



TCP3 Newsletter

LGU-PhilRice-JICA Technical Cooperation Project for "Development and Promotion of Location-Specific Integrated High-Yielding Rice and Rice-Based Technology"



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Doing more with less from farming ...

A story of TCP3 graduates

Farming as her sole source of living, tilling the land she does not own to raise a family of eight, lowly educated, yet she was able to send her children to school.

Such is the life of Rogelia Batobalonos, 60, of Charito, Bayugan, Agusan del Sur. Since 1985, after her husband passed away, she was forced to manage the farm for her family's survival as she has no other source of income to earn a living. Managing a 1.5 ha of land is wide enough for a single person to manage.

It was in 2007 when the Philippine Rice Research Institute (PhilRice), Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and the Local Government Unit of Ba-



yugan introduced to her community the new rice technology – varieties, seeding rate, amount and time of fertilizer application, among other things. Rogelia planted PSB Rc82 and for the first time she got a big harvest, from her base line that was 2.33t/ha, now her harvest played within the range of 5.35 – 5.71t/ha for the four cropping seasons.

Time runs fast and with God's provision, she was able to send her son to college and finished automotive course in a prestigious school in the region. "I've learned a lot from the program of JICA-TCP3". If not because of the new technologies that they shared to us, our farming will not be progressive especially to me that it gave me bountiful harvest, which helped us survived from our day-to-day living and have made my son finished in college".

Constant monitoring was the best thing she did in managing her farm with her youngest son as her assistant. Truly, the existence of TCP3 in Charito gave her a number of yield enhancing and cost-saving farming technologies such as LCC (a tool to diagnose the nitrogen deficiency of rice), MOET (a diagnostic kit for soil nutrient deficiency), AESA (Agro-ecosystem Analysis), Pest Management and other technologies in rice farming, through a comprehensive trainings and technology demonstrations conducted in their barangay.

Another farmer from Charito, Diosdado Rebutada, now 47, migrated with his wife and children from Negros Occidental to Charito, Bayugan, Agusan del Sur

Having only finished high school, Diosdado opted to go back to the farm, as he has been in farming since childhood. He pointed out, however, that the farming practices during his childhood were so different from the new technology this time. For instance, farmers usually used two to three bags of seeds for one hectare in the past, which he said is a great contrast to the rec-

ommended 40kg/ha now.

When the TCP3 Farmers' Field School started in Charito in 2007, "I realized that I still have to learn more to increase my yield. Everything that was taught to us was something new" Diosdado said laughing. The project gave



him some seeds, to ensure successful technology demonstration in his farm. He is ever thankful for the assistance and the new technology as he reached an average of 5.71t/ha in the 1st cropping and increased to 5.91t/ha in the 3rd cropping. However, his income from vegetable production declined due to weather condition. As a result, he now ventured into pig raising to augment his income from rice farming.

Speaking on behalf of the other TCP3 graduates, Diosdado claimed that they have learned so much through TCP3. For one thing, they learned how to use agricultural chemicals properly and learned the proper amount and timing of fertilizer application, as well as the use of rice straw in the farm organic fertilizers".

Watch ! Think ! and Do ! ... Perfect ingredients for a successful farming !

Watch, Think and Do! Three short words but entail a big responsibility. Words from Dr. Nobuyuki Kabaki, JICA Team Leader, that reverberated and inculcated into the minds of the farmers in Charito, Bayugan City and Tagabaca, Butuan City during the conduct of the End-Season Review and Planning Workshop on November 19 and 20, 2008, respectively.

These truly apply to the farmers in Charito after 4 cropping season of burden

-laden venture, finally graduated from a 2-year season-long training on JICA-Technical Cooperation Project 3. Their long venture in farming, studying their field, and successful implementation of technologies can prove that they did their best for their farm.

Ms. Maria Dolores Marababol, a participating farmer in Charito, got the highest yield 5.73 t/ha in this cropping season.

PhilRice Acting Branch Manager, Engr. Artemio B. Vasallo encouraged the farmers to share their knowledge to other farmers specially those from the expansion baran-

gays. The LGU will take the lead in the implementation of the project to the expansion barangays and the farmers who are graduates in TCP3 will serve as resource speakers during the conduct of the training, they will then be called as "Magsasakang Sayantista". Farmer should identify the location-specific technologies in their respective barangays as one of the requirements of the project.





Techno Tips

Modified Dapog

For faster, more economical and efficient ways of raising seedlings

Methods of Growing Rice



Direct seedings



Transplanting



What is Modified Dapog

- Methods of producing rice seedlings for transplanting
- Developed by researchers of Phil-Rice that follows the principles of original Dapog method.
- Started in PhilRice-Midsayap and developed especially for Mestizo hybrid rice in 2003.

Wetbed Method vs Modified Dapog

Modified dapog	Wetbed method
25 m ² seedbed/ha	400 m ² seedbed/ha
12-15 kg of hybrid seeds	20-40 kg of hybrid seeds
12-14 days after sowing	21-25 days after sowing
Less root and stem damage	root and stem damage
1-2 mandays for pulling	5-7 mandays for pulling

Invitation

The monthly TCP3 Newsletter is prepared;

- 1) to work as an educational/technical guide with some timely technical tips;
- 2) to work as an information dissemination tool to notice important events or messages; and
- 3) to work as an motivator by showing excellent activity examples with pictures or posting interview articles .

We welcome your articles.

For additional information,
JICA TCP3 Office

PhilRice CES, Maligaya, Science City of Muñoz, 3119, Nueva Ecija
Tel : (044) 456-0285;
Telefax: (044) 456-0648
www.philrice.gov.ph
You can log on to
www.jica.go.jp/philippines
For previous issues.



Materials to be needed:

- 12-15 kg hybrid rice seed or 25-30 inbred rice seed
- Rice hull as seedbed flooring
- Cleaned rice straw as seedbed cover
- Plastic net or Mosquito net.



Characteristics of Desirable Seedbed

Seedbed should be:

- Near a water source
- With good drainage
- Far from Fields infected from tungro and other diseases
- Away from light source
- Protected from rats, birds and snails
- Not shaded



Steps on how to do modified dapog

- Soak seeds in clean water for 12-24 hours
- Change soaking water every 5-6 hours
- Incubate seeds at 30°C for 24-36 hours until the root emerges
- Keep seed moist and aerated



1. Prepare the seedbed

- Prepare the seedbed with 25m² and elevate the seedbed about 2-3 inches
- Make a canal (30cm or 12 inch between seedbeds)
- Level the seedbed using a flat stick



2. Preparation of modified dapog

Distribute or scattered the rice hull evenly on the top of the seedbed with a 2-3 cm thickness.



Place the double plastic net on top of rice hull



Sow the pre-germinated seeds on the top of plastic net



Cover the seed using cleaned rice straw



3. Maintenance of modified dapog

Water the seedbed two times a day using a sprinkle or a sprayer. Do this on the first day up to the fourth day after sowing



On the fifth day, carefully remove the rice straw on the top of the seedbed.



Fertilizer Application:

Using a 10:1 ratio (seeding rate:fertilizer rate)



Water Management:

Maintain saturated water depth after fertilizer application up to the day of pulling



4. Harvesting of seedlings

After 12-14 days, the seedlings are ready to transplant



Carefully separate the two plastic nets to remove some of the rice hull and soils attached to the roots

5. Transporting of seedlings

Bring the seedling mat to the planting area



6. Distribution of seedlings

Carefully detached the seedlings in the plastic net and directly distribute in the field by placing in wetbed bundle like



7. Transplanting of Seedlings

Transplant 12-14 days old seedlings



- The Field should be well prepared, leveled and GAS (Golden Apple Snail) free
- Transplant 1-2 seedlings for hybrid rice and 1-3 for inbred rice
- Replant within 7 days

