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**PSA Renews the Conduct of 4 Surveys on Agricultural Crops**

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To provide essential information on the country's major crops, the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) granted clearance to the conduct of surveys on palay, corn and other crops. These surveys aim to generate statistics that will allow and guide farmers and policy makers make appropriate decisions and interventions relative to supply, demand, stocks, production and inventory of palay, corn and other crops. The surveys cleared for conduct include the following:

**1. 2017 Palay and Corn Production Survey (PCPS)**

The PCPS is a quarterly survey that generates estimates of palay/corn area harvested, production and yield covering 12,594 palay and 8,401 corn farming households in all provinces of the country except Batanes. The conduct of the survey will cost Php 27.9 million covering travel, supplies, professional services, training, gas/oil, and mailing services. The survey is expected to be undertaken during the first ten (10) days of April, July, October and December 2017. Meanwhile, the results of the survey are scheduled to be released 40 days after the reference quarter pursuant to the System of Designated Statistics (SDS).

Latest results of the PCPS show that:

- Seasonally adjusted palay production for January-March 2017 was 4.7 million metric tons, slightly higher by 1.0 percent from the 4.6 million metric tons output recorded in the fourth quarter of 2016.
- Corn output in January-March 2017 at 2.4 million metric tons was 23.4 percent higher than the 1.9 million metric tons record in the fourth quarter of 2016.

**2. 2017 Palay and Corn Stocks Survey (PCSS)**

The PCSS intends to generate estimates of current stocks of palay, rice, corn grains and corn grits in farm and non-farm households. This is conducted in the first four (4) days

of each month. The 2017 PCSS will utilize a budget amounting to Php 10.5 million to cover travel, printing, supplies, professional services, training, gas/oil, and mailing services. The PSA targets the release of the results of the survey on the 15<sup>th</sup> day after the reference month.

Recent results of the PCSS showed that:

- As of April 1, 2017, the total rice stock inventory was 2.7 million metric tons. This was 20.4 percent lower than the 3.4 million metric tons level in April 2016 but 23 percent higher than the March 2017's inventory level of 2.2 million metric tons.
- Meanwhile, the total corn stock inventory as of April 1, 2017 was 1,146.8 thousand metric tons. This was 214.1 percent above the April 2016's record of 365.1 thousand metric tons and 6.4 percent higher than the March 2017's level of 1,078.3 thousand metric tons.

### **3. 2017 Monthly Palay and Corn Situation Reporting System (MPCRS)**

The MPCRS serves as a monitoring system of the growing conditions and actual plantings of palay and corn. Specifically, it aims to update the forecasts for the current quarter based on standing crop and forecasts for the next quarter based on planting intentions and to provide monthly updates on the area and production of palay and corn by stages of growth (i.e., vegetative, reproductive and maturing) across the country.

In 2017, the MPCRS will be administered to 1,224 palay/corn producing barangays and 11,184 households per month across all provinces of the country. A total budget of Php 6.0 million will be utilized to cover travel and printing expenses, supplies and professional services for the survey. Results of the survey will be released on the 15<sup>th</sup> day after the reference month.

Based on the results of March 2017 MPCRS, it is estimated that:

- Almost 855.8 thousand hectares of palay will be planted by farmers from April to June 2017.
- Around 289.7 thousand hectares of corn will be planted by farmers from April to June 2017.



#### 4. 2017 Crop Production Survey (CrPS)

Undertaken on a quarterly basis, the CrPS aims to generate basic production statistics for crops other than palay and corn, at the national, regional and provincial levels and covers more than 200 crops. The 2017 CrPS targets five producing municipalities, 25 farmers-producers and five large farms/plantation per crop per domain to collect data on the volume of production, area planted/harvested, number of bearing trees, yield per hectare, yield per bearing tree and bearing trees per hectare, amounting Php 22.5 million to cover the travel and printing expenses, supplies and professional services.

The schedule of data collection and release of the 2017 CrPS results is shown below.

Reference Period	Data Collection Period	Release of Survey Results
1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter 2017	February 17-27, 2017	May 15, 2017
2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2017	May 19-29, 2017	August 15, 2017
3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2017	August 21-31, 2017	November 15, 2017
4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter 2017	November 17-27, 2017	January 22, 2018

Key results of the Fourth Quarter 2016 CrPS are as follows:

- Davao Region remained the top banana producer with 897.7 thousand metric tons representing 38.4 percent of the total production in the fourth quarter of 2016. Northern Mindanao followed with 20.6 percent share and SOCCSKSARGEN with 13.2 percent share.
- Meanwhile, Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM), contributed 1.6 thousand metric tons or 49.6 percent to the country's total mungbean production in the fourth quarter of 2016. Davao Region followed with 10.7 percent share and Ilocos Region with 9.3 percent.
- The top abaca producer for the fourth quarter of 2016 was Bicol Region with 7.3 thousand metric tons corresponding to 42.1 percent share to the country's total abaca production. Eastern Visayas followed next with 16.4 percent, and Davao Region and Caraga, with 11.9 and 10.7 percent contribution, respectively.

The SSRCS is a mechanism being implemented by the PSA by virtue of Rule 28 of the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of RA No. 10625 to:

- ensure sound design for data collection;
- minimize the burden placed upon respondents;
- effect economy in statistical data collection;
- eliminate unnecessary duplication of statistical data collection; and,
- achieve better coordination of government statistical activities.

In line with this, the public is enjoined to support the aforementioned surveys.

For further information on the SSRCS, please contact the Statistical Standards Division (SSD) of the Standards Service (SS) at telephone numbers (632) 376-1928 and (632) 376-1931, and email addresses: [ssd.staff@psa.gov.ph](mailto:ssd.staff@psa.gov.ph) and [ssdss.staff@gmail.com](mailto:ssdss.staff@gmail.com).

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