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# **DA reconvenes consultative body on livestock, poultry issues**

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

March 23, 2025 | 12:00am

MANILA, Philippines — The Department of Agriculture (DA) has reconvened a consultative body that tackles pressing livestock and poultry industry issues with stakeholders for timely policymaking decisions.

United Broiler Raisers Association chairman Elias Jose Inciong said the DA, through the Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI), has resumed the meeting of the price and volume watch committee.

The committee is tasked to discuss the country's livestock and poultry issues on a regular basis with both representatives from the government and the industries present.

The committee met for the first time in more than a year last week, with the BAI presenting its initial assessment of the country's projected meat supply situation this year.

Various industry representatives – from hog raisers, poultry raisers and even meat importers – were present during the meeting.

“We are going back to a rational approach on how things are done, which is data based and subject to consultations not analysis based on experience which has its limitations,” Inciong said.

One of the critical roles of the committee is to make recommendations on how to address certain problems that the meat industries face to prevent a supply disruption and price spike in the market.

Inciong said the industry stakeholders proposed that the committee convenes once a month to ensure sustained collaboration and dialogue between the government and industry stakeholders.

“At least we can plan ahead and anticipate problems. We may not be able to solve things 100 percent but at least for the benefit of the industry and the benefit of the consuming public we can minimize or shorten any problem,” Inciong said.

Various industry players have been clamoring for the return of the price and volume watch committee to provide stakeholders with a formal and proper avenue to discuss important industry issues and matters.

<https://www.philstar.com/business/2025/03/23/2430316/da-reconvenes-consultative-body-livestock-poultry-issues>

**THE PHILIPPINE STAR:**

# Philippines to import less soybean meal from US

**Jasper Emmanuel Arcalas** - The Philippine Star

March 23, 2025 | 12:00am

## **Due to weak swine sector**

MANILA, Philippines — Philippine demand for soybean meal from the United States may fall below 2.6 million metric tons (MT) in the current market year due to weaker animal feed demand as local swine production remains challenged by African swine fever.

US Soybean Export Council (USSEC) country representative Benito Oliveros said US shipments of soybean meal to the Philippines in market year 2024-2025 are down by nine percent on an annual basis. The US soybean meal market year runs from October to September.

“(Soybean meal imports) would be a little bit lower than (the 2.6 million MT). I hope it is only five percent lower (for the full year),” Oliveros said.

Stronger feed demand from the poultry and dairy sectors are mitigating the drop in swine feed demand, providing support for soybean meal imports, Oliveros explained.

Soybean meal is a critical ingredient of animal feeds as it is a good source of protein and other nutrients for livestock and poultry animals.

US soybean meal exports to the Philippines in previous market year 2023-2024 rose by more than a fifth year-on-year to 2.6 million MT from 2.14 million MT, according to USSEC.

Purchases of the feed ingredient from the US increased as local feed makers saw US soybean meal as more economical compared to other foreign sources because of better quality and prices, Oliveros said. The higher imports led to the US erasing some of Argentina’s market share in the Philippines, expanding its total share to around 80 percent from 75 percent, Oliveros added.

“Relatively, the price parity is so small even if the price of Argentina is lower it was still more economical (for local feed manufacturers) to use US soybeans (because of better quality),” he said.

The Philippines is the US’ top market for soybean meal, a position that is being challenged by Mexico, which has been aggressive in expanding its livestock and poultry sectors, Oliveros said.

US soybean meal exports to Mexico from October to January has expanded by 46 percent year-on-year to 945,470 MT while shipments to the Philippines declined by 11 percent to 933,619 MT, based on US Department of Agriculture data.

Meanwhile, the Philippines stands to benefit from the imposition of retaliatory tariffs by China on US soybean meal as it would result in lower prices, Oliveros said.

The US would be forced to divert some of its soybean meal exports to China to other markets like the Philippines once the retaliatory tariffs push through, Oliveros added.

“China is getting 70 percent of its soybeans from Brazil. The US would come in the markets that would be left out by Brazil since it is prioritizing China,” he said.

US soybean meal prices softened last year due to the rise in global supply because of better harvest in US and Brazil that outpaced the increase in demand, Oliveros added.

The local retail price of soybean meal is now between P27 and P28 per kilo, lower than the P30 per kilo recorded last year, Oliveros said.

<https://www.philstar.com/business/2025/03/23/2430317/philippines-import-less-soybean-meal-us>

**THE MANILA TIMES:**

# Dairy shop opens at General Trias

**By Dennis Abrina**

March 23, 2025

**GENERAL TRIAS CITY — The GenTri Dairy Raisers Multi-Purpose Cooperative officially launched the Dairy Box on March 18 in Barangay Santiago here.**



**SHOP FOR DAIRY PRODUCTS** A cooperative in General Trias City — GenTri Dairy Raisers Multi-Purpose Cooperative — launches project 'Dairy Box' on March 18, 2025, in Barangay Santiago, offering various dairy products out of carabao's milk to people of Cavite province.  
**PHOTO BY DENNIS ABRINA**

Lilibeth Chavez, Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) Cavite officer in charge provincial director; Rebecca Tarasona, chief trade and industry development specialist; and Julie Salvacion, senior trade and industry development specialist, were among the special guests during the project's launching.

Cavite 6th District Rep. Antonio Ferrer, Mayor Luis Ferrer IV, Vice Mayor Jonas Labuguen and other local officials also attended the opening and inauguration of the "Dairy Box," which will boost the agriculture sector in the city.

The said project is supported by the Philippine Carabao Center and in partnership with the local government unit of General Trias.

Dairy Box highlights the rich dairy culture of the locality, where carabao's milk has been a source of livelihood among farmers.

The shop offers a variety of dairy products made from carabao's milk, including choco milk drinks, ice cream, Milk-O-Gel, pastillas, kasilyo, yogurt and ice candies. The store also features local products from General Trias and other parts of Cavite, with plans to introduce coffee selections soon. The cooperative expressed its gratitude to the DTI, the Cooperative Development Authority, the Department of Labor and Employment, and the Philippine Carabao Center, and the local government here for the realization of the project and the construction of building housing the shop.

<https://www.manilatimes.net/2025/03/23/regions/dairy-shop-opens-at-general-trias/2078191>