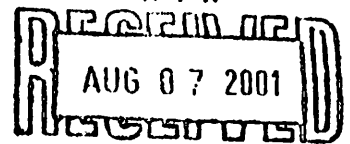




Republika ng Pilipinas
Kagawaran ng Pagsasaka
PAMBANSANG PANGASIWAAN NG PATUBIG
(National Irrigation Administration)
EDSA, Diliman, Quezon City



Administrator's Office

MC #: 42, s. 2001

MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR

TO : THE DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR, ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATORS, DEPARTMENT MANAGERS, STAFF HEADS, REGIONAL IRRIGATION MANAGERS, OPERATIONS/PROJECT MANAGERS, PROVINCIAL IRRIGATION OFFICERS, IRRIGATION SUPERINTENDENTS, AND ALL OTHERS CONCERNED

SUBJECT : DATA NEEDED IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GININTUANG MASAGANANG ANI (GMA) RICE PROGRAM

NIA, together with other rice-concerned line bureaus and attached agencies of the Department of Agriculture (DA), is a regular member of the National Technical Working Group (NTWG) for the "*Ginintuang Masaganang Ani* (GMA) Rice Program." Aside from a NTWG member, NIA is one of the major collaborating agencies in the planning and implementation of the said program.

Among the most important *responsibilities* of the NTWG members are:

- (1) Provision and discussion of database (e.g.: irrigated areas, cropping calendars, paddy yields, seed requirements, farmers' listing and in-house policies) for use in the formulation of the program document.
- (2) Submission and discussion of updates (e.g.: planted areas, seeds disposed, farmers served, farmers trained and loans granted) for use in the monitoring of the implementation progress of program components.
- (3) Modification and presentation of standing policies (e.g.: production costs financing, functional farmers training and irrigation system operations) for use in the streamlining of program implementation mechanics.

As to its *goals*, the program aims to achieve for the country by the end of year 2002:

- (1) A 97 percent rice self-sufficiency level (13.5 million mt) through an incremental increase of 7 percent in paddy production over the year 2000 level (12.4 million mt) through the promotion and adoption of production-enhancing technologies.
- (2) A 20 percent incremental increase in farmers' incomes over the year 2000 level through a 10 percent incremental decrease in production costs and through the promotion (by training and demonstration) and use of costs-reducing technologies.

Focusing to achieve the target production level, the program adopts the following strategy:

- (1) Promotion of the extensive adoption of right production technology like quality seeds utilization, proper fertilizer management, integrated pests management and proper water management.
- (2) Accordance of appropriate agricultural support services like adequate institutional credit, extensive farmers training, improved technology demonstration and massive information campaign.
- (3) Establishment of functional coordination linkage of the institutions in the rice production system through the creation and mobilization of national and regional technical working groups.

For its planning and implementation, the program needs the following data from NIA:

- (1) Coverage of irrigators associations

Prepare a complete listing (use table gma-1) of the lots in the service area of our irrigation systems grouped or arranged by irrigators association or IA (formed and unformed) and turnout service area (TSA). Mark the landowners or farmers who are now members of irrigators group (IG) and IA. Supply the sub-total for each formed and unformed IA and the total for the system. Leave blank the names of IAs not yet formed but already indicate the details of their respective coverage areas. Exclude non-arable sections of every landholding in the service area of each landowner or farmer. Ensure that the computed total service area is equal to earlier reported firmed-up service area. Submit this listing, in diskette, before 15 September 2001.

Submit, also in diskette, updates (using the same table) every six months, i.e., ends of March and August. Reflect in the updates newly formed IAs, new recruits in the IGs and the IAs, and new landowners as an effect of land subdivision.

- (2) Listing of irrigation-programmed lots.

Prepare a detailed listing (using table gma-2) of the lots programmed for irrigation for each season. Submit this listing, in diskette, 30 days ahead of the programmed start date of the irrigation period for each cropping season. (Note: Table gma-2 is an adaptation of table gma-1 intended to effect uniform database of progress or implementation reporting.) Set the programmed area considering usual determining parameters such as predicted water availability, irrigation rotation program (if any), observed farmers' cooperation, relative lot location, and known landclass limitations.

Submit, also in diskette, updates, using the same table, on a monthly basis, i.e., before the fifth day of every month. Include in the updates the planted irrigation-programmed lots as well as the planted not irrigation-programmed lots. Update table gma-2 and other tables adapted from table gma-1 whenever table gma-1 gets updates on new landowners.

(3) Listing of program beneficiaries.

Prepare a "verified" listing (using table gma-3) of the landowners or farmers who intend to acquire certified seeds under the program, and submit it, in diskette, five months ahead of use. (Note: This lead time, as intended, would provide the DA-accredited seed growers a cropping season to produce the seeds ordered, in terms of quantity and variety.) Ensure a "verified" report or listing by asking the interested farmers to fill-up and sign a "seed order form," which indicates the rice varieties that they prefer and the quantity of each variety that they need or order. "Verified" listing seeks to avoid the recurrence of an earlier incident where farmers who ordered seeds, as alleged, failed to redeem their order that caused the piling up of unclaimed seed stock in a number of NFA offices.

Prepare updates (using the same table) indicating therein the landowners or farmers, with or without prior order, who already acquired certified seeds from the NFA, including information on rice variety and quantity of each variety. Submit, in diskette, said updates on a monthly basis before day 5 of every month. (Note: Secure information from the NFA).

(4) Listing of irrigation-benefited lots.

Prepare a complete listing (using table gma-4) of irrigation-benefited lots (programmed or not programmed for irrigation for a particular cropping season). Take note that irrigation-benefited lots are those lots that received irrigation water and produced a paddy yield of at least 40 cav/ha (or those lots not exempt from payment of irrigation service fee). Submit this listing, in diskette, within a month after the end of the enforced cropping calendar.

Complete the table by indicating data on paddy yields (in mt/ha) in at least 25 percent of the lots irrigation-benefited in each TSA. Ensure accurate yield data by asking the sample farmers to recall their respective total production (in cav) of each parcel. Determine the mean paddy yield (in mt/ha) by dividing the said total production by the size (in ha) of the parcel and by 20 cav. Supply the needed sub-totals or means and total.

(5) Details of cropping calendars.

Prepare, by district (for the integrated irrigation systems) and by system, using table gma-5, the start- and end-dates of the enforced cropping seasons (wet and dry) and of the annual irrigation cutoff. Ensure to fill-up the other required information as the coverage of the climatic seasons (dry and wet) and the date of preparing the table. Submit, in diskette, table gma-5 before 31 August 2001.

Prepare updates of table gma-5 on a monthly basis and submit them before day-5 of every month. Indicate in the updates the earliest and latest dates of programmed (based on the enforced cropping calendar) and observed planting dates in every TSA. (Note: "Planting" refers to transplanting of nursery-raised seedlings. In case of transplanting dapog-raised seedlings, the equivalent "planting" date is transplanting date plus 10 days,

and in case of direct-seeded planting, the equivalent "planting" date is seeding date plus 25 days). Submit updates, in diskette, of table gma-5 every after completion of plantings in each cropping season.

To contribute to the success of the program, we should execute the following tasks:

- (1) Submit the required herein-specified reports (tables) and needed updates thereof, as practicable, at the prescribed dates and frequency to our Central Office Team for the GMA Rice Program through speed mail. Likewise, promptly provide the DA Regional Rice Program Coordinator or the DA Regional TWG for the GMA Rice Program, if already organized, diskette files of the said tables and updates.
- (2) Create a Regional Office Team for the program to comprise a team leader and four members, adopting the assignment setup of the Central Office Team. To beat deadlines, everyone in the system and regional offices should help in the preparation of the required reports and updates. Aside from the preparation of reports, the Regional Office Team would also coordinate the other activities pertinent to the program.
- (3) Allow our staff to participate, if invited, as trainee or trainer in program-organized training courses, orientation seminars, and information campaigns. We could present in the said forums our policies, plans, schemes, performance, and constraints in the development and management of our irrigation systems. Said forums are opportunities that we could grab to build and maintain our rapport with the farmers.
- (4) Participate in the meetings and activities of the Regional TWG for GMA Rice Program that DA would soon order for creation. Among other DA bureaus and attached corporations, the DA Regional Field Units, National Food Authority (NFA), Philippine Rice Research Institute (PhilRice), local government units (LGUs), NIA, and our irrigators associations (IAs) are the principal players in the program.
- (5) Provide, whenever solicited, the Central Office Team, DA Regional Rice Program Coordinator, or the Regional TWG any data, information, or technical assistance pertinent to the planning, implementation and monitoring of the program, aside from the herein-specified tables. Our co-players in the program, for example, may seek information on pest outbreak, cropping intensity, and waterlogged areas.
- (6) Encourage the farmers through our irrigators associations, during meetings and informal contacts, to do their farm activities, particularly planting, within our enforced schedules. We should underscore that organized and synchronous farming activities presets effective water management. In addition, we should encourage them to use certified seeds and to employ recommended technologies.
- (7) Observe the starts and ends of irrigation delivery based on our enforced cropping calendars. We may need to re-emphasize to our irrigators associations the observance and period encompassed of our annual irrigation cutoffs, and the fact that said cutoffs are neces-

sary in our operations. This is to avert the recurrence of an incident where certain DA personnel take irrigation cutoff as a cause of low redemption of ordered certified seeds.

We hereby create a Central Office Team for the GMA Rice Program to comprise the following:

- (1) Mr. Mario M. Gulinao – Team Leader (member, NTWG GMA Rice Program)
- (2) Mr. Bonifacio S. Labiano – Team Member (will handle table gma-5, alternate member in the NTWG GMA Rice Program)
- (3) Mr. Romeo F. Solis – Team Member (will handle tables gma-1 and -2)
- (4) Ms. Candida O. Ginez – Team Member (will handle tables gma-3 and -4)

Our Central Office Team will coordinate and monitor the implementation of the irrigation component of the said program. In addition to their usual tasks, the team members would be responsible in the needed further analysis and interpretation of the data, and in the submission of the Regional Office Team reports, after compilation or collation, to the NTWG.

We look forward to your utmost cooperation.



JESUS EMMANUEL M. PARAS
Administrator

fn: gma-data
bsl/mmg/ird/...

9 August, 2001

Table gma-1. Coverage of irrigators associations.

Region: _____; Date prepared: _____

Name of system: _____; District no.: _____; Firmed-up service area: _____ ha

Climatic dry season: *(indicate inclusive months)*; Climatic wet season: *(indicate inclusive months)*

Particulars	Canal Serving	Landowner/ Farmer	Service Area (ha) ¹	IG Member? (Yes/No)	IA Member? (Yes/No)
a. _____ IA					
(1) Turnout No. _____					
Lot No. _____					
Lot No. _____					
Lot No. _____					
<i>(extend as needed)</i>					
(2) Turnout No. _____					
Lot No. _____					
Lot No. _____					
Lot No. _____					
<i>(extend as needed)</i>					
Sub-Total (a)			✓	✓	✓
b. _____ IA					
(1) Turnout No. _____					
Lot No. _____					
Lot No. _____					
Lot No. _____					
<i>(extend as needed)</i>					
(2) Turnout No. _____					
Lot No. _____					
Lot No. _____					
Lot No. _____					
<i>(extend as needed)</i>					
Sub-Total (b)			✓	✓	✓
<i>(extend as needed)</i>					
Grand-Total			✓	✓	✓

Prepared by:

Signature: _____

Name: _____

Position: _____

Verified by:

Signature: _____

Name: _____

Position: _____

¹ Individual landholding size minus non-arable and non-irrigable sections like residential lots, rights-of-way, water-logged portions, and high-lying portions.