

PhilRice, TLRC promote sustainable rice farming

PhilRice Director Santiago R. Obien, Technology and Livelihood Resource Center (TLRC) Director-General Jaime Cúra, and Association of Farmer Foundations Inc (AFFI) Chairman Emmanuel Soriano agreed to promote sustainable rice farming. This was formalized with the signing of a memorandum of agreement among the three agencies at PhilRice.

Also, AFFI members requested PhilRice director Obien to stand in their behalf regarding their accreditation as legitimate seed growers, as these members mapped out action plans for their seed requirements in the next five years. The NGOs also validated the manual on sustainable rice farming.

These were the results of the workshop convened by both PhilRice and TLRC for non-government organizations which are AFFI members. Held at PhilRice from August 10-12, some 33 executives and farm operation managers from 12 NGOs all over the country attended the workshop.

Through PhilRice's Technology Development Division headed by Raul Lara, the NGOs discussed the project,

Sustainable Rice Farming for NGOs in the Philippines. Codenamed SURIFARM, the project espoused environment-friendly and cost-reducing rice production technologies, notably the use of rice straws, *Aeschenomene* and *Sesbania* as nutrient components in fertilizer management; and no-spraying for the first 40 days after transplanting as crop protection measure.

Trials at the Alay Tangkilik Foundation Inc (ATFI) in Cabiao, Nueva Ecija; Negros Kabisig Livelihood Foundation Inc (NKLFI) in Bago City, Negros Occidental, and Tinguha Foundation Inc (TFI) in Banga, South Cotabato, showed that these NGOs were able to meet their seed production requirements and were also able to reduce spraying.

The workshop was made possible with the collaboration of the Technology Livelihood Resource Center (TLRC) who contacted their NGO members through its umbrella organization, the Association of Farmer Foundations, Inc. (AFFI).

Among the AFFI members who participated in the workshop were:

NKLFI; Technical Assistance Center for the Development of Rural and Urban Poor (TACDRUP), Davao City; Bukidnon Socio-Economic Development Foundation (BSEDF), Maramag, Bukidnon; TFI; ATFI; Agriculture, Livelihood and Livestock Movement Foundation (ALL-Move), Camias, San Miguel, Bulacan; Pampanga Agro-Industrial Development Foundation (PAIDFI), San Fernando, Pampanga; Tarlac Agro-Industrial Development Foundation (TAR-AID), Camiling, Tarlac; Bikol Institute of Development Technology (BIDTECH), Pili, Camarines Sur; Rural Integrated Program for People's Livelihood and Enterprise (RIPPLE of the MERALCO Foundation); and Mount Malasimbu Agro-Industrial Development Foundation (MMAIDFI), Hermosa, Bataan.

AFFI is a federation of non-government organizations with principal office care of the TLRC-STLDG Office. (With reports from Evangeline D. Ilagan)

Javier is new UP President; joins PhilRice BOT

Dr. Emil Q. Javier, 53, is the new president of the University of the Philippines.

Sworn into office last August 8, he is the 16th UP president. He replaces Dr. Jose V. Abueva whose term ended August 5.

As UP President, Javier is now a new member of the PhilRice Board of Trustees.

Javier was director general of Taiwan-based Asian Vegetable Research and Development Center, one of the world's top international agricultural research centers prior to his new post.

An agronomy professor, Javier served as chancellor of UP Los Banos from 1979 to 1981. He holds a doctorate in plant breeding from Cornell

University (1969), a masters degree in agronomy from the University of Illinois, and a bachelor's degree in agriculture from UP Los Banos. He was also former Science and Technology Minister.

Welcome

Dr. HIROO KAN'NO, 49, JICA's short-term expert on IPM will be here from Sept. 1-Oct. 31, 1993.

He is the Chief of Entomological Division, Tohoku National Agricultural

Experiment Station from October 1990 to present. He has also worked as Entomologist at the Hokuriku National Agricultural Experiment Station.

Dr. Kan'no holds a doctorate in Agriculture from the Tokyo University.

Congratulations

DR. PEDRO B. ESCURO, former PhilRice Consulting Senior Scientist, is this year's IBM Science and Technology Awardee for developing new and improved rice varieties, thus replacing traditional varieties with the high-yielding C-series.

He has also pioneered intensive work in wheat breeding in the Philippines. He began by testing the adaptability of a few hundred wheat varieties until it reached approximately 40,000 accessions, screened for adaptability to local growing conditions.

Escuro led in the selection of the newly-approved high yielding rainfed lowland rice variety, Ennano (PSB Rc 16).

Born in Nabua, Camarines Sur, Escuro graduated cum laude from UPLB. He pursued post graduate studies at Cornell University in New York (1954); Masters degree in Agriculture (1954); and was conferred the doctorate degree in Agriculture in 1959 by the University of Minnesota.

Dr. BELEN M. REJESUS, professor at the Department of Entomology, UPLB, and PhilRice project leader, received the 1993 Outstanding Research Award from the Department of Science and Technology last July 23. She shares her award with Dr. Aida D. Solsoloy, research specialist, Cotton Research and Development Institute, VISCA. Their research was titled: "Juvenile hormone effect of the insecticidal principle from physic nut, *Jatropha curcas* Linn, on Cotton Bollworm, *Helicoverpa amigera* (Hubn.)." (UPLB Newsletter, August 9, 1993)

PhilRice conducts training on Micromill and Rice Hull Stove

PhilRice, through its Rice Engineering and Mechanization Division, conducted a one-week hands-on training in the fabrication of PhilRice Micromill and Maligaya rice hull stove at the Visayas State College of Agriculture (VISCA), Baybay, Leyte.

Held from August 2-6, the training was attended by local manufacturers Ernesto C. Tandan Sr and Roso Bandalan; VISCA Instructor and Shop Coordinator, Leonardo P. Canuno; FARMi Researcher Pastor P. Garcia; and VISCA shop technicians Raul Pagalan, Armando Alvarecto, and Pedro Lisidan.

Engr. Eulito Bautista, training coordinator and resource person discussed to the trainees the principles on the design and theory of the rice micromill and rice hull stove. Further, a short familiarization of the blueprint drawings referring to the actual parts of the disassembled machines was also done.

The trainees were able to fabricate one unit each of the stove and micromill. They were also able to repair one unit of defective micromill brought earlier by IRRI. These units will be used by the Farm and Resource Management Institute (FARMi) of VISCA.

Aside from actual fabrication, the trainees were taught how to read blue prints. Actual patterns for the sheet metal parts of the micromill and stove were also copied and blueprint drawings for both the household and village micromill were left after the training for the school's use.

Engr. Bautista was assisted by PhilRice REM technicians, Roberto Fajardo and Jaime Garcia Jr.

PhilRice Agusan staff visit Maligaya

Four new staff from PhilRice Agusan were trained here on PhilRice's

administrative procedures from August 9-18.

They were: Rochelle Pajarillo; Annabel Berja, Herodotus Chamjucco; and Rogelio Catampo.

Visits

August 9. 10 RMC-SEARCA trainees from Nepal and the Philippines

August 12. 2 Japanese counterparts from the Palayan City Community Livelihood Project.

August 13. 25 Plant Breeding students from the NVSIT College of Agriculture.

CALENDAR

August 17. Visit of DCU Farm Technical Staff.

August 22-24. Visit of Mr. HARUYOSHI HARADA, Ministry of Agriculture, Japan.

August 24-25. Visit of Global IPM Study Tour Participants (Latin America)

August 25-26. Visit of Dr. TOSHIO MURASHIGE, Rockefeller Foundation

August 27. Seminar on "Molecular tagging of the gene for brown planthopper resistance introgressed from *Oryza australiensis* into cultivated rice" by Dr. Takashige Ishii.

Trainings Conducted

(August 1-15)

August 4-6. Batch II Rice Seed Production Training, Sta. Barbara, Pangasinan (23).

August 11-13. Rice Seed Production Training Course for Nueva Ecija Seed Growers (30).

In-coming trainings

August 23-27. Trainors Training for Ilocos Norte.