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THE PHILIPPINE STAR:

ASF scare pushes up chicken price in Metro Manila

[Bella Cariaso](#) - The Philippine Star

August 24, 2024 | 12:00am



The retail price of chicken ranged between P180 and P240 per kilo, based on the latest price watch of the DA in Metro Manila markets.

AFP / File

MANILA, Philippines — The retail price of chicken has reached as high as P240 per kilo with the increase in demand amid the pork scare due to the African swine fever (ASF), according to the Department of Agriculture (DA).

The retail price of chicken ranged between P180 and P240 per kilo, based on the latest price watch of the DA in Metro Manila markets.

On the other hand, the retail price of pork shoulder ranged between P280 and P370 per kilo and pork belly, between P305 and P400 per kilo.

The prices of eggs also increased to as high as P11 per piece, depending on size.

Agriculture Assistant Secretary and spokesman Arnel de Mesa said the Department of Health has issued an advisory that pork sold in the markets are safe to eat.

“We advise our fellow citizens to look for the seal of the National Meat Inspection Service when buying all kinds of meat whether in the market or grocery,” De Mesa said.

He also discouraged the public from eating raw meat.

“If you are not sure about the quality of meat you bought, cook it thoroughly. Avoid anything raw, especially if you are not sure of the source,” De Mesa added.

Backyard piggeries

Amid the recent surge of cases of ASF in other areas, the Quezon City government urged owners of backyard piggeries in the city to voluntarily surrender their livestock to the local government.

Quezon City Mayor Joy Belmonte said the city will compensate owners who voluntarily surrender their pigs on or before Aug. 31.

In 2020, the city approved an ordinance banning piggeries and poultry farms for meat production, in line with a resolution from the Housing and Land Use Regulatory Board, which prohibits piggeries and poultries in highly urbanized cities.

Despite the policy, Belmonte said they have discovered at least 240 backyard piggeries, mostly in Barangay Payatas.

“Since we are talking about backyard farmers and perhaps this is their only source of livelihood... We decided to allow them to self-report and turn over to the city their pigs. We will buy them at a reasonable rate,” Belmonte said.

The city said it will start imposing fines after the Aug. 31 deadline.

Surrendered pigs will be tested for ASF. Those which test positive will be condemned as mandated by existing policy, while those declared healthy will be turned over to the DA.

The meat from these healthy pigs will be sold at Kadiwa Centers, said Belmonte.

Amid the surge in cases in other areas, the city government reiterated that Quezon City remains ASF-free.

It established four livestock checkpoints in the city to support efforts of the DA’s Bureau of Animal Industry to curb the spread of the disease. — **Janvic Mateo**

<https://www.philstar.com/nation/2024/08/24/2380126/asf-scare-pushes-chicken-price-metro-manila>

THE PHILIPPINE STAR:

Philippines still world's 2nd leading pineapple exporter

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

August 24, 2024 | 12:00am



In its annual market report, the FAO said the Philippines enjoyed higher demand for its high quality pineapple variety known as MD2 in Asian markets, particularly China, last year.

MANILA, Philippines — The Philippines remained the world's second largest pineapple exporter for the 15th straight year as total shipments in 2023 grew by almost three percent, driven by higher Chinese demand for premium quality fruits, according to the United Nations' Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

In its annual market report, the FAO said the Philippines enjoyed higher demand for its high quality pineapple variety known as MD2 in Asian markets, particularly China, last year.

“Exports from the Philippines, the second leading exporter of pineapples to global markets, expanded by 2.7 percent in 2023 to 600,000 metric tons,” the international agency said.

The UN unit said China was the country's top buyer of pineapples, accounting for about 43 percent of total shipments, made last year.

The FAO said that there has been higher demand for Philippine pineapples in China as the latter's consumers prefer to buy premium quality ones.

“The long shelf life, year-round production cycle and attractive price-to-quality ratio of the MD2 pineapples, the main variety cultivated in the Philippines, proved to be a particularly strong selling point,” it said.

The Philippines also hiked its pineapple exports to South Korea and Japan by six to eight percent on an annual basis last year, according to the FAO. It also said that Japan and South Korea accounted for 30 percent and 14 percent of the country's pineapple shipments last year, respectively.

The country exported 1.01 million MT of pineapples and pineapple products last year, valued at \$731.94 million, according to the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA).

PSA data showed that fresh pineapples accounted for half of the total exports with volume reaching 597,313 MT worth \$354 million.

Pineapples and pineapple products are the third largest agro-based exports of the country behind coconut products and fresh bananas, based on PSA data.

Costa Rica remained as the world's largest pineapple exporter with a total shipment volume of 3.2 million MT last year, according to the FAO.

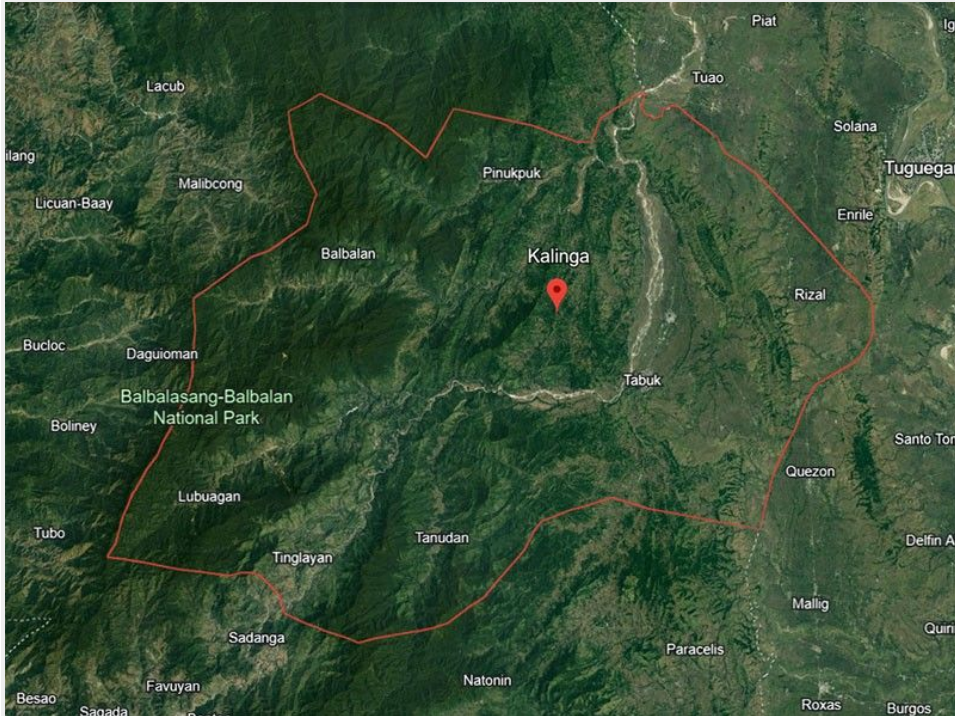
<https://www.philstar.com/business/2024/08/24/2380060/philippines-still-worlds-2nd-leading-pineapple-exporter>

THE PHILIPPINE STAR:

Temporary ban on entry of hogs, poultry imposed in Kalinga

[Artemio Dumlao](#) - Philstar.com

August 24, 2024 | 4:53pm



Satellite image shows Kalinga province.

Google Earth

BAGUIO CITY, Philippines — The provincial government of Kalinga has issued an executive order (EO) temporarily banning the entry of hogs, poultry and non-poultry animals, as well as their products and by-products.

The ban was prompted by recent reports from the Department of Agriculture (DA), through the Bureau of Animal Industry-Animal Disease Diagnosis and Reference Laboratory (BAI-ADDRL), confirming cases of African Swine Fever (ASF) and Avian Influenza (AI) infections in various provinces across the country.

As of Aug. 8, 2024, the DA has confirmed ASF cases in La Union, Bulacan, Tarlac, Batangas, Laguna, Quezon, Rizal, Marinduque, Occidental Mindoro, Oriental Mindoro, Camarines Sur, Catanduanes, Aklan, Cebu, Negros Oriental, Zamboanga del Sur, North Cotabato, Sultan Kudarat, Agusan del Sur, Surigao del Norte, Surigao del Sur and Basilan.

More ASF cases were reported in July and August in Abra, Cagayan, Isabela and Nueva Vizcaya.

On Aug. 9, 2024, the BAI-ADDRL also reported AI infections in Candaba and Mexico, Pampanga; La Trinidad, Benguet; and San Antonio and Talavera, Nueva Ecija.

Kalinga Gov. James Edduba stated in the EO that "it is imperative to employ immediate measures to prevent the spread of animal diseases like ASF and AI to safeguard the livelihoods of hog and poultry raisers, as well as the health of the swine and poultry industries in the province."

The governor further noted that if these diseases are detected in other areas, a temporary ban on the affected hog and poultry products and by-products will be imposed even without the issuance of another EO.

The provincial government, through the EO, has enlisted the Philippine National Police, the DA, and other concerned agencies to strictly enforce the order at Kalinga's provincial borders.

Local government units and agricultural offices in Kalinga's towns have been directed to conduct information and education campaigns to raise awareness among constituents about these animal diseases.

<https://www.philstar.com/nation/2024/08/24/2380268/temporary-ban-entry-hogs-poultry-imposed-kalinga>

MANILA STANDARD

Fish in Cavite towns still not safe for consumption



Fish port of Rosario, Cavite

By Dennis Abrina

August 24, 2024, 11:25 pm

In an advisory, the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) – CALABARZON said fish caught off the waters of Cavite City, Bacoor City, Noveleta, Rosario and Tanza are not yet safe for human consumption.

The Department of Agriculture-Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (DA-BFAR) reported that it is still conducting on-ground monitoring and assessment of potentially affected fishing areas and communities surrounding Manila Bay.

Based on the results of its latest analyses, four municipalities in the province of Cavite, namely, Naic, Ternate, Kawit, and Maragondon, have passed the sensory evaluation for

three consecutive batches of fish and other fishery species collected within the period of August 7 to 21, 2024.

Five coastal municipalities – Bacoor City, Cavite City, Noveleta, Rosario, and Tanza, on the other hand, have passed only two consecutive batches of sensory evaluation, so far, from the period of August 16 to 21, 2024.

Fish and other seafood products in the provinces of Bataan, Bulacan, Pampanga, Batangas, and Metro Manila have already been declared safe for human consumption.

<https://www.manilastandard.net/news/314488479/fish-in-cavite-towns-still-not-safe-for-consumption.html>

Chinese fighter jet fires flares at BFAR patrol

By [Rex Espiritu](#)

August 24, 2024, 11:05 pm

China “unjustifiably deployed” flares from Zamora Reef while a Philippine aircraft was on patrol to monitor and intercept poachers encroaching on the country’s waters on Aug. 22, the National Task Force for the West Philippine Sea (NTF-WPS) said Saturday.

This happened three days after a Chinese fighter jet “engaged in irresponsible and dangerous maneuvers” on August 19 as a Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources plane made a “maritime domain awareness flight” near Scarborough Shoal.

The first incident saw the Chinese jet “deploying flares multiple times at a dangerously close distance of approximately 15 meters from the BFAR Grand Caravan aircraft.”

China’s foreign ministry confirmed it undertook unspecified “countermeasures” against two Philippine military aircraft that flew into its airspace over Zamora (Subi) Reef on August 22 but made no mention of the August 19 incident over Scarborough Shoal.

“We firmly reiterate our call on the government of the People’s Republic of China to immediately cease all provocative and dangerous actions that threaten the safety of Philippine vessels and aircraft engaged in legitimate and regular activities within Philippine territory and EEZ and the right of all vessels and aircraft exercising freedom of navigation and overflight in the South China Sea,” the NTF-WPS said in a statement.

“Such actions undermine regional peace and security, and further erode the image of the PRC with the international community.”

Senate President Pro Tempore Jinggoy Estrada said the firing of flares was “deeply concerning and must be condemned in the strongest terms.”

“Such actions are not only irresponsible but also dangerously provocative. Deploying flares multiple times at a dangerously close distance is neither professional, restrained nor standardized, contrary to China’s claims. It is irresponsible, a blatant violation of international law, and a direct threat to the safety of our personnel. It could have led to serious harm or even loss of lives,” Estrada said.

Zamora Reef is a feature in the West Philippine Sea that China reclaimed and militarized.

The atoll, situated within the territorial sea of Pag-asa Island, has been declared as a low-tide elevation by the 2016 Arbitral Ruling, which means it does not generate a territorial sea or an EEZ of its own.

The NTF-WPS noted that the People's Liberation Army Air Force (PLAAF) fighter jet 63270 "was in no way provoked, yet its actions demonstrated hazardous intent that jeopardized the safety of the personnel on board the BFAR aircraft."

Meanwhile, the task force said the Philippine government would continue conducting maritime domain awareness activities within its sovereign territory, national airspace, and EEZ, as well as on the high seas, in accordance with the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) and the 2016 arbitral award.

Beijing claims most of the strategic waterway and has been involved in tense maritime confrontations with Manila in recent months, sparking fears of armed conflict that could draw in the United States, a treaty ally of the Philippines. **With AFP**

<https://www.manilastandard.net/news/314488468/chinese-fighter-jet-fires-flares-at-bfar-patrol.html>

ABANTE:

100 baboy galing Batangas nasabat

- Maiko Sugimoto
- August 24, 2024



Mahigit na 100 mga buhay na baboy na galing sa tatlong bayan sa Batangas ang kinumpiska ng mga awtoridad matapos ang mga itong masabat sa mga checkpoints at ibinibiyaha ng mga walang sapat na dokumento na ipinagbabawal sa lalawigan dahil sa banta ng African Swine Fever.

Batay sa report ng Batangas police provincial Office, unang nasabat alas-6:00 ng umaga ng mga tauhan ng Office of the Provincial Veterinarian kasama ang PNP sa Animal Inspection Checkpoint, ang 39 na buhay at isang patay na baboy sa Star tollway sa Brgy. San Rafael, Sto.Tomas City, habang nakakarga sa isang truck at dadalhin sana sa Bulacan.

Hinabol pa ang mga ito ng mga awtoridad matapos na hindi huminto ng sitahin sa checkpoint sa entry ng tollway sa Ibaan, Batangas.

Alas-10:00 naman ng umaga nang masabat din ang isang delivery van sa Animal Inspection Checkpoint sa Brgy. Lapu-Lapu, Ibaan, na may kargang 17 buhay na baboy na galing naman sa Brgy. Laiya, San Juan, Batangas na dadalhin naman sana sa Cavite.

Samantala, walong buhay na baboy naman na nakalulan sa isa ring delivery van ang nakumpiska din sa nasabing checkpoint alas-5:20 ng hapon.

Sa bayan ng Bauan, 38 baboy na nakakarga sa delivery van ang nakumpiska habang ibinibiyahen sa Barangay Manghinao Uno.

Sa San Juan, Batangas, 9 na buhay na baboy na nakakarga sa dalawang tricycle at dadalhin sa slaughter house sa Barangay Poblacion, ang hinarang din ng mga awtoridad.

Ayon sa mga taga-Provincial Veterinarian at PNP, hindi naman matiyak kung kontaminado ng ASF ang kinumpiskang mga baboy pero hinarang ang mga ito dahil walang mga sapat na dokumento. (Ronilo Dagos)

<https://www.abante.com.ph/2024/08/24/100-baboy-galing-batangas-nasabat/>

ABANTE:

PH sa China: Tigilan pananakot sa BFAR aircraft

- Carl Joseph Ordas
- August 24, 2024



Iginiit ng Pilipinas sa China na tigilan ang mga gawain na maglalagay sa panganib sa mga barko o aircraft ng bansa sa West Philippine Sea (WPS).

Ito ang diniin ng National Task Force for the West Philippine Sea (NTF-WPS) matapos paputukan ng flares ng China ang nagpapatrolyang eroplano ng Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) sa bahagi ng Subi o Zamora Reef sa WPS.

“We firmly reiterate our call on the government of the People’s Republic of China to immediately cease all provocative and dangerous actions that threaten the safety of Philippine vessels and aircraft engaged in legitimate and regular activities within Philippine territory and Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) and the right of all vessels and aircraft exercising freedom of navigation and overflight in the South China Sea,” ayon sa nilabas na statement ng NTF-WPS.

“Such actions undermine regional peace and security, and further erode the image of the PRC with the international community,” diin pa nila.

<https://www.abante.com.ph/2024/08/24/ph-sa-china-tigilan-pananakot-sa-bfar-aircraft/>