

Farmers, rural women in Guinobatan receive agri'l interventions from DA Bicol

Twenty-three members of the Organic Farmers Association of Mapaco (OFAM) and the Rural Improvement Club (RIC) of Doña Mercedes in Guinobatan, Albay received their early Christmas gifts from the Albay Breeding Station (ABS) of the Department of Agriculture (DA) Bicol.

A total of 120 native chickens and nine native pigs were distributed to the beneficiaries. According to ABS Chief Dr. Elsa Maranan, it is a must that the recipients should attend the Orientation on Native Chicken and Native Pig Dispersal Program to introduce new animal husbandry practices and enhance the skills of the farmers in animal production.

She also discussed African Swine Fever (ASF) and informed the participants that the province has positive cases already.

This regular intervention of the Livestock Program of DA Bicol was considered timely as the municipality was severely hit by typhoons Quinta, Rolly and Ulysses aside from the threat of the COVID19.

Aside from livestock, the beneficiaries also received 80 packs of vegetable seeds and IEC materials.

Guinobatan Municipal Agriculture Officer Simeon Oli said that this animal dispersal activity will greatly impact the lives of the farmers and rural women and their families as they were affected by the pandemic and natural disasters.

Oli hoped that these interventions will improve the lives of these beneficiaries. Officials of the OFAM and RIC-Doña Mercedes assured DA Bicol that they are committed to what they have signed in the Memorandum of Agreement. The MOA stated that they have to give the first offspring of the animals to the next dispersal program or recipient.

The dispersal program is intended to increase livestock production and income of farmers in the province of Albay.
