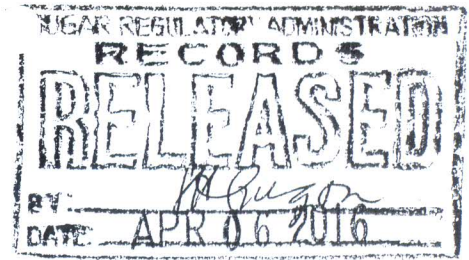




Republic of the Philippines
Department of Agriculture
SUGAR REGULATORY ADMINISTRATION
Sugar Center Bldg., North Ave., Diliman, Quezon City
Philippines 1101
TIN 000-784-336



MEMO-PPD-2016-APR-022

April 4, 2016

MEMORANDUM ORDER NO. 2
Series of 2016

SUBJECT: GUIDELINES FOR THE CONDUCT OF ECOLOGICAL TESTS, NATIONAL COOPERATIVE TESTS AND ADAPTABILITY TRIALS FOR SUGARCANE VARIETIES

I. Policy Statement

The final stages of sugarcane breeding which involve field trials of selected varieties from preliminary yield tests in the breeding station are critical in ascertaining the performance of such varieties exposed to varied soil and climatic conditions. Field tests that are conducted during the ecological and national cooperative tests are laid out in various mill districts at experimental sizes wherein best performing varieties were selected and released for commercialization.

Best performing sugarcane varieties in a mill district can only be ascertained through adaptability trials wherein selected varieties are laid out in commercial-sized farms of at least one hectare up to its ratooning stages.

It is noted that ecological test have a similar process flow with that of the national cooperative test (NCT) where it is further observed that the national cooperative test is more reliable as this is conducted through collaboration with other experts outside of SRA like UPLB, BPI and PHILSURIN, with well-defined protocols.

In order to eliminate redundant activities, reduce public investments in unnecessary research activities and effectively select the best performing variety at the experimental stage, it is recommended to terminate the ecological tests and focus on the national cooperative tests instead. However, due to pending obligations under the on-going ecological tests, it is further recommended to finish all on-going ecotests that have been laid out, collect the necessary data and prepare the necessary reports.



II. Guidelines for the Implementation of National Cooperative Tests and Adaptability Trials

A. Scope and Coverage

The guidelines will cover the conduct of National Cooperative Tests (NCT) and Adaptability Trials in Various Sugarcane Mill Districts.

B. The National Cooperative Tests (NCT)

- A team of SRA experts / researchers involved in sugarcane breeding shall be formed to compose the national SRA team who will conduct the NCT and sit down with the Sugarcane Technical Working Group (TWG) of the National Seed Industry Council (NSIC).
- The conduct of NCT shall be in accordance with the standard procedure implemented by the NSIC.
- The NCT team shall be responsible in selecting the varieties to be tested and the sites where the tests will be laid out.
- Further, the team shall prepare and submit the annual budgetary requirement for the NCT projects for funding under SIDA or the SRA corporate fund.
- Furthermore, the team shall submit quarterly progress report to the Sugar Board copy furnished the Planning and Policy Department.
- All NCT reports and documentations shall be intact for any spot inspection that will be conducted by the SRA / DBM / GCG monitoring team.

C. The Adaptability Trials

- A national team for the conduct of adaptability trials shall likewise be created who will establish a unified approach in selecting the varieties and sites to be tested.
- The team shall prepare the Memorandum of Agreement between SRA and the Cooperators which shall be approved by the Sugar Board.

