percent from the 1.49 MT in 2022, based on Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) data.

During the same meeting, Tiu Laurel again raised the country's long-standing request for Japan to reduce its tariffs on Philippine bananas.

Japan is one of the country's key markets for bananas, accounting for about 40 percent of the Philippines' annual exports of the commodity.

“A tariff reduction could further improve competitiveness and increase shipments of Philippine bananas to Japan, where it is a major part of the Japanese diet.

Based on Japan's tariff schedule as of Jan. 1, bananas imported from the Philippines from Oct. 1 to March 31 are imposed a tariff of 18 percent. This is higher than the eight percent tariff slapped on Philippine bananas during the summer season or from April 1 to Sept. 30.

Tiu Laurel also tackled with the envoy the possibility for Japan to implement regionalization when it comes to the Philippines' bird flu status so that local firms may export processed poultry products.

Under the concept of regionalization, a country restricts only the entry of foreign meat supplies from specific areas or regions of a trade partner that have confirmed disease outbreaks instead of imposing a blanket import ban on an entire country

The Philippines used to export processed poultry products, such as yakitori, to Japan prior to the first-ever bird flu outbreak in 2017.

<https://www.philstar.com/business/2024/05/28/2358373/da-appeals-open-market-japan-avocados>

THE PHILIPPINE STAR:

Villar wants livestock, poultry, dairy sector reinforced

The Philippine Star

May 28, 2024 | 12:00am



Senator Cynthia Villar graces the “Magsasaka at Mangingisda, Katuwang Tungo sa Masagang Bagong Pilipinas” closing ceremonies of National Farmers and Fisherfolks Month at the Bureau of Soils and Water Management (BSWM) office in Quezon City on May 27, 2024.

STAR / Jesse Bustos
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MANILA, Philippines — Sen. Cynthia Villar is pushing for a measure that seeks to advance the development, promotion and competitiveness of the livestock, poultry and dairy (LPD) industries.

Villar said Senate Bill 2558, or “An Act Strengthening the Livestock, Poultry and Dairy Development,” rationalizes the organization and functions of relevant government agencies and creates a competitiveness enhancement fund for the sector.

“For the longest time, the LPD sector has been left to be run by the private sector, now with this Act, the government will actively support and participate in the

development of the sector,” said Villar, chairperson of the Senate committee on agriculture.

“These industries play a significant role in food security and account for more than a quarter of agricultural output in 2023,” she added.

Villar said pork and chicken account for approximately 29.8 percent of the Filipino protein consumption.

The high cost of these commodities, making them unaffordable to most Filipinos, may lead to protein deficiency and contribute to malnutrition.

The senator noted that imported milk accounts for 99 percent of the supply, which makes milk unavailable and unaffordable to the growing population.

Local milk production is struggling and needs a boost to be able to cope with and address local demand, especially in the milk feeding programs in schools and other institutions that take care of children, she said.

She added the hog sector in the country is still struggling with the African swine fever outbreak since 2019 and needs to bounce back through supporting backyard raisers and commercial farms. The ASF is responsible for losses amounting to P100 billion.

The poultry sector also needs sustainable inputs such as feeds, medicines against pests and diseases and more efficient production systems.

A mandatory review by the congressional oversight committee on agricultural and fisheries modernization and relevant agencies will be conducted to come up with an impact evaluation of the measure.

<https://www.philstar.com/headlines/2024/05/28/2358435/villar-wants-livestock-poultry-dairy-sector-reinforced>

THE PHILIPPINE STAR:

Aid to drought-hit areas reaches P1 billion

[Pia Lee-Brago](#) - The Philippine Star

May 28, 2024 | 12:00am



A farmer checks a portion of a dried rice field along Pulilan-Baliuag Bypass Road in Bulacan on February 26, 2024.

STAR / Michael Varcas

MANILA, Philippines — The government has provided a total of P1.1 billion worth of assistance to communities affected by the El Niño phenomenon, according to the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council. (NDRRMC).

The assistance was provided to communities in Bicol, Cagayan Valley, Central Luzon, Central Visayas, the Cordilleras, Davao region, Ilocos region, Eastern Visayas, Mimaropa (Mindoro, Marinduque, Romblon and Palawan), Northern Mindanao, Soccsksargen (South Cotabato, Cotabato, Sultan Kudarat, Sarangani and General Santos), Western Visayas and Zamboanga peninsula as well as in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao.

The El Niño phenomenon has affected up to 175,063 farmers and fisherfolk nationwide.

The NDRRMC estimated the total amount of damage to agriculture at P9.5 billion or equivalent to 415,463.58 tons in production losses.

<https://www.philstar.com/nation/2024/05/28/2358392/aid-drought-hit-areas-reaches-p1-billion>

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER:

DA spots seedable clouds in Western Visayas but funds needed to induce rain

By: [Carla Gomez @carlagomezINO](#) - [@inquirerdotnet](#)

[Inquirer Visayaas](#) / 11:42 AM May 27, 2024



West Visayas. INQUIRER FILES

BACOLOD CITY — Seedable clouds needed to induce rain have been spotted in Negros Occidental and other parts of Western Visayas.

However, the Department of Agriculture (DA) is still sourcing funds for cloud-seeding operations.

DA Assistant Regional Director Albert Barrogo, in an interview last week, said about P6 million would be needed for cloud seeding in Western Visayas.

“There have been rains lately but for very short periods. Rains induced by cloud seeding in the last week of May to the second week of June could help agriculture crops,” he said.

The country's weather bureau has said that rain would be below normal until June.

Rep. Emilio Yulo III of Negros Occidental's 5th district and Gov. Eugenio Jose Lacson hoped cloud seeding operations could still save badly damaged crops in Negros Occidental.

"The problem is not the lack of seedable clouds. The DA did not prepare a budget despite knowing that El Niño would hit," he said.

"Knowing the slow government process, the horse may be dead by the time they start cloud seeding. We hope the cloud seeding can help but the damage has already been done," he added.

Lacson, for his part, was informed that P6 million was needed for 55 hours of cloud-seeding operations.

He said he would inquire from the DA regional director if the funds had been downloaded so the cloud seeding could start.

"We welcome this cloud seeding. I think it could help the sugar industry recover some of its losses," Lacson said.

At present, the damage to crops, animals, and fisheries due to the drought in Negros Occidental has hit P518.8 million.

<https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/1945274/da-spots-seedable-clouds-in-western-visayas-but-funds-needed-to-induce-rain>

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER:

Zambales fishers brace for lull as monsoon rains near

The 'sigwada' from late May to August means more than three months of 'famine' among fisherfolk

By: [Joanna Rose Aglibot](#) - [@inquirerdotnet](#)

[Philippine Daily Inquirer](#) / 04:40 AM May 28, 2024



PREPARATION In this photo taken on May 24, fishermen in Masinloc, Zambales, are making the most of the remaining days before the onset of the rainy season, which may come in the next few days, according to Pagasa. —Joanna Rose Aglibot

SAN ANTONIO, ZAMBALES, Philippines — Aside from the continuing presence of Chinese coast guard vessels in their traditional fishing grounds in the West Philippine Sea, small-scale fishermen in this province are also bracing for the impact of the northeast monsoon on their source of livelihood and other economic activities.

Also known in coastal communities as “sigwada,” the northeast monsoon forces fishermen from various municipalities in the province to suspend their operations due to large waves and strong winds. This phenomenon occurs from the last week of May to August.

According to fishermen, it would be unsafe to venture into the sea because of the danger of strong waves and wind.

“This meant more than three months of famine among the fishermen and other poor people along the coast,” Joey Marabe, provincial coordinator of fisherfolk group Pamalakaya, told the Inquirer in an interview on Monday.

He noted that in recent years, fishermen have been left without a livelihood and received little support from the government during the rainy season.

A small fishing boat with two to four fishermen spends at least P500 for gas and other expenses every fishing trip within the municipal waters and could earn from P1,000 to P1,500, depending on the market price of their freshly caught fish.

‘Negligence’

“While no one wants to suffer from the effects of sigwada, it is criminal negligence for the government to do nothing during this period of calamity,” Marabe said.

He said that despite the disaster and emergency funds available to the relevant government agencies, the most vulnerable sectors, such as the fishermen, were not receiving sufficient support.

Ronnel Arambulo, Pamalakaya vice chair, said a P1-billion fund from the Department of Agriculture’s quick-response fund is available annually to mitigate the effects of disasters on the agrifisheries sector.

He said they have already started to coordinate with coastal communities across the country to monitor the potential impacts of sigwada and ultimately mobilize the fisherfolk to seek sufficient economic support and other forms of aid from the government.

“We are starting to conduct consultations with the fishing communities with the aim of insisting on the economic and livelihood support they deserve not only in the

province of Zambales but also in different parts of the country where the disaster of the monsoon is expected,” said Arambulo in a separate interview.

In a statement on Sunday, Gov. Hermogenes Ebdane Jr. said the provincial government has short- and long-term programs in place to address the needs of local fishermen and has set the stage for sustainable fishing by putting up millions of pesos in funds for fisherfolk to go into “payao” fishing, a system that uses fish aggregating devices in open sea.

<https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/1945477/zambales-fishers-brace-for-lull-as-monsoon-rains-near>

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER:

Marcos in Brunei for May 28 to 29 state visit

04:50 AM May 28, 2024



President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. —Gabriel P. Lalu/INQUIRER.net

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, Brunei — President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. will be on a state visit to Brunei from May 28 to May 29 to boost bilateral relations between the two countries, particularly on trade and investment.

He is scheduled to hold a bilateral meeting with Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah and meet with the Filipino community in this capital city.

Ma. Teresita Daza, spokesperson for the Department of Foreign Affairs, said the President would likewise meet with top members of the business sector to promote trade and investment relations between the two countries.

He will also witness the signing of several memorandums of understanding on agriculture, food security, maritime cooperation and tourism. —Nestor Corrales

<https://globalnation.inquirer.net/237725/marcos-in-brunei-for-may-28-to-29-state-visit>

BUSINESS WORLD:

FAO aids El Niño-affected Isabela rice, corn farmers

May 27, 2024 | 9:32 pm



REUTERS

THE Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations (UN) said it distributed cash to rice and corn farmers in Isabela that have been affected by El Niño.

“With El Niño forecast to persist until late May with its effects to be felt until August, it is important to act early to reduce the risks posed to the country’s food security,” FAO Country Representative to the Philippines Lionel Henri Valentin Dabbadie said in a statement Monday.

The FAO said about 964 rice and corn farming households in the province were given a one-time distribution of multipurpose cash.

“Beneficiaries used the funds to buy food, cover school-related expenses and even pay debts. Others used the funds to engage in vegetable trading as drought conditions peaked in the province,” the FAO said.

The fund distribution under its Anticipatory Action program is designed to act ahead of predicted hazards to prevent or reduce acute humanitarian impacts before they fully unfold.

Agricultural damage due to El Niño has been estimated at P9.5 billion, with rice and corn the most affected crops, according to the Department of Agriculture (DA).

“Anticipatory actions against drought, linked with shock-responsive social protection, can help build resilience in the agriculture sector,” Mr. Dabbadie added.

“This is of urgent concern because globally, more severe and frequent disasters are producing unprecedented levels of damage and loss in the sector, and the Philippines is among the countries most vulnerable to climate and human-induced hazards,” he said. — **Adrian H. Halili**

<https://www.bworldonline.com/economy/2024/05/27/597811/fao-aids-el-nino-affected-isabela-rice-corn-farmers/>

PH rejects China's 'illegal' four-month SCS fishing ban

By Rey E. Requejo, Maricel Cruz & Vince Lopez

May 28, 2024, 1:00 am

The Philippines on Monday rejected China's imposition of a unilateral, four-month fishing moratorium in the South China Sea that includes Philippine maritime zones.

The Department of the Foreign Affairs said Beijing's move heightens tension between the Philippines and China.

China's latest fishing ban, which is set to last until Sept. 16, "directly contravenes" the understanding reached by President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. and Chinese President Xi Jinping during their bilateral discussion last year.

Beijing's action came amid China's continued harassment against Filipino troops and fishers in the West Philippines Sea, which includes conducting dangerous maneuvers and firing multiple times water cannon on resupply and humanitarian missions, among others.

The DFA called on China to cease and desist "from the conduct of illegal actions that violates the Philippines' sovereignty, sovereign rights, and jurisdiction in its maritime zones."

It also urged Beijing to comply with its obligations under international law, particularly the 1982 UNCLOS and the final and binding 2016 arbitral award, as well as adhere to its commitments under the 2002 Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea.

The Foreign Affairs Department reasserted Paragraph 716 of the 2016 arbitral award which already ruled that China's fishing moratorium is against international law.

Meanwhile, leaders of the House of Representatives vowed to create an inter-agency panel to look into the grievances raised by Zambales fisherfolk as well as the possible solutions suggested by stakeholders in the West Philippine Sea.

Senior Deputy Speaker Aurelio Gonzales Jr. said Congress will definitely take note of what transpired in the joint hearing of the House Committees on National Defense and Security and the Special Committee on the West Philippine Sea.

“The budget season is almost here. We have heard those of our fisherfolks. So rest assured that we will form an inter-agency [panel] to have an answer to this request and their feelings,” he said.

Iloilo Rep. Raul Tupas, vice-chairperson of the House Committee on National Defense and Security, said the problems faced by Zambales fishermen from the aggressions of China in Philippine territory may require a multisectoral or inter-agency approach.

“This issue is complex, this problem is complex. So we need the help of many government agencies,” he said.

Zambales Rep. Jefferson Khonghun said the House of Representatives will exercise its oversight functions to validate the grievances of the Zambales fishermen.

The Atin Ito coalition, for its part, said they will launch an “Adopt-a-Payao” campaign in response to the ongoing challenges faced by Filipino fisherfolk in the West Philippine Sea, particularly in Subic, Bataan, and Masinloc.

The initiative aims to provide much-needed assistance to local fishing communities by deploying “payaos” or fish-aggregating devices, to help sustain their livelihoods amid illegal Chinese presence and harassment in the area.

Philippine Rural Reconstruction Movement president and Atin Ito co-convenor Edicio Dela Torre said the continuous encroachment of China in the West Philippine Sea has significantly affected the livelihoods of Filipino fishers, hindering their ability to fish freely in their own waters.

“These fishers have fought bravely for our sovereign rights in the West Philippine Sea. Now, it is our turn to stand by them and provide the support they urgently need,” Dela Torre said.

Akbayan President Rafaela David, also an Atin Ito co-convenor, said the “Adopt-a-Payao” campaign seeks to empower Filipino fishing communities and stand in solidarity with them against foreign aggression in the West Philippine Sea.

“Each payao deployed is not just a means of supporting our fishers but also an act of patriotism, a symbol of solidarity for our fellow Filipinos, and a firm stance against China’s unlawful actions in the West Philippine Sea,” David said.

A payao is a traditional fishing device from the Philippines designed to aggregate or lure fish. It typically consists of an anchored floating or submerged structure made of materials such as bamboo, steel, or other available resources.

Editor's Note: This is an updated article. Originally posted with the headline Philippines protests China's unilateral 4-month fishing ban

<https://www.manilastandard.net/news/314451767/philippines-protests-chinas-unilateral-4-month-fishing-ban.html>

MANILA STANDARD

NEDA sees lower priced rice come Sept. this year

By Manila Standard

May 27, 2024, 10:50 pm

THE National Economic Development Authority (NEDA) assures consumers of lower-priced rice by September despite the La Nina affecting rice supply and planting schedules of the farmers.

While acknowledging the challenge, National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) director general Arsenio Balisacan expressed optimism that rice prices will go down this year.

“We are expecting the price of rice to decline by September, but it will still follow global trends in pricing,” Balisacan said at the Philippine Economic Briefing held at the Philippine International Convention Center (PICC) Monday.

However, bringing down rice prices remains a challenge, he added.

Meanwhile, Department of Agriculture (DA) undersecretary for policy, planning, and regulations Asis Perez highlighted the importance of long-term planning to mitigate the impact of La Niña.

“This isn’t the first time we’ve faced La Niña. We need a five-year plan to ensure the sector is resilient enough to cushion the impact,” he said.

He underscored the significance of weather-tolerant rice varieties in this strategy and whether the country has enough supply of the seeds.

Flood-tolerant varieties typically have shorter gestation and maturity periods, allowing for quicker harvests and potentially minimizing losses due to La Niña, he explained.

Perez highlighted the use of satellite technology for advanced weather forecasting, allowing agencies to better predict La Niña’s effects.

However, he acknowledged that the challenge lies in ensuring that information reaches farmers beforehand.

“Effective communication is crucial. Farmers need to receive this data well in advance so they can prepare accordingly,” Perez said.

He added that the government acknowledges that complete control over La Niña is impossible.

“The real key is being well-prepared. This includes long-term planning, promoting weather-tolerant rice varieties, and improving communication with farmers. It’s a multi-faceted approach, but it’s the best way to ensure rice security for Filipinos,” Perez said.

The combination of immediate and long-term strategies could have prepared the country to mitigate the effects of heavy rainfall and ensure rice affordability and food security, he added.

<https://www.manilastandard.net/news/314451966/neda-sees-lower-priced-rice-come-sept-this-year.html>

Deadly decline



By Manila Standard

May 28, 2024, 12:15 am

ECOLOGISTS have raised the bulletin board that coral around the world is turning white and even dying as recent record ocean heat takes a devastating toll.

According to the US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), this has triggered the fourth global mass coral bleaching event, which happens when coral gets stressed and turns white because the water it lives in is too hot.

Coral sustains ocean life, fishing, and creates trillions of dollars of revenue annually, according to scientists.

Ecologists say coral reefs provide countless benefits to our Ocean Planet, supporting over half a billion people with food, income, and protection.

Regardless of the contribution coral reefs make toward mitigating climate change, over 50 percent of the world's coral reefs have died in the last 30 years, and up to 90 percent may die within the next century if immediate action is not taken

Some threats to coral reefs are natural, like diseases, predators, storms and a warming planet due to climate change.

But other threats are caused by human activity, including increased runoff and pollution, sedimentation, destructive fishing practices, and tourism.

Many of these threats can stress corals, leading to degradation, coral bleaching, and wide spread mortality of these delicate ecosystems.

Coral reefs occupy less than one per cent of the ocean floor, but they are home to more than 25 per cent of marine life.

NOAA has confirmed the mass stress in all oceans (the Atlantic, Pacific and Indian Ocean) after weeks of receiving reports from scientists.

The bleached coral can look beautiful in pictures but scientists that dive to examine the reefs say that up close the coral is clearly ill and decaying.

The first warning signs were in the Caribbean last year when bathers found the water off the coast of Florida as warm as a hot tub.

That heat moved into the southern hemisphere. It has now affected more than half the world's coral including in Australia's Great Barrier Reef, and in coastlines in Tanzania, Mauritius, Brazil, Pacific islands, as well as in the Red Sea and Persian Gulf.

Climate change is driving up sea surface temperatures as the warming gases emitted when we burn oil, coal and gas are absorbed by the oceans, according to scientists.

El Niño, a natural climate event, has also contributed to warmer temperatures since last June, though there are signs it is now weakening and may be over by end of this month.

At home, a recent national survey estimated the country lost 30 percent of its coral reefs with the decline of average live hard coral cover.

Research authorities have said the condition of Philippine coral reefs has been in constant and rapid decline, with a recent study showing 90 percent of our reefs are in poor to fair categories and none in excellent state.

<https://www.manilastandard.net/opinion/314451848/deadly-decline.html>

PH protests fishing ban in South China Sea

By Bernadette E. Tamayo

May 28, 2024

THE Philippines protested China's imposition of a "unilateral," four-month-long fishing moratorium in the South China Sea as the ban covered the Philippines' maritime zones.

The Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA), in a statement on Monday, said China began the fishing ban on May 1, which is expected to last until September 16.

"Through a diplomatic note, the Philippines protested the ban insofar as it includes the Philippines maritime zones over which the Philippines has sovereignty, sovereign rights, and jurisdiction," the DFA said.

It added that the unilateral imposition of the fishing moratorium "raises tensions in the West Philippine Sea and the South China Sea."

The fishing ban "directly contravened" the understanding between President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. and Chinese President Xi Jinping to manage differences through diplomacy and dialogue and to de-escalate the situation at sea, the DFA said.

The Philippines called on China to "cease and desist from the conduct of illegal actions that violate the Philippines' sovereignty, sovereign rights, and jurisdiction in its maritime zones."

It said Beijing should comply with its obligations under international law, particularly the 1982 United Nations Convention

on the Law of the Sea (Unclos) and the "final and binding" 2016 Arbitral Award.

In July 2016, the Permanent Court of Arbitration in The Hague, Netherlands, invalidated China's expansive claim in the South China Sea, which encroached on the Philippines' exclusive economic zone.

The DFA said that paragraph 716 of the Arbitral Award states that China, by promulgating its moratorium on fishing in the South China Sea "without exception for areas of the South China Sea falling within the exclusive economic zone of the Philippines and without limiting the moratorium to Chinese flagged vessels, breached Article 56 of the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea with respect to the Philippines' sovereign rights over the living resources of its exclusive economic zone."

<https://www.manilatimes.net/2024/05/28/news/national/ph-protests-fishing-ban-in-south-china-sea/1948726>

Capiz placed in state of calamity due to El Niño

By Rjay Zuriaga Castor
May 28, 2024

ILOILO CITY — The provincial government of Capiz has declared a provincewide state of calamity due to the adverse effects of the El Niño phenomenon.

The declaration was made on Friday during a special session of the provincial board, following a recommendation from the Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council.

According to a damage assessment report from the Provincial Agriculture Office, the weather phenomenon has resulted in P379 million in damages to 8,525.55 hectares of standing crops.

The report also noted that the drought has affected 7,930 farmers across 17 towns.

Meanwhile, provincial fisheries officer Edwin Javier reported P22.7 million in damages to the fishery sector.

He said that 1,312 captured fisheries operators and 367 aquaculture operators have been impacted by the phenomenon.

Before the declaration, five towns, including Tapaz, Panay, Pontevedra and Dumarao, had already declared a state of calamity due to El Niño.

The Department of Social Welfare and Development has so far disbursed P3 million worth of assistance to the residents affected in Capiz.

Capiz is the third in Western Visayas to declare a state of calamity after Antique on April 18 and Iloilo on May 14.

In its latest El Niño bulletin, the Department of Agriculture said Western Visayas is the third hardest-hit region in the country with P1.7 billion worth of damage and losses.

<https://www.manilatimes.net/2024/05/28/regions/capiz-placed-in-state-of-calamity-due-to-el-nio/1948698>

Rice prices on downward trend by Sept

May 28, 2024

Rice prices are expected to be on a downward trend by September, according to Finance Secretary Ralph Recto.

Recto also said key policy rate, currently at a 17-year high of 6.5 percent, could be reduced by as much as 150 basis points in the next two years on the back of an improving outlook for inflation.

“We expect rice prices to go down by 20 percent, maybe by September. This would entail one, increasing production, and second, reducing tariffs,” Finance Secretary Ralph Recto said during the Philippine Economic Briefing held in Manila yesterday.

National Economic and Development Authority Secretary Arsenio Balisacan, for his part, said the domestic prices simply reflect the trends in global prices, particularly for rice.

“The forecast on global rice prices by the second half of the year, particularly by September, is going down,” Balisacan said.

“It’s already past El Niño and the election in India is over, so all those restrictions and exports of major exporting countries are expected to loosen. And then the production is expected to increase and the global supply. That’s the forecast,” he added.

Balisacan also said the inflation rate for May is expected to be within the 2 to 4 percent target range.

“We are still aiming for two to four percent, the target for the year. I think that we should be there,” Balisacan said.

Recto, who sits on the seven-member policy making monetary board, said it was possible for the BSP to start cutting rates this year, likely followed by more rate reductions in 2025.

“Surely, I don’t expect interest rates to go any higher. If not, if there is time, they will start to go down, maybe 150 bps in the next two years,” Recto told an economic forum.

Annual inflation has quickened for a third straight month in April to 3.8 percent , bringing the average rate for the first four months of the year to 3.4 percent , still well inside the BSP's 2 to 4 percent target range. – **Angela Celis and Reuters**

https://malaya.com.ph/news_business/rice-prices-on-downward-trend-by-sept/

Villar wants to reinforce the LPD sector for food security

Butch Fernandez

May 28, 2024

SEN. Cynthia Villar seeks to advance the development, promotion and competitiveness of the livestock, poultry and dairy industries in the country by the passage of Senate Bill 2558 that will put in place a plan to develop the industries to make them more productive.

In her explanatory statement, Villar said these industries play a significant role in food security, and accounts for more than a quarter of agricultural output in 2023.

She said pork and chicken accounts for approximately 29.8 percent of the Filipino protein consumption and the high cost of these commodities, make them unaffordable to most Filipinos. This Villar said may lead to protein deficiency and contribute to malnutrition.

On the other hand, she said imported milk accounts for 99 percent of supply which makes the commodity unavailable and unaffordable to the Philippines's growing population.

“Local milk production is struggling and needs a boost to able to cope with and address the local demand, especially on the milk feeding programs in our schools and other institutions that take care of our children,” Villar said.

“The hog sector is still struggling against the African Swine Fever outbreak since 2019 and needs to bounce back to support small hold raisers and commercial farms to support of basic food needs for pork. The ASF is responsible for the P100-billion loss to the sector.”

The poultry sector also needs sustainable inputs such as feeds, medicines against pest and diseases and more efficient production systems, she added.

“For the longest time, the LPD sector has been left to be run by the private sector, now with this Act, the government will actively support and participate in the development of the sector,” Villar stressed.

The measure, titled An Act Strengthening the Livestock, Poultry and Dairy Development and Competitiveness, Rationalizing the Organization and Functions of Relevant Government Agencies, Creating an Competitiveness Enhancement Fund Therefor, aims to put in place.

1. Philippine Livestock, Poultry and Dairy Value Chain Road Map which shall serve as a guidepost in the priority setting for the development, modernization, protection, and promotion of the LPD Industry, with the aim in view of attaining food security and combating rural poverty.

2. The Office of the Undersecretary of the National Livestock, Poultry, Dairy and Other Animals Program shall be created to establish policies for the development of the country’s Livestock, Poultry, Dairy, and other Animals sector.

3. For clarity and focus of purpose, the development of the LPD shall be under the Bureau of Animal Industry and the Regulatory functions shall be lodged with under the National Meat Inspection Service (NMIS) which shall be renamed as the Bureau of Animal Regulation and Inspection (BARI).

4. The government, through the BAI, with funds from our tariff earnings, will strengthen the system of preventing and addressing the outbreak of diseases in the LPD sector.

5. Our native animals, such as hogs, chicken, horses, carabaos, among others, will not only be preserved but promoted and their population multiplied.

6. The National Dairy Authority or NDA shall be the central policy determining, developmental and regulatory body tasked to ensure the acceleration of the local dairy industry.

7. The Philippine Carabao Center shall develop a holistic program to address the needs of farmers and their cooperatives in the breeding, dairy farm management of dairy buffaloes, including forage development and increasing the herd population.

8. Establishment of an inventory of LPD Farms and dairy herd. This LPD Registry System shall have the master list of the eligible farmer beneficiaries and shall be lodged with the DA in consultation with the industry and the LGUs.

9. Creation of the Livestock, Poultry and Dairy Competitiveness Enhancement Fund from tariff collected on imported LPD products which shall consist of P7.8billion annually for the next 10 years. This fund is over and above the regular funding under the National Livestock program of the DA in the General Appropriations Act.

A mandatory review by the Congressional Oversight Committee on Agricultural and Fisheries Modernization (COCAFAM) and the PIDS shall be conducted to come up with an impact evaluation of the bill once it is enacted.

<https://businessmirror.com.ph/2024/05/28/villar-wants-to-reinforce-the-lpd-sector-for-food-security/>

‘Zambales fishers need bigger boats, modern gear to face foreigners’

Henry Empeño

May 28, 2024

MASINLOC, Zambales —Zambales fishermen would need bigger boats and modern fishing gear, alongside safe access to traditional fishing grounds like Bajo de Masinloc or Scarborough Shoal, so that they can compete with well-equipped foreign fishers that venture into the West Philippine Sea (WPS).

This was stressed by Governor Hermogenes Ebdane Jr. at the recent public consultation conducted here by the House of Representatives’ Committee on National Defense and Security and the Special Committee on the West Philippine Sea to examine the impact of Chinese incursion into the Scarborough Shoal.

Fishermen who attended the dialogue complained of poor catch due to bullying by Chinese militia boats, as well as stiff competition from legitimate fishermen from Vietnam, Taiwan, and Malaysia.

They said they have yet to receive assistance from the national government since China took effective control of Bajo de Masinloc.

Ebdane, a former Secretary of Defense, pointed out that while the situation at the shoal has socioeconomic, political, and security implications, the welfare of local fishermen is a primary concern.

He stressed that while the Philippines has won in the arbitration case over the Scarborough Shoal, the ruling has not been not acknowledged by China, thus rendering it unenforceable. “So, there has to be an alternative to this problem in Bajo de Masinloc,” he said.

Ebdane averred that as far as local fishermen are concerned, the Zambales government has short- and long-term programs in place to address their

needs, including putting funds for fisherfolk to go into payao fishing, a system that uses fish aggregating devices in open sea.

“We’re laying the foundation to ensure development and progress for the next generation of fishers,” he said, adding that the long-term program starts with reorganizing fisherfolk into cooperatives to qualify for financing, followed by training and apprenticeship to ensure they are ready to undertake the project.

Ebdane said the provincial government is teaming up with local educational institutions, including the Philippine Merchant Marine Academy, to train the youth in new fishing technologies, as well as fishing boat operations, to provide “a better foundation” for fisherfolks.

Citing a recent survey, Ebdane said 65 fishermen’s groups in the province with about 4,500 members can qualify for financial assistance. “They can already get a big fishing boat with P1.5 million, and we can provide that at no interest,” he added.

Ebdane said that while access to Bajo de Masinloc is currently a “huge problem” to the government, the state of the local fishing industry is also a major concern.

“If our fishermen remain doing marginal fishing, then they become another problem to local governments because we have to dole out food or cash assistance every time they cannot go out to fish,” he added.

China’s threat

The recent threat by China to detain “trespassers” in the South China Sea is another concern that must be addressed within the parameters of international law, he added.

In Friday’s hearing, Congressman Dan S. Fernandez of the lone district of Sta. Rosa, Laguna observed that the problem of limited access to Scarborough is exacerbated by the use of outdated fishing gears and technology.

“We have to evolve,” he said. “If our fishermen would continue to use small traditional boats, they would really be in a dangerous situation.”

Ebdane said a fishers' cooperative in the town of Sta. Cruz would be the first group to avail themselves of the provincial government's assistance to modernize their fishing boat and equipment.

He said fishers' groups can apply for financial support starting at P5 for fishing implements, including payaos. He added that the provincial government can provide up to P60 million should fishers opt to own and operate bigger boats, depending on their developed expertise and capability.

<https://businessmirror.com.ph/2024/05/28/zambales-fishers-need-bigger-boats-modern-gear-to-face-foreigners/>

BUSINESS MIRROR

Escudero: Senate to prioritize bill amending RTL

Butch Fernandez

May 27, 2024

The likelihood of enacting the measure amending the Rice Tariffication Law (RTL) within the year has been boosted with the Senate leadership's tacit assurance that the version in the upper chamber would get priority attention in plenary once Congress reopens in July.

According to new Senate President Chiz Escudero, "my understanding is that Senator [Cynthia] Villar will finish all hearings on the RTL amendments bills while we're in recess...and when we resume, we will tackle the [RTL] bill in plenary."

Congress adjourned sine die last week and will reopen when President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. delivers his State of the Nation Address (Sona).

The House of Representatives has passed on third and final reading its own version of the amended RTL.

Escudero said in a radio interview on Sunday he shared some lawmakers' concern about vesting anew in the National Food Authority (NFA) the mandate to import rice.

Villar, chair of the Agriculture committee, had disagreed with some peers in the lower House who wanted this. She said the NFA should be mandated mainly to ensure the country has a stable buffer stock to avoid artificial shortages and stabilize prices. She added that its record of importation has been marked with corruption and should not return.

Speaking partly in Filipino, Escudero said the mandate to import should not be restored to the NFA. "*Matuto naman tayo, huwag nating ulitin ang pagkakamali ng nakaraan.* [Let's learn our lesson, let's not repeat the mistakes of the past]."

The current practice of allowing only the private sector to import rice has burned government because it did not produce the intended effect of bringing down prices. Escudero said, however, that government had no control over the private sector's release of rice stocks into the market.

If the government—but not through the NFA—has some sort of leverage because it also imports, the private traders will have to compete and shun their unfair practices of hoarding or profiteering. *“Mabubulkan sila ng bigas kasi ang gobyerno merong murang bigas .[They’ll face rotting rice because the government has cheap rice to offer].”*

‘Stop sending signals’

Meanwhile, Escudero had an unsolicited advice to government: stop announcing how much it will import and when, to avoid driving up global prices.

The Senate chief said in dismay that the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) is another entity that likes to project Manila's importation plans, something that, he said, *“hindi ko alam kung bakit at ano’ng pakialam nila. [I don’t know why they do that and what is their business].”*

He recalled how, during the time of President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, her administration's announcement of plans to import caused global prices to shoot up to record levels, and gave the Philippines the dubious distinction of being the world's largest rice importer—deemed an irony then because it hosts the International Rice Research Institute that trained generations of rice experts around the world.

<https://businessmirror.com.ph/2024/05/27/escudero-senate-to-prioritize-bill-amending-rtl/>

ABANTE TONITE

P29 per kilong bigas dinagsa sa Kadiwa store

May 27, 2024

Pila ang mga namimili ng murang pagkain sa Kadiwa store na nasa central office ng Department of Agriculture (DA) nitong Lunes ng umaga, Mayo 27.

Partikular na dinarayo ng mga mamimili ang P29 kada kilo ng bigas na puwedeng mabili hanggang limang kilo sa halagang P145.

Bukod sa bigas, samu't saring gulay din ang mabibili sa Kadiwa sa mas murang halaga.

Kumpleto ang pampakbet dito. Mayroong kalabasa na P60 kada kilo, sitaw na P25 ang isang tali, P120 ang talong, P70 ang okra, at ang ampalaya na nasa P120 kada kilo.

May mga pampalasa rin tulad ng bawang, sibuyas, sili, at iba pa.

Puwedeng bilhin ang mga gulay ng tingi pero depende sa timbang nito ang magiging presyo. (Andrea Salve)

<https://tonite.abante.com.ph/2024/05/27/p29-per-kilong-bigas-dinagsa-sa-kadiwa-store/>

ABANTE TONITE

China gahaman sa WPS fishing ban, pinalagan ng DFA

May 27, 2024

Pinalagan ng Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) ang fishing ban na ipinatupad ng China sa South China Sea dahil sakop nito ang maritime zone ng Pilipinas.

Sabi ng DFA, labag sa international law at panghihimasok sa maritime rights ng Pilipinas ang apat na buwang fishing ban na inutos ng China mula Mayo 1 hanggang Setyembre 16.

“The Philippines called on China to cease and desist from the conduct of illegal actions that violates the Philippines’ sovereignty, sovereign rights, and jurisdiction in its maritime zones,” ayon sa pahayag ng DFA said.

Muling pinagsabihan ng DFA ang China na sumunod sa mga obligasyon nito sa ilalim ng international law, partikular sa United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) at sa 2016 arbitral award kung saan nagwagi ang Pilipinas.

Ayon sa DFA, ang hakbang na ito ay nagpapataas lamang ng tensiyon sa pagitan ng Pilipinas at China dahil ito ay “unilateral” at salungat sa pagkakaunawaan nina Pangulong Ferdinand “Bongbong” Marcos Jr. at Chinese President Xi Jinping sa kanilang bilateral talks noong nakaraang taon.

(PNA/Vincent Pagaduan)

<https://tonite.abante.com.ph/2024/05/27/china-gahaman-sa-wps-fishing-ban-pinalagan-ng-dfa/>

ABANTE TONITE

Halos P10B na winasak ng El Niño sa agri – NDRRMC

May 27, 2024

Umakyat na sa halos P10 bilyon ang halaga ng pinsala sa agrikultura dulot ng El Niño, ayon sa National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC).

Batay sa ulat ng ahensiya nitong Lunes, Mayo 27, ang naturang halaga ay katumbas ng 415,463.58 tonelada ng “production loss” dahil sa tag-tuyot nitong mga nakalipas na buwan.

Sa kabuuan, nasa 163.700 ektarya ang napinsalang taniman, kung saan 47,8000 ektarya ang “totally damaged” na walang tsansang makarekober, at 115,800 ektarya naman ang “partially damaged” o mayroong tsansang makarekober.

Dahil dito, nasa 175,000 magsasaka at mangingisda ang apektado sa buong bansa kung saan Region 2 o Cagayan Valley ang may pinakamalaking naapektuhan sa sektor ng magsasaka at mangingisda na umabot sa 43,526. Sinundan ng Region 6 (Western Visayas) na mayroong 41,673 at pangatlo naman ang MIMAROPA region na may 28,167 apektadong magsasaka at mangingisda,

Samantala, umabot na umano sa P1.13 bilyon ang tulong na naipamahagi ng pamahalaan sa mga apektadong komunidad sa Region 1 hanggang 12, gayundin sa Bangsamoro Administrative Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM) at sa Cordillera Administrative Region. (Edwin Balasa)

<https://tonite.abante.com.ph/2024/05/27/halos-p10b-na-winasak-ng-el-nino-sa-agri-ndrrmc/>

4 buwang fishing ban sa South China Sea, West Philippine Sea ipinatupad ng China

[Doris Franche-Borja](#)

May 28, 2024 | 12:00am



Local fisherfolk are happy upon receiving their fuel and food packs at the boundary of the municipal waters and the country's Exclusive Economic Zone during the second civilian resupply mission to the West Philippine Sea on May 15, 2024.

STAR/Miguel de Guzman

MANILA, Philippines — Pinagbabawal ng China ang apat na buwang fishing ban sa South China Sea at bahagi ng West Philippine Sea na pinagkukunan ng kabuhayan ng mga mangingisdang Pilipino.

Ito ang ibinunyag ng Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) kung saan nagsimula ang pagbabawal nitong Mayo at inaasahang magtatapos sa Setyembre 16.

Nabatid na may inilabas na pinakabagong moratorium ang pangingisda ng China na sumasakop sa mga lugar ng South China Sea 12 degrees ng north latitude.

Sa isang pahayag, sinabi ng ahensya na ang hakbang ng Beijing ay nagpapataas lamang ng tensyon sa pagitan ng Pilipinas at China dahil ito ay “unilateral” at salungat sa pagkakaunawaan nina Pangulong Marcos at Chinese President Xi Jinping sa kanilang bilateral talk noong nakaraang taon.

Kasunod ang aksiyon ng China sa patuloy na panggigipit nito sa mga tropang Pilipino at mangingisda sa West Philippines Sea, na kinabibilangan ng pagsasagawa ng mga mapanganib na maniobra, pagpapaputok ng maraming beses na water cannon sa resupply at humanitarian mission.

Nanawagan naman ang Pilipinas sa China na huminto sa pagsasagawa ng mga ilegal na aksyon na lumalabag sa soberanya, karapatan, at hurisdiksyon ng Pilipinas sa mga maritime zone nito.

<https://www.philstar.com/pilipino-star-ngayon/bansa/2024/05/28/2358417/4-buwang-fishing-ban-sa-south-china-sea-west-philippine-sea-ipinatupad-ng-china>

Mini farm...Pampanga Grapes & Strawberry

ANG MAGSASAKANG REPORTER - Mer Layson

May 28, 2024 | 12:00am

Ngayong araw na ito ay ibabahagi ko sa inyo ang isa pang inspiring na buhay sa paghahalaman ng isang young farmer na owner ng Pampanga Grapes and Strawberry Mini Farm.

Ang aking tinutukoy ay si Marjon Tolentino, 28, ng Purok 3 Block 5, Fortuna, Florida Blanca, Pampanga.

Naging hamon kay Marjon ang pagsasabi na, iba na ang ubas at strawberry na napapaganda at napapabunga lamang sa malamig na lugar at upland area tulad ng Benguet, Baguio at La Union.

Sinubukan ni Marjon na magtanim ng ubas at strawberry sa kanyang mini farm at ini-apply nito ang Tender, Love and Care (TLC) sa kanyang mga tanim.

Lumipas ang isang taon ay namulaklak at nagbunga ng marami at maganda ang kanyang mga ubas na brazilian variety na kulay green ang balat pero napakatamis ng lasa.

Mula sa dating apat na puno ng ubas, nga-yon ay may 40 puno na ang tanim na grapes ni Marjon sa kanyang mini farm.

Dinarayo ng marami ang mini farm ni Marjon para tingnan ang kanyang mga tanim.

Madalas ay maraming taong namamasyal sa mini farm ni Marjon para mag-relax at kung nagkataon na hinog ang mga bunga maaaring mamitas bago bayaran o “pick and pay.”

Naturally grown ang mga tanim sa mini farm ni Marjon, kung saan ang ginagamit nitong pataba ay cow at carabao manure na kanyang pinupulot sa bukirin sa kanilang lugar sa Florida Blanca.

Bagamat may mga staff si Marjon pero t “hands on” sa pag-aalaga sa kanyang mga tanim.

May tanim ding guapol o bayabas na mistulang apple dahil sa laki ng mga ito at hitik din kung mamunga.

Maging ang mga tanim na langka niya ay hataw din kung mamunga at matatamis ang lasa.

Mayroon din tanim na saging si Marjon na kung magbunga ay sumasayad sa lupa ang mga buig niya.

Bukod sa mga fruit bearing trees ay mayroon ding tanim na vegetables si Marjon at mga flowering plant na lalong nagpapatingkad sa ganda ng tanawin sa mini farm.

Ginagamit na rin ngayon ang mini farm bilang garden wedding at reception sa mga nais magrenta sa lugar.

Mayroon na ring mini restaurant sa loob. Si Marjon ay binata pa at tinaguriang batang plantito sa kanilang lugar.

Nitong nakalipas na taon ay ginawaran siya bilang Most Inspiring Young Farmer, Influencer and Advocate for Indigenous Peoples Award ng Phippine Golden Eagle Award na ginanap sa Okada Hotel.

Silver Play button awardee na rin si Marjon ng Youtube dahil sa mahigit sa 100,000 follower nito.

Dalawang beses nang nai-guest sa Masaganang Buhay TV Show ng Magsasakang Reporter si Marjon. Ang una ay noong kasagsagan ng pandemya ng Covid 19 kung saan virtual ang interview sa kanya. Ang ikalawa ay nakalipas na Linggo lamang at mainit ang pagtanggap ni Marjon sa buong team ng Masaganang Buhay.

Marami pa ang development na nais gawin ni Marjon sa kanyang mini farm para lalo pang masiyahan ang mga bibisita sa kanyang lugar.

Kapag nag-cuttings at pruning si Marjon ng kanyang ubas, mara-ming runners ang kanyang mga strawberry at nagbebenta si Marjon sa mga nais magtanim at magparami nito. Maaari kayong mag-inquire kay Marjon sa pamamagitan ng pag-text sa kanya sa 0995-145-57-30 at kayo ay magpakilala. Huwag po kayong tatawag.

Sa Linggo, June 2, 2024 ay mapapanood ninyo ang interview kay Marjon at tour sa kanyang mini farm sa Masaganang Buhay TV Show ng Magsasakang Reporter.

Samantala, para sa iba pang tips at sikreto sa pagtanim ng iba't ibang uri ng halaman sa pamamagitan ng organikong pamamaraan ay maaari po kayong manood at makinig ng aking TV program na Masaganang Buhay tuwing Linggo, alas-7:00 hanggang alas-8:00 ng umaga sa OnePH Signal TV, Channel 1 ng TV-5. Mapapanood din sa RPTV, Facebook at Youtube.

Maaari rin kayong manood at mag-subscribe at mag-follow sa aking Youtube Channel na ANG MAGSASAKANG REPORTER at Facebook profile na Mer

Layson at Facebook page na Ang Magsasakang Reporter, TV host Vlogger, Tiktok na Magsasakang Reporter para sa iba pang kaalaman at impormasyon sa pagtanim ng iba't ibang uri ng halaman sa pamamagitan ng organikong pamamaraan.

Tuwing araw ng Martes ay regular ninyong mababasa ang aking kolum dito sa Pilipino Star Ngayon (PSN) ng Star Media Group.

Sa mga tanong at komento ay maaari ninyo akong i-text, huwag po tawag, sa 09178675197. STAY SAFE, HAPPY FARMING, GOD BLESS US ALL.

<https://www.philstar.com/pilipino-star-ngayon/opinyon/2024/05/28/2358479/mini-farmpampang-grapes-strawberry>

ABANTE:

China kinasa 4 buwan fishing ban sa WPS

- Abante News
- May 27, 2024



Nagpatupad ang China ng apat na buwang pagbabawal sa pangingsda sa South China Sea, kabilang ang mga bahagi ng West Philippine Sea na kung saan pinagkukunan ito ng kabuhayan ng mga mangingisdang Pilipino.

Ayon sa Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) nitong Lunes, Mayo 27, may inilabas na pinakabagong moratorium sa pangingsda ang China na sumasakop sa mga lugar ng South China Sea 12 degrees ng north latitude.

Ibinunyag ng DFA na nagsimula ang pagbabawal nitong Mayo at inaasahang magtatapos sa Setyembre 16.

Sa isang pahayag, sinabi ng ahensiya na ang hakbang ng Beijing ay nagpapataas lamang ng tensiyon sa pagitan ng Pilipinas at China dahil ito ay

“unilateral” at salungat sa pagkakaunawaan nina Pangulong Marcos at Chinese President Xi Jinping sa kanilang bilateral talk noong nakaraang taon.

Muli namang iginiit ng ahensya ang Paragraph 716 ng 2016 Arbitral Award sa South China Sea na nagdesisyon na ang moratorium ng pangi-ngisda ng China ay labag sa international law.

Samantala, nanawagan ang Pilipinas sa China na huminto sa pagsasagawa ng mga ilegal na aksiyon na lumalabag sa soberanya, karapatan, at hurisdiksyon ng Pilipinas sa mga maritime zone nito.

Hinimok din nito ang Beijing na sumunod sa mga obligasyon nito sa ilalim ng internasyonal na batas, partikular ang 1982 UNCLOS at ang pinal at may-bisang 2016 Arbitral Award. (Vincent Pagaduan)

<https://www.abante.com.ph/2024/05/27/china-kinasa-4-buwan-fishing-ban-sa-wps/>

REMATE:

97 kilo ng sirang karne, isda nasabat sa Baguio

May 27, 2024 17:20

MANILA, Philippines – Nasamsam ng mga awtoridad ang 97.13 kilo ng mga sirang karne at isda sa isang talipapa sa Baguio City.

Sa isinagawang spot inspections sa mga barangay ng San Vicente, Kias, Loakan, at Camp 7, nadiskubre ng mga awtoridad ang mga sirang karne at fish products na hindi na pwedeng kainin ng tao dahil sa mishandling.

Agad na itinapon ng Baguio City Veterinary and Agriculture Office ang mga nakumpiskang produkto.

Dagdag pa, kinumpiska rin ng mga awtoridad ang dalawa sa 46 inspected weighing scales dahil sa pagiging depektibo ng mga ito.

Posibleng maharap sa multang hindi bababa sa P100,000 at hindi hihigit sa P1 milyon ang mga lalabag sa Republic Act 9296 o Meat Inspection Code of the Philippines.

Samantala, ang mga madidiskubrenang lumalabag sa zoning requirements, shop planning and design, electrical and lighting requirements, sanitation requirements, at solid waste management ay pagmumultahin ng mula P1,000 hanggang P5,000 at mahaharap sa business closure. *RNT/JGC*

<https://remate.ph/97-kilo-ng-sirang-karne-isda-nasabat-sa-baguio/>

REMATE:

Livestock, poultry at dairy sector, palalakasin ng Senado sa food security

May 27, 2024 16:41



MANILA, Philippines – Tiniyak ng isang senador na palalakasin ng Senado ang programa para sa pagpapaunlad ng livestock, poultry at dairy industries (LPD) bilang bahagi ng pagpapatibay ng food security ng Pilipinas.

Sa pahayag, sinabi ni Senador Cynthia Villar, chairman ng Senate committee on agriculture and food security na kahit sa ika-apat na bahagi ng produksiyon sa sektor ang agrikultura ang ibinabahagi ng LPD sector noong 2023.

“These industries accounts for more than a quarter of agricultural output in 2023,” ayon kay Villar, chairman din ng Senate committee on agrarian reform.

Aniya, mula sa baboy at manok, tinatayang 29.8% percent ang Filipino protein consumption.

Binanggit din niya na maaaring magkaroon ng protein deficiency at malnutrition dahil sa hindi kakayanin ang mataas na halaga nito.

“The hog sector in the country is still struggling against the African Swine Fever outbreak since 2019 and needs to bounce back to support small hold raisers and commercial farms to support of basic food needs for pork,” ani Villar.

Ang ASF ang responsable sa P100-Billion pagkalugi ng sektor.

Kailangan din ng poultry sector ang sustainable inputs tulad ng feeds, gamot laban sa mga peste at sakit upang mas maging efficient ang sistema ng produksyon.

“Imported milk in the country accounts for 99 percent of supply which makes milk unavailable and unaffordable to our growing population,” sabi pa ng senador.

Igiinit niya na kailangan din ng matinding suporta ng ating milk production upang matugunan ang local demand, lalo na sa milk feeding programs sa ating mga paaralan at iba pang institusyon na nangangalaga sa ating mga bata.

Sa mahabang panahon, pinatatakbo ang LPD industries ng private sector. Sa panukalang ito, aktibong susuportahan at lalahok ang pamahalaan sapag-unlad ng sektor.

Nais din ni Villar na maging competitive ang Livestock, Poultry and Dairy Industries kapag naipaasa ang Senate Bill No. 2558, sa ilalim ng Committee Report No. 193 or “An Act Strengthening the Livestock, Poultry and Dairy Development and Competitiveness, Rationalizing the Organization and Functions of Relevant Government Agencies, Creating an Competitiveness Enhancement Fund Therefor. *Ernie Reyes*

<https://remate.ph/livestock-poultry-at-dairy-sector-palalakasin-ng-senado-sa-food-security/>

REMATE:

Ayuda sa mga magsasaka, mangingisda na apektado ng bagyong Aghon siniguro ng DA

May 27, 2024 14:31



MANILA, Philippines – Mahigpit na minomonitor ng Department of Agriculture (DA) ang sektor ng agrikultura kasabay ng pagsisiguro na tutulungan nito ang mga magsasaka at mangingisda na naapektuhan ng bagyong Aghon.

Kabilang sa mga tulong na ito ay ang pagbibigay ng mga punla para sa mais at bigas, maging ang mga gamot at biologics para sa livestock at poultry sa safe storage facilities, ayon sa DA-Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (DRRM) Operations Center Bulletin No. 3 nitong Linggo, Mayo 26.

Inalerto ang DA regional field offices para magsagawa ng field monitoring sa posibleng mga pinsala sa bagyo.

“Harvest mature crops and utilize post-harvest facilities (and) perform early harvest and mobilize post-harvest equipment and facilities (for fishers),” ayon sa Bulletin No. 2 ng DA-DRRM.

Hinimok din ang mga magsasaka na mag-imbak ng seed reserves, planting materials, at farm inputs; paglilikas ng mga hayop na may sapat na feeds at tubig; paglilipat ng farm machinery at mga kagamitan sa mas mataas na lugar; at paglilinis ng mga drainage sa irigasyon at palayan upang maiwasan ang pagbaha.

Binalaan din ang mga mangingisda na iwasan munang maglayag at ilipat ang mga bangkang pangisda sa mas mataas na lugar. *RNT/JGC*

<https://remate.ph/ayuda-sa-mga-magsasaka-mangingisda-na-apektado-ng-bagyong-aghon-siniguro-ng-da/>