

16 Oct 2000

Republika ng Pilipinas
PAMBANSANG PANGASIWAAN NG PATUBIG
(National Irrigation Administration)
Lungsod ng Quezon

MC No. 24 s. 2000

MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR

TO : The Deputy Administrator, Assistant Administrators, Heads of
Departments/Staff, Regional Irrigation Managers, Operations/
Project Managers, Irrigation Superintendents, Provincial Irrigation
Engineers and All Others Concerned

SUBJECT: **DIRECTIONS FOR RICE SEEDS SYSTEM PROGRAM
IMPLEMENTATION**

Quoted hereunder is the September 27, 2000 memo of the OIC, Office of the
Undersecretary (USec) for Operations, for your reference and appropriate action.

"Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Office of the Secretary
Elliptical Road, Diliman, Quezon City

September 27, 2000

MEMORANDUM FROM THE OIC, OFFICE OF THE USec FOR OPERATIONS

TO : All Regional Directors
All Regional Rice Program Coordinators
DA-RFUs I-XII, CAR, CARAGA & ARMM
Administrator, NIA
Executive Director, PHILRICE
Director, ATI
Director, BSWM

SUBJECT: **MAJOR POLICY DIRECTIONS FOR RICE SEEDS SYSTEM PROGRAM
IMPLEMENTATION**

Please be informed of the major policy directions issued by Undersecretary
Domingo F. Panganiban during the Program Implementation Review in RFU XII and
DAF-ARMM held last September 21-22, 2000.

1. For the dry cropping season, all program areas shall have a Municipal Rice
Seed System Action Plan containing the following:
 - a. Hectarage of program and non-program areas.
 - b. Seed requirement (variety, quantity, timing of availability)
 - c. Sources of seeds (Binhian sa Lalawigan, DA-NFA, etc.)
 - d. Implementation Scheme and Schedules. (a. masterlisting of farmers,
b. procurement and distribution, c. planting operations, d. Deployment of
Technicians).

- e. Institutional arrangements with the LGU as the lead implementor with DA-RFU, NFA and other allied agencies (NIA, BPI, ATI, PHILRICE, BSWM, among others), providing facilitative and technical support.
- f. Seed loan collection scheme for the Binhian sa Lalawigan and DA-NFA...

The spirit behind the preparation of the Municipal Rice Seed System Action Plan as issued in the Memorandum dated September 25, 2000, is to make the LGUs responsible and accountable for the operationalization of their respective Rice Production Program anchored on the Rice Seeds System Action Program. An involved and proactive LGU taking a lead role in program planning, implementation and monitoring shall institutionalize the Rice Seeds System Action Program as their vehicle to achieve food security.

- 2. The target area for the next cropping season and onwards must be validated by NIA, Provincial/Municipal Agriculturist and Regional Seed Coordinator,, whether such area is covered by NIS, CIS, SWIP/DD and/or STW.
- 3. NFA shall not accept the masterlist of farmers without proper certification of NIA and endorsement of Municipal Agriculturist, Provincial Agriculturist and DA Regional Authorities.
- 4. Each province shall have 3-5 varieties only of palay certified seeds available for procurement. These varieties should be the varieties that have performed well at the Rice Techno-Demos evaluated by PHILRICE.
- 5. Farmers can still plant Rc-10 and Rc-18 varieties, but NFA has the option not to procure the produce of said varieties.
- 6. Certified seeds procured by NFA must be distributed within one week.
- 7. DA is pursuing the promotion of hybrid palay seeds to increase the area planted to 50,000 hectares by year 2002. As such, potential hybrid seed growers and F1 growers should be identified and enlisted for training and the availment of assistance.
- 8. Organic fertilizer application should be pursued thru composting to improve the soil condition in the rice lands.
- 9. Retooling of technicians shall be arranged between DA and LGUs.
- 10. Financing for production shall be closely coordinated with LBP and Quedancor and full assistance shall be given to farmer-borrowers.

For your compliance.

(SGD.) EDMUND J. SANA

Be guided accordingly and take particular note of Items 2 & 3.


MANUEL S. AREVALO
Administrator

13 October, 2000