



# Updates on April-June 2016 Palay and Corn Forecasts, as of May 1, 2016



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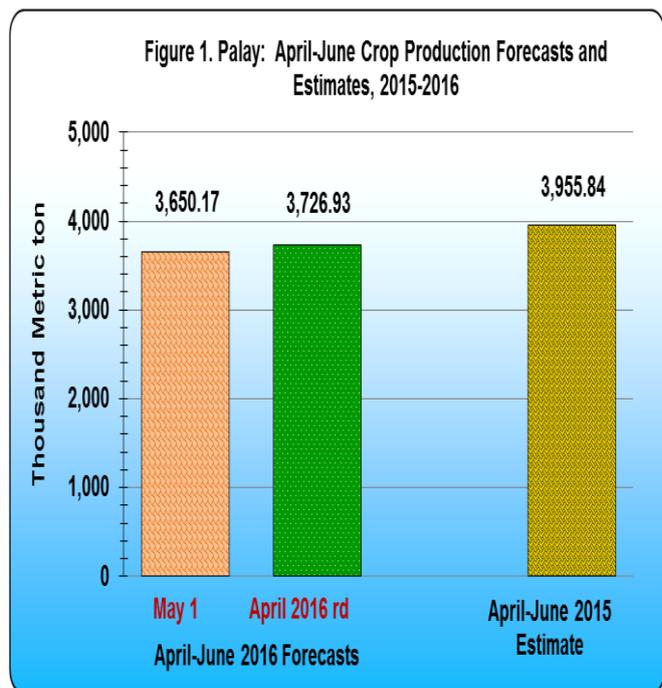
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### HIGHLIGHTS

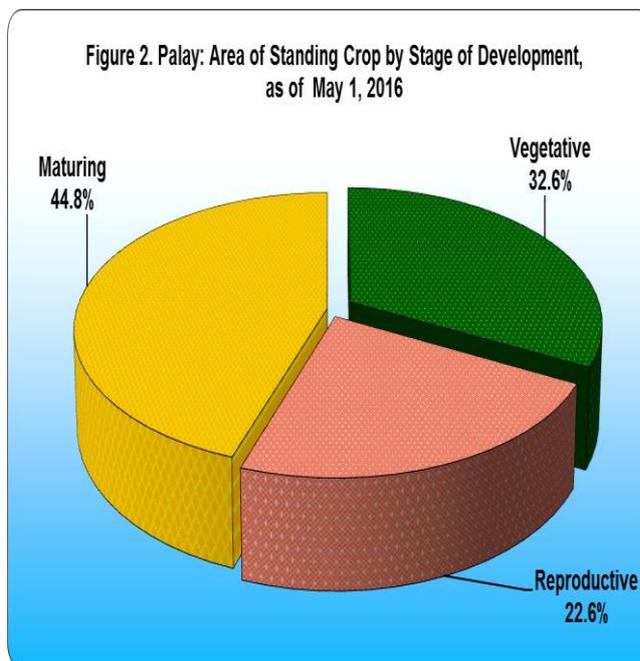
*As of May 1, 2016, the updated second quarter 2016 production on palay and corn standing crops may be lower than the April 2016 Round forecasts. The decrease could be attributed to contraction of harvest areas and drop in yield brought about by the continued adverse effects of dry spell, insufficient water supply, and incidence of pests and diseases in some provinces.*

### PALAY

- Palay production for April-June 2016 may reach 3.650 million MT, lower by 2.1 percent than the April 2016 round forecast of 3.727 million MT and 7.7 percent below last year's output of 3.956 million MT (Figure 1). Harvest area may contract from 0.852 million hectares to 0.846 million hectares. Overall yield per hectare may drop from 4.37 MT to 4.31 MT.
- Contraction in harvest areas were noted in Cagayan, Bohol, Samar, and Agusan Sur. This may bring production to decrease due to damages on crops caused by the adverse effects of El Nino phenomenon.

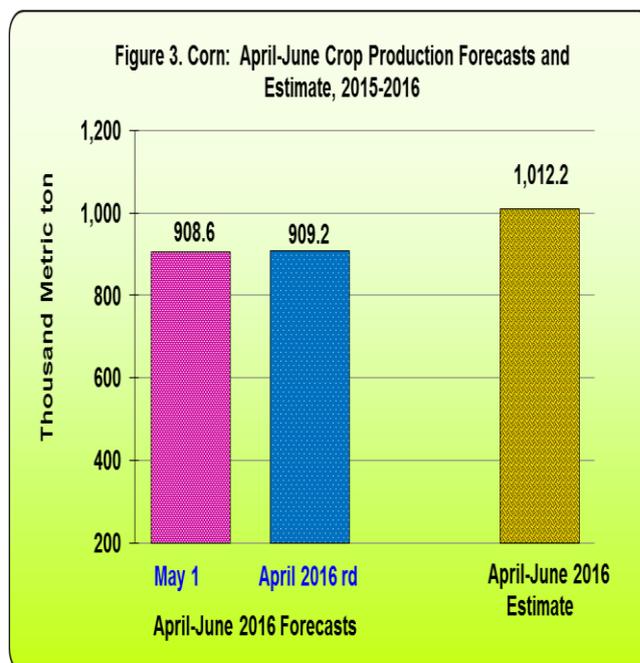


- In Nueva Ecija, Tarlac, Pampanga, Mindoro Oriental, Negros Occidental, Capiz, Sultan Kudarat, and Agusan Norte, the insufficient water supply and intense heat that affected the vegetative and reproductive stages of the crop may reduce yield.
- The incidence of tungro and bacterial leaf blight diseases in Aurora and infestation of brown planthopper and rats in Surigao Norte may also cause production to decline.
- Around 610 thousand hectares of the updated standing crop have been harvested. About 117 thousand hectares or 14.3 percent of the planting intentions for the July-September 2016 crop have been realized.
- Of the 354 thousand hectares standing palay crop, 32.6 percent were at vegetative stage; 22.6 percent, at reproductive stage and 44.8 percent, at maturing stage (Figure 2).

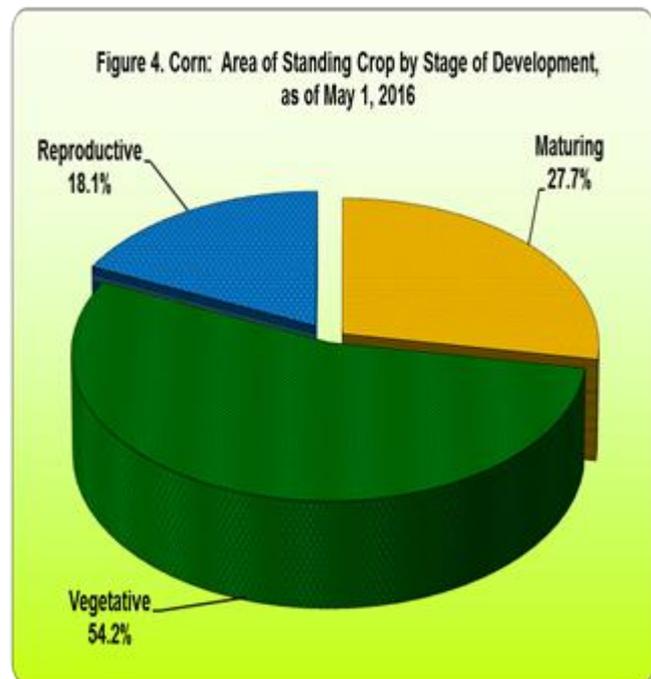


## CORN

- Corn production for the second quarter of 2016 may reach 908.6 thousand MT, 0.1 percent below the earlier forecast of 909.2 thousand MT and 10.2 percent lower than last year's level of 1,012.2 thousand MT (Figure 3). Harvest area may decline from 273 thousand hectares to 271 thousand hectares. Yield may rise to 3.35 MT per hectare from 3.33 MT per hectare of April 2016 round.
- The probable decreases in corn output could be traced to decline in area harvested and drop in yield caused by the adverse effects of prolonged dry spell in Kalinga, Quirino, Pampanga, Capiz, Samar, Sultan Kudarat, South Cotabato and Agusan Sur.
- The expected decrease in output of Sultan Kudarat could be due to infestation of rats.



- On the other hand, sufficient water supply in Cagayan and Tarlac may contribute to increment in production.
- About 164 thousand hectares of the updated standing crop have been harvested. Around 134 thousand hectares or 13.8 percent of the planting intentions for the July-September 2016 harvests have been materialized.
- Of the updated 242 thousand hectares of standing corn crop, about 54.2 percent were at vegetative stage; 18.1 percent, at reproductive stage and 27.7 percent, at maturing stage (Figure 4).



### Technical Notes

Production refers to the quantity produced and actually harvested for a particular crop during the reference period. For palay and corn, harvest area refers to the actual area harvested/to be harvested during the reference quarter.

Updates on production and harvest area forecasts of palay and corn are generated from the Monthly Palay and Corn Situation Reporting System (MPCRS). It is a monitoring activity conducted monthly in-between Palay and Corn Production Survey (PCPS) rounds. Monitorings are conducted in February, March, May, June, August, September and November. MPCRS updates the quarterly forecasts on production and area for the current quarter based on the PCPS results of the previous survey round. The data generated from MPCRS are as follows:

- 1) Updates on current quarter's production and area forecasts based on the standing crop with indications on crop situation; and
- 2) Updates on current quarter's forecast on planting intentions based on actual plantings.