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MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR

No. 26
Series of 2025

SUBJECT : GENERAL GUIDELINES ON THE DISTRIBUTION OF INORGANIC FERTILIZER SUPPORT TO SOYBEAN AND SORGHUM FARMERS UNDER THE NATIONAL CORN PROGRAM

Soybean and sorghum contain high amounts of protein and amino acids which are vital to animal growth and development. These crops are important ingredients of animal feed and can also be utilized for human consumption and various industrial applications.

Despite their significance in food and feed industries, local production of these crops remains minimal. According to the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA), the average yields over the past five (5) years have been just 1.48 metric tons/hectare (mt/ha) for soybeans and 5.66 mt/ha for sorghum. To boost soybean and sorghum productivity across regions, provision of fertilizer to farmers is necessary.

Increasing the local production of soybean and sorghum will contribute to the growth of the livestock and poultry sector by ensuring stable supply of quality feed ingredients and generating additional income for farmers. To help solve the problem, Memorandum Order No. 15, Series of 2021 was issued expanding the National Corn Program's mandate to cover soybean and sorghum. Aside from providing certified seeds, provision of inorganic fertilizers shall be included to ensure increased yield and harvest.

I. Objective

The project aims to improve the productivity of soybean and sorghum through the provision of inorganic fertilizers to farmer-beneficiaries.

II. Scope

The project shall cover only those farmers planting soybean or sorghum. The inorganic fertilizer shall solely be applied to these crops. Misuse/misappropriation of the distributed inorganic fertilizer will invalidate the eligibility of farmers to receive the inorganic fertilizer for one cropping season.

A maximum of one (1) hectare per farmer shall be covered by this project and will be provided with two (2) bags of inorganic fertilizer. Accordingly, the amount of inorganic

fertilizer to be given to farmers with less than one (1) hectare of area planted to either crop will be prorated.

Priority will be given to farmers who are recipients of either soybean or sorghum seeds. This is complementary to the provision of inorganic fertilizer to ensure crop productivity.

The provision of inorganic fertilizer shall commence at the 1st cropping season of 2025.

III. General Provisions

A. Qualifications of Farmer Beneficiary/ies (FB)

1. The farmer beneficiaries (FBs) must be registered in the Registry System for Basic Sectors in Agriculture (RSBSA), and members of any Farmers' Cooperative/Associations (FCAs), and;
2. The FBs must have a minimum production area of 1,000 square meters (sqm) or 0.1 hectare.

B. Procedure for Support Services

1. A maximum of one (1) hectare per farmer shall be covered by this project, and;
2. Eligible FB with less than one hectare production area shall receive a proportionate share of inorganic fertilizers.

IV. Roles and Responsibilities

The following are the duties and responsibilities of the participating office/units:

A. DA Field Operations Service (DA-FOS)-National Corn Program (NCP)

1. Oversee the proper planning, coordination and implementation of the project;
2. Conduct regular monitoring on the implementation of the project;
3. Provide strategic advice to address the issues and concerns regarding the project;
4. Conduct evaluation of the project, and;
5. Submit periodic reports to the Monitoring and Evaluation Division (MED) of Planning and Monitoring Service (PMS) and other relevant agencies, as required or requested.



B. Department of Agriculture – Regional Field Offices (DA-RFOs)

1. Procure fertilizers pursuant to Republic Act No. 12009 otherwise known as the New Government Procurement Reform Act from the FPA-accredited companies, dealers or distributors;
2. Review and finalize the list of qualified farmers from the list submitted by the Agricultural Extension Workers (AEWs) of Local Government Units (LGUs) as endorsed by the Provincial Agricultural Extension Workers and provide a copy to the said offices;
3. Provide logistical support in the distribution of inorganic fertilizer;
4. Provide technical assistance on the proper application of inorganic fertilizers;
5. Coordinate with the Agricultural Extension Workers of Local Government Units (AEWs, LGUs) in the implementation and monitoring of the project;
6. Issue the list of farmers who are not eligible for the next cropping season due to mismanagement/misuse/misappropriation of the inorganic fertilizers provided as indicated in Section II. Scope. The list shall be disseminated through the LGUs;
7. Gather relevant baseline data to assess the performance of the project, and;
8. Provide the NCP with monthly status reports and other information or data as may be required or requested.

C. Local Government Unit – Agricultural Extension Workers (LGU-AEWs)

1. Endorse and submit to DA-RFOs a master list of qualified FBs;
2. The master list shall include the following parameters such as name of farmers; farm location, residential address and area planted to soybean and sorghum;
3. Assist the DA-RFOs in the implementation and monitoring of the project;
4. Submit to DA-RFOs proof of receipt of the distributed fertilizers to qualified FBs;
5. Conduct monitoring and submit progress reports on the implementation of the project to DA-RFOs, and;
6. Provide technical assistance to FBs on the recommended fertilizer usage and application.

D. Farmer-Beneficiaries (FBs)

1. Provide baseline data on production, yield, cost of production, and other required data, including accomplished Client Satisfaction Feedback (CSF) to the LGU-AEWs;
 2. Receive the inorganic fertilizer and sign the Acknowledgement Receipt or other documents related to the receipt of the inorganic fertilizer.
 3. In view that there is a limit in the provision of inorganic fertilizer per area cultivated, FBs may provide the remaining amount of fertilizer, following the recommended type, rate and timing of application suited to local soil and crop conditions, as advised by the LGU-AEWs.
 4. Follow other recommended production and post-harvest practices as per the advice of the assigned LGU-AEWs in the area, and;
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5. Allow the DA-RFO and LGU-AEWs to visit the area for monitoring purposes.

V. Funding

The approved budget of the National Corn Program under the Production Support Services in the General Appropriations Act, as allocated to the DA Regional Field Offices, shall serve as the funding source for the implementation of the Project subject to existing accounting and auditing rules and regulations and other statutes.

VI. Data Privacy Compliance

1. All implementing units and personnel in the implementation of the guidelines shall strictly adhere to the provisions of Republic Act No. 10173, otherwise known as the Data Privacy Act of 2012, and its Implementing Rules and Regulations.
2. Any personal information collected from farmer-beneficiaries, including but not limited to their names, addresses, contact information, and other relevant data, shall be treated with the utmost confidentiality and used solely to implement the project.
3. The collection, processing, sharing, retention, storage, and disposal of personal information of farmers shall be conducted in accordance with the principles of transparency, legitimate purpose, and proportionality outlined in the "Data Privacy Act."

VII. Supplemental Guidelines

The DA-RFOs may prepare supplemental guidelines to this MC to address the peculiarity in their regions for the approval of the Secretary. The supplemental guidelines must not deviate from this guidelines.

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 orders, memoranda, and issuances inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed and/or revoked.

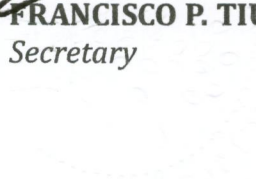
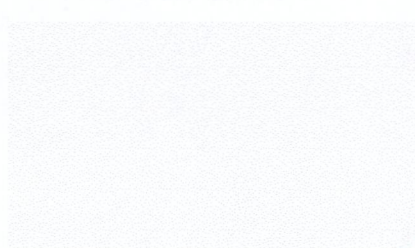
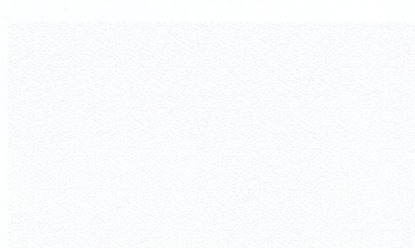


IX. Effectivity Clause

This Circular shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following the completion of its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation, and posting on the DA website and filing at the Office of the National Administrative Registrar (ONAR), University of the Philippines Law Center.

Done this 3rd day of SEPTEMBER, 2025.


FRANCISCO P. TIU LAUREL JR.
Secretary *P*

BY:  
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