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MANILA BULLETIN:

ASF spreads to 8 towns in Batangas — DA

BY JEL SANTOS

Aug 9, 2024 05:35 PM



Eight towns in Batangas have been struck by the fatal African Swine Fever (ASF), the Department of Agriculture (DA) disclosed on Friday, August 9.

Agriculture Assistant Secretary Arnel de Mesa, the spokesperson of the DA, identified the eight areas as Lobo, Lian, Calatagan, Rosario, Lipa, Talisay, San Juan, and Tuy.

"Almost 40 barangays 'yung nagkaroon agad ng ASF sa walong bayan ng Batangas (Almost 40 barangays were immediately affected by ASF in the eight towns of Batangas)," he said during a press briefing.

De Mesa said the towns of Lobo and Calatagan have already declared a state of calamity due to the outbreak of ASF in their areas.

In a bid to stop the spread of the fatal disease to other areas, the agriculture department said a total of 1,523 hogs were depopulated in Batangas.

Data from the DA showed that Batangas has around one million hogs, accounting for 10 percent of the country's total population.

The DA spokesperson highlighted the high mortality rate of ASF, noting that almost 100 percent of hogs affected by the virus do not survive.

Emergency procurement

Earlier, DA Secretary Francisco "Kiko" Tiu Laurel Jr. said that the agriculture department is in the process of arranging for the emergency procurement of ASF vaccines to handle the situation urgently.

"The local government units may need to declare a state of emergency in these Batangas municipalities to enable the DA to respond swiftly to the situation and release funds for the urgent purchase of vaccines," he said.

In addition to vaccines, he noted that the DA will also supply hog producers in Batangas with industrial lime to treat the areas where condemned swine are buried.

As such, Laurel said that the DA is coordinating with both the police and military to enforce checkpoints to curb the spread of ASF-infected animals.

Per DA Assistant Secretary Dante Palabrica, who oversees swine and poultry and holds a veterinary medicine degree, the DA may need to buy at least 10,000 doses of ASF vaccines for the emergency response.

The DA also noted that emergency procurement could cut the purchase period by about two weeks.

'Not zoonotic'

The ASF virus, according to De Mesa, is not zoonotic in nature, meaning it cannot be transmitted from pigs to humans.

However, he emphasized that in accordance with the Food Safety Act, the slaughtering, selling, or cooking of infected animals is not tolerated.

"So, dapat itong i-dispose properly sa pamamagitan ng paglibing at pagsunog [ang ASF-infected hogs] (So, these ASF-infected hogs should be disposed of properly through burial and incineration)," he said.

"Sa pagkakataon naman na hindi alam na karne ng may sakit na baboy, madali namang mamatay ang virus basta lutuing mabuti. But again, nevertheless gusto natin ay ma-properly ma-dispose iyong mga infected animals (In cases where the meat of infected pigs is not known, the virus can be easily killed if the meat is cooked thoroughly. However, we still prefer to properly dispose of the infected animals)," he went on.

ASF is highly contagious and deadly swine disease that has been devastating swine industries around the world since its resurgence in 2018.

In 2019, ASF resurfaced in the Philippines and has since spread across more than 3,800 barangays in 53 provinces by July 2022.

Due to ASF, local pork production in the Philippines fell by almost a fourth from June to October 2021 against the comparative period in 2020.

https://mb.com.ph/2024/8/9/asf-spreads-to-8-towns-in-batangas-da-1

THE PHILIPPINE STAR:

Declare state of calamity, group asks President Marcos

Bella Cariaso - The Philippine Star

August 10, 2024 | 12:00am



Customers visit the Pasig Mega Market in Pasig City to check on the goods that are put up for sale on July 31, 2024.

Philstar.com / Irra Lising

Amid the spread of ASF

MANILA, Philippines — Farmers' group Pork Producers Federation of the Philippines (PPFP) yesterday asked President Marcos to declare a national state of calamity amid the spread of African swine fever (ASF) in the country.

AGAP party-list Rep. Nicanor Briones, PPFP chair, said at a press conference that the declaration of a state of calamity nationwide is necessary for the government to order a mass vaccination of hogs to contain the ASF outbreak.

"As early as now, (the government) should declare a national emergency or state of calamity in the entire country and allot at least P5.4 billion for mass vaccination," Briones said.

He added that Marcos could tap the calamity fund to finance the procurement of ASF vaccines, noting that 5.4 million backyard hog raisers in the country could not afford the P600-per-dose cost of vaccine.

Briones said the Department of Agriculture (DA)'s plan to procure 10,000 doses of ASF vaccine is not enough to cover all the hogs in Batangas alone.

"We already lost P150 billion (since the outbreak of ASF in 2019) and there is now a resurgence of the outbreak. It is important to allocate funds for the vaccination of all the hogs," Briones stressed.

The lawmaker warned that the pork supply in Metro Manila would be affected if the spread of ASF in the province persists, Batangas being its main supplier.

"The spread of ASF (in Batangas) was due to the non-reporting (of backyard farmers). They still sell their pigs even though there are already symptoms. Once you touch an infected pig, it will result in the spread of ASF," Briones said.

ASF threatens 1 million hogs

According to DA spokesman Arnel de Mesa, the spread of ASF to eight areas in Batangas is threatening more than one million hogs in the province.

De Mesa said at a press conference yesterday that the ASF outbreak has reached San Juan and Tuy towns, adding to the five towns and one city that were previously affected.

He said the Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI) and local government units are closely working together to contain the spread of the disease.

"All infected animals have to be disposed of properly," De Mesa said.

The DA official also confirmed yesterday that ASF has spread to 251 barangays nationwide, an increase from the 150 barangays earlier reported to be affected.

"We are now working in tandem with provincial governments, municipal veterinarians to control ASF not only in Batangas," he said.

Based on the latest data from the BAI, at least 11 regions, 22 provinces and 65 municipalities have recorded ASF outbreaks.

In Negros, authorities are scrambling to prevent its spread following the detection of new cases in West Balabag, Valencia town in Negros Oriental.

Dr. Placeda Lemana, Provincial Veterinary Office head of Negros Occidental, said checkpoints have been heightened in Kabankalan City and Hinobaan town, which

share border roads with Negros Oriental, to control the transport of live pigs, pork and related products.

In Negros Oriental, BAI quarantine officer Alfonso Tundag said they were investigating the resurgence of ASF cases in Valencia town.

As of Wednesday, at least 160 hogs have been infected and are scheduled for culling, he added.

Lemana said San Carlos and Kabankalan cities as well as La Castellana town have been declared ASF-free, but are still waiting for a BAI certification.

Negros Occidental has imposed a ban on the entry of pork from Luzon, Mindanao, Cebu, Panay and Negros Oriental.

Hog fatalities due to ASF and other swine diseases reached 17,801 last year, representing 9.96 percent of the total hog population in Negros Occidental.

The hog industry has incurred P200 million in losses. — Gilbert Bayoran

 $\underline{https://www.philstar.com/nation/2024/08/10/2376741/declare-state-calamity-group-asks-president-marcos}$

THE PHILIPPINE STAR:

'P7 drop in price of imported rice not happening'

Bella Cariaso - The Philippine Star

August 10, 2024 | 12:00am



"They said that the (retail price of) well milled rice will go down to P45 (per kilo) and P40 for regular milled rice,"

Philstar.com / Jovannie Lambayan

MANILA, Philippines — Where is the drop of P7 per kilo in the price of imported rice?

Samahang Industriya ng Agrikultura (SINAG) chairman Rosendo So posed this question to the government exactly a month after the implementation of Executive Order 62, which reduced the tariffs of imported rice and other agricultural products from 35 percent to 15 percent.

"They said that the (retail price of) well milled rice will go down to P45 (per kilo) and P40 for regular milled rice," So said.

"Their promise of a P7 drop in the retail price did not happen," he added.

The reduced tariff on imported rice took effect on July 7.

So also said that many farmers were discouraged to plant because of the flooding of imported rice in the market.

Agriculture Assistant Secretary and spokesman Arnel de Mesa said it is still too early to say if EO 62 really failed to bring down the price of rice.

"Of course we need to allow some time for this as it was only July (when it took effect). It is only early August," he said.

De Mesa added that only 150,000 metric tons of imported rice arrived since EO 62 took effect, compared to the first six months' average of 400,000 metric tons arrival of imported rice.

He admitted that the retail price of local rice remains lower compared to the imported grains.

Based on monitoring of the Department of Agriculture, the retail price of imported regular rice ranged between P46 and P48 per kilo; imported well-milled rice, between P51 and P53 per kilo; imported premium rice, between P53 and P60 and imported special rice, between P55 and P65 per kilo.

Meanwhile, local regular milled rice was priced between P45 and P50 per kilo; local well-milled rice, between P47 and P55 per kilo; local premium rice, between P50 and P58 per kilo and local special rice, between P57 and P61 per kilo.

 $\frac{https://www.philstar.com/headlines/2024/08/10/2376820/p7\text{-}drop\text{-}price\text{-}imported\text{-}rice-not\text{-}happening}{not\text{-}happening}$

THE PHILIPPINE STAR:

ASF infects 8 areas in Batangas

Jean Mangaluz - Philstar.com

August 9, 2024 | 5:50pm



Photo of hogs affected by the African Swine fever in Batangas

Photo courtesy of Clay Pardilla / PTV News

MANILA, Philippines — The Department of Agriculture (DA) on Friday said that the African Swine Fever (ASF) has spread to eight areas in Batangas.

According to DA spokesperson Arnel De Mesa, ASF poses a 100% mortality rate for the livestock it infects.

"Sa ngayon ay mayroon ng walong munisipyo at isang siyudad na mayroong ngayong panibagong kaso ng ASF. Ito ay ang munisipyo ng Lobo, Lian, Calatagan, Rosario, Lipa City, ang Tui, San Juan at ang Talisay," De Mesa said at the Bagong Pilipinas Ngayon public briefing.

(For now there are eight municipalities, one city that has new cases of ASF. These are the municipalities of Lobo, Lian, Calatagan, Lipa City, Tui, San Juan and Talisay.)

Calatagan has already declared a state of emergency due to the ASF outbreak.

De Mesa said that Agriculture Secretary Francisco Tiu Laurel Jr. has authorized the emergency procurement of 10,000 units of ASF vaccines for Batangas.

According to De Mesa said that while ASF could not be passed to humans, the Food Safety Act does not tolerate for infected animals to be sold and consumed.

For the proper disposal of infected animals, De Mesa said that the pigs must either be burned or buried six feet under ground.

https://www.philstar.com/nation/2024/08/09/2376677/asf-infects-8-areas-batangas

THE PHILIPPINE STAR:

MIC to invest in Clark food hub, other projects

Louise Maureen Simeon - The Philippine Star

August 10, 2024 | 12:00am



MIC and the Clark International Airport Corp. inked a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to explore investment opportunities for CIAC's development projects in Clark.

CIAC - Clark International Airport Corporation / Facebook Page

MANILA, Philippines — State-run Maharlika Investment Corp. (MIC) will invest in Clark National Food Hub and other development projects as it aims to help boost local agriculture production and improve the value chain.

MIC and the Clark International Airport Corp. inked a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to explore investment opportunities for CIAC's development projects in Clark.

In particular, the MOU is intended for collaborative funding and efforts for the development of the Clark National Food Hub.

The national food hub is one of the seven flagship projects of CIAC that seeks to contribute to the development of priority industries of the government.

MIC president and CEO Rafael Consing Jr. said the partnership marks a pivotal moment in the evolution of Clark as a premier airport hub.

"This strategic collaboration on key development projects will not only unlock the immense potential within Clark but also propel the growth of the entire Luzon corridor, fostering connectivity, trade and tourism," Consing said.

Special Assistant to the President for Investment and Economic Affairs Frederick Go, who also witnessed the MOU signing, has identified food and agriculture as one of the priority sectors for investments.

Go said the government continues to pursue initiatives that contribute to increasing agriculture production and improving the food logistical chain.

"The food hub is a step in this direction and is a sustainable food security solution," Go said.

CIAC president and CEO Arrey Perez said that empowering the aviation industry also means driving growth in food and agriculture, transportation and mobility and tourism sectors.

Apart from the national food hub, CIAC's flagship projects include the World Convention and Events Hub, Urban Renewal and Heritage Conservation project, direct access link to the Clark International Airport, new CIAC headquarters, upgrading of road network and facilities and the detailed site development plan of the second runway.

 $\frac{https://www.philstar.com/business/2024/08/10/2376693/mic-invest-clark-food-hub-other-projects}{}$

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER:

DA to compensate ASF-affected Negros Oriental farmers

Philippine News Agency / 04:52 PM August 09, 2024



INQUIRER FILES

DUMAGUETE CITY — The Department of Agriculture (DA) will indemnify farmers whose hogs were culled after an outbreak of African swine fever (ASF) in Barangay West Balabag in Valencia, Negros Oriental, an official said Friday.

Alejandro Rafal, DA-Provincial Agriculture Technical Coordinating Office (DA-PATCO) told the Philippine News Agency that each farmer would get P5,000 per culled hog up to a maximum of P20,000 for four hog heads.

"We are now consolidating data from the Provincial Veterinary Office (PVO) as regards the total number of farmers/individuals affected by the stamping out activities conducted by multiple agencies in recent days," Rafal said.

As of Aug. 9, some 192 hogs were culled with 37 farmers in West Balabag affected.

Meanwhile, Jaymar Vilos, PVO information officer-designate, said in a separate interview that they concluded their depopulation of pigs late Thursday.

"Laboratory tests of blood samples taken from pigs already turned out negative for ASF as of today", Vilos said.

Surveillance and monitoring of ASF cases, however, continue in the adjacent barangays of Balugo, Calayugan, and East Balabag, which have hog populations.

Vilos said they were looking into the possibility that ASF could still be present in the province since some LGUs and hog farmers were uncooperative in surveillance and reporting activities, making it difficult for authorities to take action to stamp out ASF. (PNA)

 $\underline{https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/1971251/da-to-compensate-asf-affected-negros-oriental-farmers}$

PHILIPPINE DAILY INOUIRER:

Marcos orders reorganization of task force on zero hunger

By: Zacarian Sarao - Reporter / @zacariansINQ

INQUIRER.net / 11:23 AM August 09, 2024



President Ferdinand "Bongbong" R. Marcos Jr. (INQUIRER.net file photo/Ryan Leagogo)

MANILA, Philippines — President Ferdinand "Bongbong" R. Marcos Jr. has ordered the reorganization of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Zero Hunger.

The task force was created in 2020 "to ensure that government policies, initiatives, and projects on attaining zero hunger shall be coordinated, responsive, and effective." In issuing Executive No. 66, dated August 6, Marcos designated the secretary of the Department of Social Welfare and Development as chairperson of the task force, joined by the executive director of the National Nutrition Council as co-chairperson. Meanwhile, the secretary of the Department of Agriculture was assigned as the task force's vice chairperson.

Members joining the task force are the secretaries of the following departments:

- Department of Agrarian Reform
- Department of Budget and Management

- Department of Education
- Department of Environment and Natural Resources
- Department of Health
- Department of Labor and Employment
- Department of the Interior and Local Government
- Department of Trade and Industry
- Department of Science and Technology
- Presidential Communications Office
- National Economic and Development Authority
- Commission on Higher Education chairperson
- Director-General of the Technical Education and Skills Development

 Authority

"The Task Force on Zero Hunger members may designate an alternate to represent their respective offices in their absence. Such alternates must be fully authorized to decide for and on behalf of the Task Force on Zero Hunger members," the order read. "As may be necessary and upon the approval of the President and/or the Executive Secretary, the Task Force on Zero Hunger is hereby authorized to further reorganize its composition, subject to existing laws, rules and regulations," it added.

https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/1971164/marcos-orders-reorganization-of-task-force-on-zero-hunger

PHILIPPINE DAILY INOUIRER:

Negros Oriental town moves to prevent African Swine Fever re-emergence

Philippine News Agency / 11:02 AM August 09, 2024



INQUIRER FILES

DUMAGUETE CITY — Authorities are scrambling to prevent the spread of African swine fever (ASF) after the detection of new cases in Barangay West Balabag, Valencia town in Negros Oriental, officials said Thursday.

"The ASF cases in Valencia are a re-emergence as there was a previous outbreak last year in that town, but it was already contained through culling," said Dr. Alfonso Tundag, quarantine officer of the Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI) in the province.

Tundag said authorities were still investigating the possible sources of the ASF resurgence in Valencia.

As of late Wednesday, the Department of Agriculture-Provincial Agriculture Technology Coordinating Office (DA-PATCO) reports showed that 160 heads were infected and scheduled for culling.

Alejandro Rafal, Jr., DA-PATCO head in the province, said that after a meeting last Monday with the local government unit (LGU), the depopulation of pigs in the barangay started.

Disinfection also commenced in farms and residences where deceased hogs were reported.

While waiting for the Valencia LGU to issue an executive order relative to the ASF outbreak, checkpoints have been established in strategic areas to prevent entry of live hogs from the affected barangay.

Rafal said the depopulation of hogs would include a 1,500-meter radius in the affected barangay.

Initial investigation revealed that ASF cases were already detected last month, but no one reported these to authorities.

Tundag said that they learned during the meeting with LGU officials that "some 50 pigs had died as early as the first week of July," and their owners did not report the cases.

"They did not report the cases, perhaps out of fear that their live hogs will be culled as well," the BAI official explained.

He asked the municipal agriculture officer of Valencia to conduct a backtracking of events surrounding the ASF resurgence to determine the source of the infection.

Meanwhile, Lt. Stephen Polinar, spokesperson of the Negros Oriental Police Provincial Office, said the town police were setting up checkpoints to ensure that live hogs from Barangay West Balabag would not find their way to this capital city and nearby towns like Sibulan and Bacong. (PNA)

https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/1971151/negros-oriental-town-moves-to-prevent-african-swine-flu-re-emergence

BUSINESS MIRROR:

Grain expectations

• BusinessMirror



In a bid to ensure food security and stimulate the economy, sacks of rice were distributed to 300 beneficiaries from Barangays Pinyahan, Central and Pag-asa in Quezon City during the launch of the "Murang Bigas sa NIA at P29" program at the National Irrigation Administration headquarters on August 8, 2024.

The affordable rice comes from farmers in NIA's Contract Farming Initiative, aligning with President Marcos's broader agenda to stabilize the economy by supporting local agriculture and ensuring accessible food for all.

https://businessmirror.com.ph/2024/08/09/grain-expectations-2/

MANILA STANDARD:

LandBank paves farmers' road to success

BusinessBanking & Finance





By Othel V. Campos

August 10, 2024, 6:30 pm

- Advertisement -

In 1992, rice farmer Ricardo Buenaventura, struggling with limited capital, united with 15 fellow farmers to form the Nagkakaisang Magsasaka Agricultural Primary Multi-Purpose Cooperative (PMPC). Their goal is to overcome financial barriers and boost their production.

Land Bank of the Philippines (recognized their potential and granted them their first loan of P120,000.00. This initial trust marked the beginning of a transformative partnership.

"LandBank believed in us even when our cooperative was just starting. They gave us the opportunity to strengthen our cooperative and improve our livelihood," Buenaventura said.

LandBank's support steadily grew, with total loans to the cooperative reaching P1 billion.



Rice farmer Ricardo Buenaventura

The cooperative used the funds to expand into diverse ventures, including re-lending to members, agricultural trading and infrastructure development like warehouses and an onion cold storage facility.

From its humble beginnings, Nagkakaisang Magsasaka Agricultural PMPC has grown to 1,500 members, encompassing not only rice and onion farmers but also poultry, livestock raisers and micro-entrepreneurs like sari-sari store owners.

Through the partnership, the cooperative now provides comprehensive support to its members, covering the entire rice production cycle.

They purchase their members' produce at fair prices, process it under their own rice brand and distribute it to consumers across the country. The co-op has also ventured into onion cold storage, reducing post-harvest losses for onion farmers and stabilizing the local onion value chain.



Buenaventura said the co-op's diversification ably addresses the needs of its members and enhances the agricultural sector. LandBank's support has been instrumental to their success story, he said.

The cooperative's growth has not only benefited its members but also contributed to increased productivity and food security in the region.

"With LandBank's help, our cooperative has achieved so much and has helped many rice farmers. Now, we are also helping onion farmers here in Nueva Ecija strengthen their production," Buenaventura said.

LandBank president and chief executive Lynette Ortiz reaffirmed the bank's commitment to empowering agricultural cooperatives, recognizing their pivotal role in providing small farmers with essential resources for growth.

She said the Nagkakaisang Magsasaka Agricultural PMPC exemplifies the transformative power of collaboration between financial institutions and agricultural cooperatives.

"Their journey is a testament to the impact of accessible credit, infrastructure development, and diversified operations in uplifting the lives of farmers and contributing to the overall development of the agricultural sector," Ortiz said.

https://manilastandard.net/business/314482538/landbank-paves-farmers-road-to-success.html

ABANTE TONITE:

Livestock checkpoint ikakasa sa African Swine Fever outbreak

- Abante Tonite
- August 10, 2024



Maglalagay ang Department of Agriculture (DA) ng mga livestock checkpoint sa iba't ibang bahagi ng Luzon upang mapigilan ang pagkalat pa ng African Swine Fever (ASF) outbreak sa Batangas.

Pansamantalang solusyon lamang ang mga nasabing checkpoint habang inaabangan ang pagdating ng mga bakuna laban sa ASF virus.

Layunin ng mga karagdagang checkpoint na pigilan ang pagbebenta ng mga may sakit na baboy na malaking dahilan ng pagkalat ng ASF sa Batangas.

Nagdeklara na rin ang ilang mga bayan sa Batangas ng state of calamity dahil sa pinsalang idinulot ng ASF dito.

Mula sa 12.7 milyon noong 2019, bumagsak sa 9.9 milyon na lang ang populasyon ng mga baboy sa bansa.

Ipinaliwanag naman ni DA Assistant Secretary for Swine and Poultry Constante Palabrica na ang karagdagang border controls ay upang pigilan ang mga may sakit na baboy.

"We have set up additional livestock quarantines and will keep it there at least until December 31," ayon kay Palabrica.

Kasama ng mga DA personnel na magbabantay sa mga livestock checkpoint ang mga itinalagang pulis at tauhan ng Bureau of Animal Industry.

Samantala, sinabi ni Palabrica na natukoy na nila ang mga lugar na paglilibingan ng mga baboy na nahawa ng ASF o namatay sa virus nito.

Gagawin aniya ito upang kontrolin at tuluyang mapuksa ang ASF virus na lubhang nakaapekto sa industriya ng baboy. (Migo Fajatin/Dolly C

 $\underline{https://tonite.abante.com.ph/2024/08/10/livestock-checkpoint-ikakasa-sa-african-swine-fever-\underline{outbreak/}}$

REMATE:

10 lugar sa VisMin positibo sa toxic red tide

August 9, 2024 16:15



MANILA, Philippines- Natukoy ang paralytic shellfish poison (PSP) o toxic red tide na lampas sa regulatory limit sa 10 lugar sa Visayas at Mindanao, base sa Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR).

Sa shellfish bulletin na may petsang Aug. 8, Huwebes, sinabi ng BFAR na natuklasan ang red tide toxins sa mga shellfish na nakolekta at sinuri mula sa mga sumusunod na lugar:

- Dumanquillas Bay sa Zamboanga del Sur
- coastal waters ng San Benito sa Surigao del Norte
- coastal waters ng Tungawan sa Zamboanga Sibugay
- coastal waters ng Daram Island sa Samar
- coastal waters ng Zumarraga Island sa Samar
- coastal waters ng Cambatutay Bay sa Samar
- Matarinao Bay sa Eastern Samar
- Cancabato Bay sa Leyte
- Irong-Irong Bay sa Samar
- Villareal Bay sa Samar

Nagbabala ang BFAR na lahat ng uri ng shellfish at Acetes sp. o alamang na nakuha mula sa mga nasabing lugar ay "not safe for human consumption."

Samantala inihayag ng BFAR na ligtas kainin ang isda, pusit, hipon, at alimasag kung sariwa at hinugasang mabuti at tinanggalan ng lamang-loob bago ito lutuin. **RNT/SA**

https://remate.ph/10-lugar-sa-vismin-positibo-sa-toxic-red-tide/

REMATE:

Calatagan isinailalim sa state of calamity sa ASF

August 9, 2024 13:52



MANILA, Philippines- Nagdeklara ang munisipalidad ng Calatagan sa Batangas ng state of calamity dahil sa paglobo ng African Swine Fever (ASF) cases, kasama ang Lobo, na nauna nang nagdeklara nito.

Kasunod ang desisyon ng sesyon ng Sangguniang Bayan, na inaasahang magpapadali sa distribusyon ng tulong sa local hog raisers na apektado ng outbreak.

"Para po ma-cater 'yung farmers na affected talaga para makapaglabas ng fund," pahayag ni Dan Paul Badong, Municipal Information Officer ng Calatagan.

Ikinokonsidera rin ng Lian, isa pang bayan sa Batangas, ang pagdeklara ng state of calamity.

Kasalukuyang nagsasagawa ang lokal na pamahalaan ng blood sampling sa mga baboy upang suriin pa ang sitwasyon.

"Para din mayroon kaming makuhang pantustos doon sa mga kakailanganin sa baba at kung sakali pong mayroong suporta from province, kasi medyo malaki na rin ang sakop ng infestation doon sa amin, dalawang barangay pa laang," ani Patricio Delos Reyes Jr., Local Disaster Risk Reduction Management (LDRRM) Officer ng Lian.

Batay sa Batangas Office of the Provincial Veterinarian, apektado na ng ASF ang pitong bayan sa lalawigan.

Ang pinakabagong nadagdag ay San Juan, kung saan isang barangay ang nag-ulat ng mga positibong kaso. Narito ang mga apektadong lugar:

• Lobo: 17 barangay

• Calatagan: 5 barangay

• Lian: 2 barangay

• Talisay: 2 barangay

• Rosario: 1 barangay

• Lipa City: 1 barangay

• San Juan: 1 barangay. RNT/SA

https://remate.ph/calatagan-isinailalim-sa-state-of-calamity-sa-asf/

REMATE:

Pagsasaayos ng 'task force zero hunger' ipinag-utos ni PBBM

August 9, 2024 14:44



MANILA, Philippines- Ipinag-utos ni Pangulong Ferdinand Marcos Jr. ang reorganization o muling pagsasaayos ng Inter-Agency Task Force on Zero Hunger.

Ang naturang task force ay inatasan na tiyaking tuloy-tuloy at epektibo ang implementasyon ng pinahusay na partnership laban sa programa sa pagkagutom at kahirapan.Nilagdaan nito lamang Agosto 6, nakasaad sa Executive Order No. 66 na ang mga miyembro ng task force ay maaaring magtalaga ng kahalili para kumatawan sa kanikanilang tanggapan sa panahon ng kanilang pagliban.

Ang Kalihim ng Department of Social Welfare and Development ang magsisilbing chairperson ng task force.

Ayon sa EO, ang Executive Director ng National Nutrition Council ay aakto naman bilang co-chairperson ng task force.

Itinalaga ng EO ang Kalihim ng Department of Agriculture bilang vice-chairperson.

Nakasaad pa rin sa EO na dapat tiyakin ng task force na ang government policies para makamit ang zero hunger ay "coordinated at responsive."

Napaulat na na sa 17.6% ng pamilyang Pinoy ang nakaranas ng gutom sa second quarter ng taon, ayon sa pinakahuling survey ng Social Weather Stations (SWS).

Lumitaw rin sa SWS poll, na isinagawa noong nakaraang Hunyo 23 hanggang Julyo 1, na ang 17.6% na nakaranas ng gutom ay tumaas mula 14.2% noong Marso.

Nangangahulugan ito na ang 2024 two-quarter hunger average na 15.9% ay mas mataas ng 5.2 puntos sa 2023 annual hunger average na 10.7%, at ang pinakamataas magmula nang maitala ang 2020 annual hunger average na 21.1% sa gitna ng COVID-19 pandemic.

Ang Metro Manila ang nagtala ng pinakamataas na porsyento ng nakaranas ng gutom sa 20%, bahagyang umakyat mula 19% noong Marso.

Sumunod ang Balance Luzon sa 19.6%, Mindanao sa 15.7%, at Visayas sa 13.7%.

Gayunman, ang pinakamalaking pagtaas sa nakaranas ng gutom ay naitala sa Mindanao sa 15.7% mula 8.7% noong Marso.

Tumaas din ang hunger incidence sa mga pamilyang Pinoy sa Balance Luzon sa 19.6% mula 15.3% noong Marso.

Sa 17.6% pamilyang Pinoy na nakaranas ng gutom, 12.8% ang may moderate hunger, habang 4.9% ang may severe hunger.

Ang moderate hunger ay patungkol sa mga nakaranas ng gutom nang "isang beses" lamang o sa "ilang pagkakataon" sa huling tatlong buwan.

Samantala, ang severe hunger ay para sa mga "madalas" nakaranas ng gutom sa parehong panahon.

Ang moderate hunger incidence sa mga pamilyang Pinoy sa 12.8% ay halos kapareho ng March figure na 12.2%, habang ang severe hunger ay tumaas ng 2.9% mula 2% noong Marso.

Ang non-commissioned Second Quarter 2024 SWS poll ay gumamit ng face-to-face interviews sa 1,500 adults na may edad 18 at pataas. Sa nasabing bilang, 600 ang mula sa Balance Luzon (o Luzon sa labas ng Metro Manila) habang tig-300 respondents ang nagmula sa Metro Manila, Visayas, at Mindanao.

Ang sampling error margins ay $\pm 2.5\%$ para sa national percentages, $\pm 4.0\%$ para sa Balance Luzon, at tig- $\pm 5.7\%$ sa Metro Manila, Visayas, at Mindanao. **Kris Jose**

https://remate.ph/pagsasaayos-ng-task-force-zero-hunger-ipinag-utos-ni-pbbm/

REMATE:

Bayan sa Batangas inilagay sa state of calamity sa ASF

August 9, 2024 12:12



MANILA, Philippines – Idineklara na ang state of calamity sa Lobo, Batangas dahil sa pagkalat ng African swine fever (ASF) at sa epekto nito sa local hog industry.

Ipinasa ang resolusyon ng konseho nitong Agosto 6, na nagpapakitang 16 sa 26 na barangay ang nakapagtala ng mga kaso ng swine fever, at ang kabuuang animal deaths ay pumalo sa 8,818 hanggang noong Hulyo 31.

Sa resolusyon, sinabi na ang outbreak "has immensely affected the livelihood of thousands of hog growers or raisers whose daily income relies on the hog-raising and meat-selling market," at ang pagkalugi ay umabot na sa P103,338,000.

Magbibigay-daan ang deklarasyon sa local na pamahalaan na gamitin ang calamity funds para magpaabot ng tulong sa local hog raisers.

Wala pang bakuna para sa naturang sakit, ayon sa National Meat Inspection Service.

Karaniwang namamatay sa loob ng dalawa hanggang 10 araw ang baboy na tinamaan ng ASF at ang animal mortality rate ay umaabot ng hanggang 100 percent. *RNT/JGC*

 $\underline{https://remate.ph/bayan-sa-batangas-inilagay-sa-state-of-calamity-sa-asf/}$

REMATE:

ASF sa Valencia, NegOr bumalik!

August 9, 2024 11:07



MANILA, Philippines – Pinagsisikapan na ng mga awtoridad na pigilan ang pagkalat ng African swine fever (ASF) kasunod ng muling pagkakatala ng mga bagong kaso nito sa Barangay West Balabag, Valencia, Negros Oriental.

"The ASF cases in Valencia are a re-emergence as there was a previous outbreak last year in that town but it was already contained through culling," ani Dr. Alfonso Tundag, quarantine officer ng Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI) sa probinsya.

Ani Tundag, iniimbestigahan pa ng mga awtoridad ang posibleng source ng pagbabalik ng ASF sa munisipalidad.

Nitong Miyerkules, iniulat ng Department of Agriculture-Provincial Agriculture Technology Coordinating Office (DA-PATCO) na nasa 160 baboy ang tinamaan ng sakit at nakatakdang isailalim sa culling.

Ayon kay Alejandro Rafal, Jr., DA-PATCO head sa probinsya, nagsimula na ang depopulation ng mga baboy sa naturang barangay.

Isinagawa rin ang disinfection sa mga farm at tirahan kung saan iniulat ang mga nasawing baboy.

Bago pa ilabas ng Valencia LGU ang executive order kaugnay sa ASF outbreak, naglatag na ng checkpoint sa mga strategic na lugar para maiwasan ang pagpasok ng mga buhay na baboy mula sa mga apektadong barangay.

Isasama naman sa depopulation ang nasa 1,500 meter radius ng apektadong barangay.

Sa inisyal na imbestigasyon, napag-alaman na nakapagtala na pala ng mga kaso ng ASF noong nakaraang buwan ngunit walang nagsumbong nito sa mga awtoridad.

Ani Tundag, napag-alaman na "some 50 pigs had died as early as the first week of July" at hindi ito iniulat ng mga may-ari.

"They did not report the cases, perhaps out of fear that their live hogs will be culled as well," paliwanag pa ng BAI official. Hiniling niya sa municipal agriculture officer ng Valencia na magsagawa ng backtracking of events sa pagbabalik ng ASF at matukoy ang source ng impeksyon. *RNT/JGC*

https://remate.ph/asf-sa-valencia-negor-bumalik/

REMATE:

Kapeng barako irerehistro ng Batangas sa Intellectual Property Office

August 9, 2024 10:15



MANILA, Philippines – Kasalukuyan nang ipinoproseso ng Office of the Provincial Agriculturist (OPAg) sa Batangas ang pagrerehistro sa salitang "kapeng barako" o liberica coffee sa Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines (IPOPHL) upang masiguro ang marka at matibay na branding nito bilang local coffee product.

Tinutukoy ng Intellectual Property Code ang collective mark bilang "any visible sign designated as such in an application for registration and capable of distinguishing the origin or any other common characteristic."

Sa panayam nitong Huwebes, Agosto 8, sinabi ni OPAg head Rod Bautista na binuo ang technical working group (TWG) noong Mayo para sa naturang hakbang at magkikita sa Agosto 22 para pag-usapan

ang kasaysayan, etymology, produksyon at scientific components ng "kapeng barako" bilang bahagi ng requirements para sa pagpaparehistro.

"We have gathered Batangueños in different fields as part of our collaborative effort to promote the cultural heritage of our coffee industry. The TWG is composed of historians, academicians, coffee farmers, and other stakeholders," ani Bautista.

Ito ay bahagi ng legasiya ni Governor Hermilando Mandanas na nais nito bago matapos ang kanyang termino sa susunod na taon.

Kabilang sa bahagi ng hakbang ng pamahalaan ay ang pagbibigay edukasyon sa mga magsasaka sa rehabilitasyon ng lumang "coffea liberica" trees para pataasin ang local productivity maging ang pagapply ng multi-cropping techniques para magamit ang mawalak na lupain.

Sinisiguro ng OPAg na ang DNA (deoxyribonycleic acid)-tested seeds ay ginagamit sa pagtatanim ng mas maraming "liberica" coffee trees sa kanilang nursery facility.

Hinimok ni Bautista ang mga mamamayan na makibahagi sa aktibong promosyon ng mga aktibidad na ilulunsad sa social media platforms.

Samantala, sinabi ni Arnold Malbataan, pangulo ng Batangas Coffee Farmers Federation (BaCoFFEd) na, "Kapeng Barako has been part of our identity as Batangueños and Lipeños such that its registration will strengthen our identity as coffee farmers and shall further enrich our history in the province."

Sa oras na mairehistro sa IPOPHL, ang local coffee industry ay magkakaroon ng mas malaking market katulad ng mangga ng Guimaras at pili nuts sa Bicol.

Nagpasalamat naman ito sa provincial government, Batangas State University (BSU) at De La Salle-Lipa (DLSL), IPOPHL, at Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), sa pagbibigay ng technical support sa pagsasapinal ng collective mark registration. *RNT/JGC*

https://remate.ph/kapeng-barako-irerehistro-ng-batangas-sa-intellectual-property-office/

REMATE:

5 lugar apektado ng shellfish ban

August 9, 2024 09:36



MANILA, Philippines – Apektado na rin ng toxic red tide ang Cancabato Bay sa Tacloban City, kasama ang naturang phenomenon sa 10 iba pang lawa, sinabi ng Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) regional office nitong Huwebes, Agosto 8.

Sa 11 bays, limang lugar ang opisyal nang inilagay sa shellfish ban batay sa pinakabagong bulletin na inilabas ng BFAR central office.

Nagpakita ng mataas na saxitoxin (paralytic shellfish toxin) level higit sa regulatory limit ang mga lamang dagat na nakuha mula sa limang lugar.

Bukod sa Cancabato Bay, kasama rin sa shellfish ban ang coastal waters ng Daram; Zumarraga; at Cambatutay Bay sa Tarangnan, lahat ay sa Samar province; at Matarinao Bay sa General MacArthur, Quinapondan, Hernani, at Salcedo sa Eastern Samar.

"Based on monitoring, shellfish from these areas have a toxin content of 60 micrograms per 100 grams or above. The toxin is beyond a tolerable level," sinabi ni BFAR Eastern Visayas regional information officer Christine Gresola.

Bukod sa nabanggit na may baybayin, nakataas din ang local red tide warning sa anim pang lugar: Villareal Island; Maqueda Bay sa mga bayan ng Jiabong, Motiong, Paranas, San Sebastian, Calbiga, Pinabacdao, at Hinabangan; Irongirong Bay sa Catbalogan City at coastal waters ng Calbayog City, lahat ay sa Samar; Carigara Bay sa Leyte province; at coastal waters ng Biliran Island.

"Under local red tide, there is no shellfish ban since the toxin level content in both waters and meat is tolerable, but the public is advised to be cautious in the consumption of shellfish gathered in these areas," ani Gresola.

Samantala, ligtas naming kainin ang mga isda, pusit, hipon, at alimango basta't ito ay mahugasang Mabuti. *RNT/JGC*

https://remate.ph/5-lugar-apektado-ng-shellfish-ban/