



Republic of the Philippines
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Memorandum Circular

No. 43

Series of 2023

**SUBJECT : GUIDELINES IN THE CONDUCT OF CASSAVA TECHNOLOGY
DEMONSTRATION TRIAL**

I. Rationale

Cassava is one of the important agricultural crops in the country. It is used as raw materials for the production of animal feeds, starch, and other industrial uses. Cassava is also consumed as a staple in Mindanao, especially in the provinces of Sulu, Basilan, and Tawi-Tawi and as snack food in the remaining parts of the country.

Demand for cassava is continuously increasing due to the growing requirement of different sectors. Through a series of consultations with processors, the demand for cassava is estimated at 3,069,331 metric tons for 2023. Based on the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) estimates, cassava production attained a volume of 2,560,042.89 metric tons in 2022. Thus, there is a need to increase the local cassava production because it is not enough to meet the requirements of different sectors. Another strategy is to boost production to improve the adoption of new and mature technologies. The private sector and the government should also collaborate in organizing promotional activities, hence, the conduct of technology demonstration trials on cassava.

Pursuant to the R.A. No. 11639 General Appropriations Act (GAA) FY 2023, this Circular is issued by the Department for the orderly implementation of the project.

II. Objective

The project aims:

1. To showcase the performance of new and mature component technology (ies) on production and post-production of cassava;
2. To facilitate the adaption/adoption of new and mature component technology (ies).

III. Scope

The technology demonstration trial shall be established in major cassava growing areas. It shall be established in an area of at least 1.0 hectare per farmer cooperator and should be located in a strategic place that is accessible to people (especially farmers) and preferably within a cassava cluster.

IV. Definition of Terms

- a. **Farmer Cooperator** refers to an identified cassava farmer or farmer-member of an active cassava cluster organization that participates in the demo trial.
- b. **Geotagging** refers to the practice of associating a digital resource (e.g. photos, website, sms) with a physical location.
- c. **New and mature component technology** refers to a technology developed/identified based on research results that is ready for adoption of farmers.
- d. **Registry System for Basic Sectors in Agriculture (RSBSA)** refers to the database system which contains farmers, farm workers, and fisherfolks which serves as a basis for identifying beneficiaries for different interventions and support programs and services of the Department.

V. General Implementing Guidelines

1. The DA-Bureau of Agricultural Research (DA-BAR) and other research agencies/units (PhilRootcrops and UPLB-IPB) shall be the sources of new and mature technologies to be demonstrated in different regions;
2. The DA-Bureau of Agricultural Research (DA-BAR) to provide the DA Regional Field Offices (DA-RFOs) with the list of new and matured technologies to be demonstrated in different regions;
3. New and mature component technology (ies) to be demonstrated in the trial should include but not limited to new varieties, plant density, fertilizer rate, pest management, and time tested production practices;
4. The cooperator for the technology demonstration trial is either an individual farmer or farmer-member of an active cassava cluster organization and must be registered in the Registry System for Basic Sectors in Agriculture (RSBSA);
5. The technology demonstration site must be geotagged;
6. The technology demonstration trial should be conducted at the farmer's field covering an area of one (1) hectare per cooperator;
7. Total harvest from the demonstration trial shall be given to the farmer cooperator.




VI. Roles of Participating Offices/Units

A. DA Regional Field Office (DA-RFO)

1. Identify the technology(ies) to be demonstrated in certain locations in coordination with the Local Government Unit (LGU), considering the priority needs of the cassava farmers that will increase productivity;
2. Prepare and submit a project proposal to the DA National Corn Program office for approval;
3. Facilitate the signing of the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the DA RFO, LGU-Municipal Agricultural Office (MAO) and farmer cooperator and shall be signed prior to the implementation of the trial;
4. Provide farm inputs such as quality cassava seedpieces, fertilizers, fuels for irrigation (if applicable), and pesticides following the approved work and financial plan (GAA FY 2023) prepared by DA-RFO technical staff;
5. Designate/assign a technical personnel to provide technical assistance in the establishment and implementation of the technology demonstration;
6. Gather pertinent data based on the project proposal (with assistance from LGU-MAO) from the trial to assess the performance of the technology compared with the farmer's practice;
7. In case of failure due to unforeseen events, the DA-RFO, with assistance from LGU-MAO, shall evaluate and augment the equivalent value of yield reduction based on the normal cropping year either in kind or in cash whichever is applicable following the accounting and auditing rules;
8. Assist in linking the farmer cooperator to a potential market/buyer of the produce through the Agribusiness and Marketing Assistance Division (AMAD);
9. Coordinate with the Local Government Units (LGUs) for the proper planning, implementation and monitoring of the project;
10. Conduct field days in different trial sites before harvesting;

B. Farmer Cooperator

1. Provide the land and labor requirements in the conduct of demonstration trials;
 2. Allow DA-RFO and LGU-MAO to visit the area in order to assess the performance of the trial; and
 3. Implement the different production and postharvest activities based on the approved proposal.
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VII. SUPPLEMENTAL GUIDELINES

The DA-RFOs are hereby authorized to formulate detailed supplementary guidelines to address peculiar situations per region, **which shall be consistent with these Guidelines.** The supplemental guideline shall be subject to the approval of the Senior Undersecretary prior to implementation.

This Memorandum Circular may be reviewed, amended, or supplemented as the need arises and only through a written instrument duly executed and signed by the Senior Undersecretary.

VIII. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE

If any clause, sentence, or provision of the Memorandum Circular shall be declared invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain valid and subsisting.

IX. REPEALING CLAUSE

All other previous orders, issuances, rules, and regulations inconsistent with or contrary to this Memorandum Circular are hereby repealed and revoked.

X. EFFECTIVITY CLAUSE

This Memorandum Circular shall take effect immediately upon signing and publication in the DA Website and/or in a newspaper of general circulation, and its filing with the University of the Philippines Law Center - Office of the National Administrative Registrar.

Done this 4th day of September, 2023.

DOMINGO E. PANGANIBAN
Senior Undersecretary



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