



CA's 2 new projects take off

The College of Agriculture (CA) has strengthened its extension program by conducting separate projects on various fields of extension.

The two projects that recently took off the ground were titled: "Bringing CA-UPLB Technologies, Products and Services to the Community through Agri-fora and Fairs/Exhibits" and "Modernizing the Production and Promotion of Publications on CA Technologies, Products and Services".

With Myrna S. Galang of the Animal and Dairy Sciences Cluster as project leader, the first project is aimed at showcasing UPLB technologies, products and services to different stakeholders and interest groups for wider local utilization, application and investment. Through this project, policies/guidelines in conducting agri-fora and fairs/exhibits are recommended and a monitoring and evaluation system will be implemented. Researches within the different activities will also be conducted.

Meanwhile, the second project is headed by Apolinario L. Lantican of the CA Extension Unit and is aimed at increasing the number of publications (printed and digital forms) on agricultural products and services. It is composed of the following major activities: 1) Development of a database system of technologies, products and services of CA; 2) Production of extension publications (printed and digital forms); 3) Operationalizing a viable marketing plan for CA publications; 4) Establishment of a UPLBCA photo library; and 5) Participatory monitoring and evaluation of the project.

The two projects are part of the overall program titled "Unified Extension Program of the College of Agriculture-UPLB: Agricultural Opportunities and Innovations for an Inclusive Development". Four other projects under this program are still in the organizational stage. (Apolinario L. Lantican)

CSC joins trade show at Market! Market!

The Crop Science Cluster (CSC) participated in urban agriculture trade show at Market! Market! Central Plaza, Taguig City last September 17 and 18.

Organized and sponsored by Manila Bulletin Agriculture Magazine (with UPLB as one of the partner agencies), the trade show provided the urban residents with basic information about some doable techniques in gardening so that they can produce part of their food requirements. This was the 3rd urban agriculture expo held after the overwhelming success of the first two expos in Rockwell, Makati City last year and Trinoma Mall, Quezon City early this year.

UPLB's participation was facilitated by the Office of the Vice-Chancellor for Research and Extension. Suitable technologies of CSC such as SNAP hydroponics, high quality seeds, asexually propagated fruit trees, tissue cultured banana plantlets, *Sinta* papaya, IPB Var 6 corn grits and hibiscus were featured.

Added attraction was rooftop gardening, a technology of growing vegetables and herbs on top of a house or building; and vertical gardening which can be anything from training vegetables to grow upward, to creating an elaborate structure in homes and apartments with limited outdoor space.

Four innovative technologies of CSC were presented during the two-day forum: Rooftop and vertical gardening by Elena C. Ros, Hibiscus propagation by Angelo San Pascual, Corn grits from quality protein maize by Alma B. Sanchez and SNAP hydroponics by Primitivo Jose A. Santos. (Laureano B. Lanosia, Jr.)

FOREIGN TRAVELS*

- ◆ **Dr. Cecilia B. Pascual**, scientist I, Crop Science Cluster (CSC); presented a paper titled “Pitaya Diseases in the Philippines” and participated in the Regional Workshop on the Control of Dragon Fruit Diseases in Mekong Institute, Khon Kaen, Thailand; September 4-8
- ◆ **Ara Fatima C. Algar**, assistant professor, Food Science Cluster; attended the Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP) Certification Course and Product Development for Enhancing Food and Nutrition Security Workshop in Kasetsart University, Bangkok, Thailand; September 4-10
- ◆ **Maria Lea H. Villavicencio**, university researcher, CSC; attended the Asian Food and Agriculture Cooperation Initiative (AFACI) Program Workshop on Basic Agriculture in Kathmandu, Nepal; September 5-11
- ◆ **Dr. Filomena C. Sta. Cruz**, associate professor and deputy director, Crop Protection Cluster (CPC); represented the Philippines on a technical mission between Servicio Nacional de Sanidad y Calidad Agroalimentaria (SENASA) in Argentina and Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic and Natural Resources Research and Development (PCAARRD) in Buenos Aires, Argentina; September 5-13
- ◆ **Dr. Sheryl A. Yap**, assistant professor, CPC; visited Lee Kong Chian Natural History Museum in Singapore; September 9-17
- ◆ **Wella L. Absulio**, university researcher, Crop Science Cluster (CSC); attended a short course entitled “Lost harvest and wasted food” at the Center for Development Innovation in Wageningen, UR, Netherlands; September 12-23
- ◆ **Dr. Maria Cynthia R. Oliveros**, associate professor, Animal and Dairy Sciences Cluster (ADSC); presented a paper titled “Capacity Development in Agro-Bio Resource Through International Internship Program: The UPLB Experience” at the International Symposium on Agriculture Education for Sustainable Development at the University of Tsukuba in Japan; September 18-19
- ◆ **John Carlo M. Marasigan, Ana Pauleen L. Masanga and Mark Gabriel S. Sagarbarria**, university researchers, CSC; participated in the 4th Annual South Asia Biosafety Conference in Hyderabad, India; September 17-23
- ◆ **Dr. Desiree M. Hautea**, research professor, CSC; attended the progress review meetings on the Feed the Future Biotechnology Partnership (FtFBP) project and also developed the future priorities of the project for the next two years in Hyderabad, India; September 17-20
- ◆ **Dr. Lourdes D. Taylo**, university researcher, CSC; participated in the 4th Annual South Asia Biosafety Conference in Hyderabad, India; September 17-22
- ◆ **Bernard O. Budot**, assistant professor, CPC; attended Training on Computational Biology for Infectious Diseases in Hanoi, Vietnam; September 17-26
- ◆ **Dr. Susan May F. Calumpang**, scientist I (CPC) and assistant to the vice-chancellor for research and extension; attended the World Congress in Setagaya, Tokyo, Japan; September 22-26
- ◆ **Dr. Merdelyn C. Lit**, scientist I and university researcher, CSC; attending as speaker and presenter of a paper titled “Field, laboratory and screen house efficacy evaluation of Bt corn for resistance to the Asian corn borer, *Ostrinia furnacalis* (Guenee) in the Philippines” and co-author of a non-target organism paper at the XXV International Congress of Entomology; visited insect rearing facilities of Pioneer USA and Syngenta USA in Orlando, Florida, Iowa, North Carolina and other states of USA; September 22- October 8
- ◆ **Dr. Elda B. Esguerra**, professor, CSC; attending as resource person during the “Training of Trainers on Horticultural Chain Management” as part of the Food Agriculture Organization Technical Cooperation Project Reduction of Postharvest Losses in Horticultural Chains in South Asian for Regional Cooperation Countries in Bhutan; September 24- October 2
- ◆ **Aira Therese A. Aguirre**, assistant professor, ADSC; attended the Aqua Nutrition Training in Bangkok, Thailand; September 26-30

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