



Republic of the Philippines
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Elliptical Road, Diliman
1100 Quezon City

DEPARTMENT ORDER

No. 05
Series of 2021

SUBJECT: AMENDMENT TO DEPARTMENT ORDER NO. 09, SERIES OF 2020,
"Rationalizing and Strengthening the Crop Pest Management Functions, Services and Related Tasks of the Department of Agriculture"

Item No. 4 of Department Order (D.O.) No. 09, Series of 2020, *"Rationalizing and Strengthening the Crop Pest Management Functions, Services and Related Tasks of the Department of Agriculture"* is hereby amended to read, as follows:

"4. Regional Crop Protection Center (RCPC)

The RCPC shall retain its name and functions as provided by Letter of Instruction (LOI) No. 987, series of 1980."

As such, the name Regional Crop Pest Management Center (RCPMC) in all items in D.O. No. 09, s. 2020 is hereby amended to read as "RCPC".

This shall take effect immediately. All other orders and issuances inconsistent herewith are considered revoked.

Done this 6th day of July 2021.

WILLIAM D. DAR, Ph.D.

Secretary

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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Republic of the Philippines
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Elliptical Road, Diliman
1100 Quezon City

DEPARTMENT ORDER

No. 09
Series of 2020

SUBJECT: RATIONALIZING AND STRENGTHENING THE CROP PEST MANAGEMENT FUNCTIONS, SERVICES, AND RELATED TASKS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

WHEREAS, the 1996 World Food Summit defined food security in the context of four critical factors, namely: food availability, accessibility, utilization, and stability as reflected in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) number 2, to end all forms of hunger and malnutrition as global food security is achieved by 2030;

WHEREAS, crop pests remain as the major culprits for the loss of up to 40 percent of global food crops that cost the world's economy around US\$220 billion for plant diseases and US\$70 billion for invasive insect pests, and that climate change will fundamentally alter the underlying agro-ecosystems through elevated temperatures and carbon levels, leading to adverse changes in crop pest activities, the evolution of new strains of pests and their migrations, thus drastically increasing losses in crop yields and values;

WHEREAS, healthy plants serve as the foundation for all life, ecosystem functions, and food security in which the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) estimates that agricultural production must rise by about 60 percent to feed the burgeoning populations in the next three decades;

WHEREAS, the UN General Assembly had proclaimed 2020 as the International Year of Plant Health wherein the effects of COVID-19 pandemic raise the need for a recalibrated response on ensuring food security and which calls for greater global collaboration to support plant health policies at all levels; thus, the urgency and pressing need more than ever of taking a whole nation's approach to fulfil the responsibility to achieve national food security;

WHEREAS, the national government through the Department of Agriculture envisions "A Food Secure and Resilient Philippines with Prosperous Farmers and Fisherfolk;"

WHEREAS, to achieve this vision, an effective, efficient, and sustainable crop pest management system is vital to the success of the government's intensified food production programs that shall ensure adequate, safe, and quality food and higher standards of living under a sustained socio-economic growth of the country;

WHEREAS, the Regional Crop Protection Centers (RCPCs), initially under the Bureau of Plant Industry (BPI) and the National Crop Protection Center (NCPC) at the University of the Philippines Los Baños (UPLB), established through Letter of Instruction (LOI) 987 of

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1980 and PD 936 of 1976, were both directed to undertake the control and management of pests of agricultural crops;

WHEREAS, after a series of reorganization of the Department of Agriculture (DA), the RCPCs were transferred to the DA Regional Field Offices (DA-RFOs) to serve as the regional arm for crop pests surveillance, monitoring, control, and management;

WHEREAS, through further reorganization under the DA Rationalization Plan in 2014, the RCPCs were placed under the DA-RFO Integrated Laboratory Divisions (DA-RFO-ILDs) as one of the four component laboratories, the others being the Regional Animal Disease Diagnostics Laboratory, the Feed Chemical Analysis Laboratory, and the Regional Soils Laboratory. Under the DA Rationalization, the pest surveillance and monitoring functions of the RCPCs were placed under the DA-RFO-Regulatory Divisions and such functions need to be revised and enhanced;

WHEREAS, RCPCs are currently performing applied research, biological control production, training and extension functions relevant to the effective management of pests, field diagnosis, and laboratory services;

WHEREAS, there is a need to properly and clearly establish the roles and responsibilities of the RCPCs as integral to the national crop protection and pest management efforts of the DA;

WHEREAS, Executive Order No. 292 BOOK IV, Chapter 2, Section 6, states that, "The authority and responsibility for the exercise of the mandate of the Department and the discharge of its powers and functions shall be vested in the Secretary, who shall have supervision and control of the Department;"

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIAM D. DAR, Secretary of Agriculture, by the powers vested in me by law, hereby issue this Department Order (DO) directing the implementation of the following policies and approaches to streamline and further strengthen the DA crop pest management functions and services.

SECTION I POLICY STATEMENT

It shall be the policy of the Department of Agriculture to provide cost-efficient, effective, healthy, ecologically sound, and smart crop pest management measures to support the government's intensified food production programs and activities in order to ensure food security and resiliency. Towards this end, the functions and services vital to successful crop pest management shall be clearly and properly established and interlinked with all DA related agencies and activities. These functions and services shall include the following:

1. Plant Pest Surveillance, Monitoring, and Forecasting
2. Plant Pest Diagnostics
3. Plant Pest Management
4. Biological Control Agents Mass Production

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5. Competency Training and Extension on Crop Pest Management
6. Biosecurity and Quarantine Measures
7. Applied and Adaptive Crop Pest Management Research
8. Public Advocacy on Crop Pest Management

Further, it shall be the policy of the DA to actively advocate and implement the practices of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) of agricultural crops.

SECTION II SCOPE AND COVERAGE

This Department Order covers the following DA national and regional field offices:

1. Bureau of Plant Industry (BPI)
2. DA-Field Operations Service (DA-FOS)
3. Regional Crop Protection Center (RCPC)
4. DA-RFO Field Operations Division (DA-RFO-FOD)
5. DA-RFO Integrated Laboratory Division (DA-RFO-ILD)
6. DA-RFO Regulatory Division (DA-RFO-Regulatory)
7. DA-RFO Research Division
8. DA-National Commodity Banner Programs
9. Bureau of Agriculture and Fisheries Standards (BAFS)
10. Bureau of Agricultural Research (BAR)

This Order also provides for close coordination and collaboration on crop pest management initiatives and activities with the following agencies and offices:

1. DOST-Philippine Atmospheric Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (DOST-PAG-ASA)
2. Fertilizer and Pesticides Authority (FPA)
3. International Rice Research Institute (IRRI)
4. Local Government Units (LGUs)
5. National Crop Protection Center at the University of the Philippines Los Baños (NCP-C-UPLB)
6. National Tobacco Administration (NTA)
7. Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA)
8. Philippine Fiber Industry Development Authority (PhilFIDA)
9. Philippine Rice Research Institute (PhilRice)
10. Sugar Regulatory Administration (SRA)
11. Other relevant agencies, offices, and State Universities and Colleges (SUCs)

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SECTION III INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS AND CORE RESPONSIBILITIES

To ensure proper and sustained implementation of this Order, the following institutional arrangements and core responsibilities are hereby mandated:

1. National Technical Working Group on Crop Pest Management

The National Technical Working Group on Crop Pest Management (NTWG-CPM) is hereby created to provide technical advice and policy direction to the DA Management Committee (MANCOM) in ensuring that this Department Order shall be implemented as prescribed. Furthermore, the NTWG-CPM shall oversee and coordinate the Agricultural Crop Pest Management related activities in all sectors to ensure a systematic and comprehensive approach to pest management based on defined agricultural crop pest management goals and aligned with global standards.

The NTWG-CPM shall be composed of:

1a.1. Chair : Undersecretary for Operations

1a.2. Co-chairs: BPI Director and National Crop Pest Management Coordinator

1b. Members:


The following agencies shall duly designate their respective senior technical officials as permanent representatives to the NTWG:

- 1b.1. Agricultural Training Institute (ATI)
- 1b.2. Bureau of Agricultural Research (BAR)
- 1b.3. Bureau of Soils and Water Management (BSWM)
- 1b.4. DA Information and Communication Technology Service (DA-ICTS)
- 1b.5. Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority (FPA)
- 1b.6. National Tobacco Administration (NTA)
- 1b.7. National Commodity Banner Programs for Rice, Corn and Cassava, High-Value Crops, and Organic Agriculture
- 1b.8. Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA)
- 1b.9. Philippine Fiber Development Authority (PhilFIDA)
- 1b.10. Philippine Rice Research Institute (PhilRice)
- 1b.11. Sugar Regulatory Administration (SRA)
- 1b.12. Senior Technical Advisers to be assigned by the Secretary

1c. Secretariat: BPI-Crop Pest Management Division (BPI-CPMD)

The NTWG may call upon other DA and non-DA agencies and offices to participate when necessary.

The BPI-CPMD as Secretariat shall prepare, present, and submit regular status reports on the implementation of this Order to the DA-MANCOM, duly endorsed to the DA Secretary, for information and necessary policy directions.

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2. National Crop Pest Management Coordinator

The National Crop Pest Management Coordinator (NCPMCord) is hereby created and shall be the main coordinator for the proper and effective implementation of the different strategic activities for crop pest management in the Philippines. The NCPMCord shall liaise with different agencies to harmonize crop pest management related issuances and activities as well as maintain smooth and timely communications between agencies and entities. The NCPMCord shall report directly to the Office of the DA Secretary (OSEC).

The NCPMCord shall be responsible for the following:

- a. Lead crop protection responses through the identification, planning, and implementation of the DA's Crop Pest Management Roadmaps;
- b. Ensure a multidisciplinary approaches to programs and identify priority crop pest management areas of action for the DA;
- c. Develop, promote, and oversee DA's strategic crop pest management responses in collaboration with relevant divisions and units of the Department;
- d. Advise on the incorporation of crop pest management priorities into the DA's Work and Financial Plan; and,
- e. Monitor and assess the level of program implementation.

3. Regional Technical Working Group on Crop Pest Management

The DA-RFOs shall create their respective Regional Technical Working Groups on Crop Pest Management (RTWG-CPM) which shall be responsible for the operational aspects of this Order in their areas of jurisdiction. It shall be composed of:

- 3a. Chair : Regional Executive Director (RED)
3b. Vice-Chair: Regional Technical Director (RTD)
3c. Members :
- 3c.1 DA-RFO-FOD
 - 3c.2 DA-RFO ILD
 - 3c.3 DA-RFO Regulatory Division
 - 3c.4 DA-RFO Research Division
 - 3c.5 Regional Crop Pest Management Center (RCPMC)
 - 3c.6 DA-RFO-APCO (Agricultural Program Coordinating Office)
 - 3c.7 Regional Offices of National Agencies listed in SECTION II
 - 3c.8 Offices of the Provincial Agriculturists and Municipal Agriculturists

3d. Secretariat: Regional Crop Pest Management Center (RCPMC)

Representatives from the private sector, farmer's organization, and the academe shall be invited to participate in crop pest management activities at all levels.

4. Regional Crop Pest Management Center

The Regional Crop Protection Center (RCPC) is hereby renamed as the Regional Crop Pest Management Center (RCPMC) to reflect the current focus on ecologically sustainable management of crop pests. The DA RFOs shall ensure the continuous provision of crop pest management functions and services effectively and efficiently in their areas of jurisdiction and in accordance with the policy directions of this Order. For this purpose, each RCPMC shall remain as a sole unit of every DA-RFO with full functionalities under the Office of the Regional Executive Director (ORED). With the existing staff members and experts and laboratory facilities, the RCPMC shall ensure proper and timely crop pest management actions through proactive pest identification, risk assessment, monitoring, surveillance, predicting occurrences, management, and control, including the identification, isolation, culture, and mass production of natural pest enemies.

This Order emphasizes that RCPC, now renamed as RCPMC, shall retain its original functions as provided for by LOI 987 of 1980 and shall continue to be supported fully by the different DA-RFO Divisions, namely, the Field Operations Division, the Regulatory Division, the Integrated Laboratory Division, and the Research Division as well as by the attached bureaus and agencies. ✓

The specific responsibilities of the above divisions and units are provided for in the next SECTION.

SECTION IV SPECIFIC CROP PEST MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITIES OF DA NATIONAL AND REGIONAL OFFICES

1. Bureau of Plant Industry (BPI)

The Bureau of Plant Industry (BPI) shall be the lead agency in the implementation of this Department Order. It shall serve as the DA Coordinating Agency for Crop Pest Management activities. As such, BPI shall:

1.1. In consultation with the agencies and offices listed in **SECTION II**, lead in the development of the National Crop Pest Management Program and Road Map (NCPMP-RM).

The NCPMP-RM shall be aligned to the Agriculture and Fisheries Modernization Plan and integrate the Department's strategic plans and activities to promote the development and practice of pest management approaches that meet the needs of sustainable agricultural systems and food safety. The Road Map shall primarily focus on crop pest management for rice, corn and cassava, coconut, sugarcane, banana, mango, and rubber as well as all other regional priority high value crops.

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1.2. Ensure the development and implementation of the following initiatives at the national and regional levels through the issuance of guidelines to cover, among others, the following:

- a. Annual Crop Pest Management Program Plans
- b. Plant Pest Forecasting and Early Warning Systems
- c. Plant Pest Diagnostics
- d. National Crop Pest Management Road Map Development and Monitoring
- e. Plant Health and Pest Status
- f. IPM and Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) Development
- g. Biological Control Stock Production and Quality Assurance
- h. Biosecurity and Quarantine Measures
- i. Applied and Adaptive Crop Pest Management Research
- j. Crop Pest Management Competency Training
- k. Public Advocacy on Crop Pest Management

1.3. Initiate and sustain coordination and collaboration with other agencies and offices listed in **SECTION II** as well as those not under DA administration.

1.4. Through the BPI-CPMD, coordinate closely with the Bureau of Agriculture and Fisheries Standards (BAFS), the designated Coordinating Agency for the rationalization of DA Laboratories (DA Department Order No. 4, series of 2017), particularly on matters related to the provisions of laboratory services in support of crop pest management objectives.

2. Agricultural Training Institute (ATI)

- a. Ensure that training and extension materials for crop pest management are updated and available
- b. Facilitate trainings in crop pest management

3. Bureau of Agricultural Research (BAR)

- a. Provide guidance and funding support for the crop pest management related researches of DA
- b. Help set up the research agenda for the RCPMCs

4. Bureau of Soils and Water Management (BSWM)

- a. Provide technical information on soil health as one of the factors in crop health status
- b. Provide technical resource persons for soils and water management

5. DA Information and Communication Technology Service (DA-ICTS)

- a. Provide technical support in terms of ICT for crop pest management

6. Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority (FPA)

- a. Ensure that the pesticides released in the Philippines are effective, safe, and contribute to sustainable ecological management
- b. Provision of adequate supplies of pesticides at reasonable prices
- c. Provide technical resource persons on the effective, safe, and sustainable use of pesticides

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7. National Commodity Banner Programs for Rice, Corn and Cassava, High-Value Crops, and Organic Agriculture

- a. Provide funding support as stated in Section V-4 of this Order
- b. Mainstreaming of crop pest management activities in the different National Production Programs

8. National Tobacco Administration (NTA)

- a. Generate crop pest management technologies for tobacco
- b. Make sure that these technologies will reach target clientele/farmers
- c. Provide technical resource persons for crop pest management in tobacco

9. Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA)

- a. Generate crop pest management technologies for coconut
- b. Make sure that these technologies will reach target clientele/farmers
- c. Provide technical resource persons for crop pest management in coconut

10. Philippine Fiber Development Authority (PhilFIDA)

- a. Generate crop pest management technologies for fiber crops
- b. Make sure that these technologies will reach target clientele/farmers
- c. Provide technical resource persons for crop pest management in fiber crops

11. Philippine Rice Research Institute (PhilRice)

- a. Generate crop pest management technologies for rice
- b. Make sure that these technologies will reach target clientele/farmers
- c. Provide technical resource persons for crop pest management in rice

12. Sugar Regulatory Administration (SRA)

- a. Generate crop pest management technologies for sugarcane
- b. Make sure that these technologies will reach target clientele/farmers
- c. Provide technical resource persons for crop pest management in sugar

13. Senior Technical Advisers

- a. Experts in crop pest management, crop science, and related fields who can provide detailed information, advice, and direction to organizational leadership and technical teams.
- b. Possess in-depth understanding of the organization's mission, products and services, and ensure that technical policies, guidance, and procedures are rigorous and comprehensive.
- c. Provide and present technical assistance for applications of advanced theory, principles, concepts, and methods.
- d. Identify issues associated with the implementation of emerging technologies and appropriate courses of action.

14. DA Regional Field Offices (DA-RFOs)

The DA Regional Field Offices (DA-RFOs) shall ensure the proper and timely implementation of the National Crop Pest Management Road Map in their respective regions and provide full support to the functions assigned to the divisions and the units mandated by this Order, as provided below:

14.1. Field Operations Division

The Field Operations Division in support to RCPMC shall:

- 14.1.1. Provide additional manpower, logistics, and other necessary resources for effective and efficient implementation of plant pest management activities.
- 14.1.2. Assist in the distribution of biological control agents and necessary pesticides.

14.2 Integrated Laboratory Division

The Integrated Laboratory Division in support to RCPMC shall:

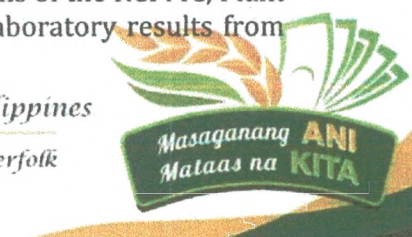
- 14.2.1. Establish, implement, and maintain quality management system covering all facilities and activities of the Plant Pest and Disease diagnostic laboratories. The management system shall describe the required personnel, facilities, and activities covered, including details of the customers and tested crop pests.
- 14.2.2. Undertake plant pest identification, diagnosis, and microscopic examinations.
- 14.2.3. Provide accurate data for regulatory and enforcement purposes, research and development, standards development, production, extension, and marketing services for the agriculture sector.
- 14.2.4. Conduct Quality Assurance procedures of Biological Control Agents and Stock Production.
- 14.2.5. Mass Produce Biological Control Agents.

14.3 Regulatory Division

The Regulatory Division in support to RCPMC shall:

- 14.3.1. Organize Regional Plant Pest Monitoring and Surveillance Group in the region;
- 14.3.2. Implement the necessary biosecurity and quarantine measures to support and facilitate access to markets in other countries, and protect the economy and the environment from the impacts of invasive plant pests. The division shall take into account the recommendations of the RCPMC, Plant Health and Pest Status report, and laboratory results from the BPI Quarantine Services.

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14.4 Research Division

- 14.4.1. The DA-RFO Research Division shall conduct Crop Pest Management and Adaptive (Participatory Action) research in accordance with the guidelines from the Bureau of Agricultural Research (BAR), Bureau of Plant Industry (BPI), and DA RFO regional priorities.
- 14.4.2. Assist in the conduct of Training and Extension on new pest management strategies developed.

14.5 Regional Crop Pest Management Center (RCPMC)

- 14.5.1. The RCPMC will be the main arm of the DA-RFO in undertaking crop pest management and in the mainstreaming of these measures in key commodity production programs.
- 14.5.2. The RCPMCs shall lead and coordinate crop pest management activities in all the regions and shall undertake the following key responsibilities and activities:
 - a. Plant Pest Management
 - b. Plant Pest Field Diagnostics
 - c. IPM PAMS (Prevention, Avoidance, Monitoring, and Suppression) Development and Implementation
 - d. Biological Control Agents Production and Quality Assurance
 - e. Plant Pest Forecasting and Early Warning Systems
 - f. Plant Pest Monitoring and Surveillance
 - g. Plant health and pest status reporting
 - h. "Bantay Peste" brigade training, coordination, and monitoring
- 14.5.3. The RCPMCs shall work across regions, working together as needed to manage crop pests effectively that are emerging, invasive and during outbreaks.

All Divisions shall be actively involved in Crop Pest Management Public Advocacy activities.

15. Bureau of Agriculture and Fisheries Standards (BAFS)

BAFS, in coordination with the BPI-CPMD, shall periodically review the quality management system of the Plant Pest Diagnostic Laboratories. Review shall assess all the components of the system, routine recording of deviations, and subsequent corrective actions that have been taken.

BAFS shall undertake consistency of the implementation of the relevant provisions and requirements of this Order with those of DA DO 4, series of 2017.

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SECTION V FUNDING

1. The DA shall ensure the provision of the necessary funding to support the implementation of this Department Order, including the budget allocation of each of the attached agencies and bureaus mentioned in this Order.
2. BPI shall spearhead the preparation of the Budgetary Proposals (BPs) and Work and Financial Plans (WFPs) necessary for the implementation of the National Crop Pest Management Program and Road Map in accordance with guidelines and procedures prescribed by the Department of Budget and Management (DBM). In this regard, BPI shall coordinate with the Planning and Monitoring Service and the Finance and Management Service of DA for assistance.
3. Based on the National Crop Pest Management Program and Road Map (NCPMP-RM), the concerned agencies and offices indicated in this Order shall prepare their respective BPs and WFPs, including for any upgrading of facilities, and through their respective Heads, shall submit the same to BPI for review and consolidation.
4. The DA-RFOs shall ensure the inclusion of sufficient funds for the operations and upgrading of their respective RCPMCs and shall include such in the BPs and WFPs.
5. The National Commodity Programs (Rice, Corn and Cassava, High-Value Commercial Crops, and Organic Agriculture) shall allocate appropriate budget annually to support crop pest management activities especially those of RCPMCs.

SECTION VI IMPLEMENTATION

The BPI through its Crop Pest Management Division (CPMD) shall lead in the implementation of this Order and submit regular progress reports to the DA Secretary.

SECTION VII EFFECTIVITY

This Department Order shall take effect immediately and supersedes all other Orders inconsistent herewith.

Done this 2nd day of September 2020.


WILLIAM D. DAR, Ph.D.
Secretary

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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