



Department of Agriculture
Philippine Center for Postharvest Development and Mechanization

PHilMech

Monthly News Bits

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Y4M Boot Camp Converts More Youth Into Advocates

Jett Molech G. Subaba

SCIENCE CITY OF MUÑOZ, NUEVA ECIJA – Enticing. Exciting. Experiential. These capture the collective experiences of the student delegates who attended the Youth for Mechanization (Y4M) Boot Camp held at the PHilMech Main Office on April 14-15.

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PHilMech Provides Support to ATI's Rice Production Training in Bulacan

Christine V. Ang

PULILAN, BULACAN - PHilMech provided technical assistance as a resource speaker during the Training of Trainers on Rice Production conducted by ATI on April 15–16 in Pulilan, Bulacan. The activity was attended by 32 participants from Region III and aimed to strengthen the knowledge, skills and leadership of agricultural extension workers.

PHilMech shared expertise in rice production, including the use of modern machinery such as four-wheel tractors, rice transplanters and rice combine harvesters, with the goal of improving their application in more effective and sustainable extension strategies.

Women of Pantabangan Undergo Hands-on Training in Cashew Processing

Joanna Aquin R. Hofileña

MARIVELES, BATAAN - The Nagkakaisang Kababaihan ng Conversion of Pantabangan, Nueva Ecija participated in a learning session on cashew processing on April 15. The training was held at the processing center of the Alion Kapit Bisig SEA-K Association in Mariveles, Bataan, which serves as a social laboratory of PHilMech in the field of cashew processing systems.

Led by the EDD, the activity aimed to strengthen the participants' skills in proper cashew processing using the PHilMech Cashew Nut Processing System.

PHilMech Maintains 'Very Satisfactory' DBM Rating for FY 2025

Jhian Chrissie A-lea-son G. Padilla

SCIENCE CITY OF MUÑOZ, NUEVA ECIJA - The Philippine Center for Postharvest Development and Mechanization (PHilMech) sustained its strong performance, earning a "Very Satisfactory" rating from the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) for Fiscal Year 2025, with an overall score of 4.20.

This achievement reflects PHilMech's solid financial and physical performance, marked by strengthened budget utilization, improved disbursement efficiency, full attainment of physical targets and timely submission of reports.

The continued recognition underscores the agency's commitment to efficient program implementation and service delivery for Filipino farmers and fisherfolk, further strengthening its role in advancing Philippine agriculture.



Y4M Boot Camp Converts More Youth Into Advocates

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A total of 82 senior high school students from the Central Luzon State University - Agricultural Science and Technology School (CLSU-ASTS) participated in this two-day event, which aimed to provide delegates with hands-on learning experiences to enhance their appreciation of agricultural mechanization.

During the event, Secretary Francisco P. Tiu Laurel, Jr., expressed his support for the Y4M program and highlighted the vital role of youth in agriculture.

“By being here, you’re not just learning skills; you are joining a movement that is shaping the future of food and farming in our country,” Secretary Tiu Laurel Jr. stated.

Additionally, Director Dionisio G. Alwindia encouraged the delegates to pursue agricultural courses in college, finish their education, and become agripreneurs for a prosperous future.

He also emphasized the need for parents to change the narrative surrounding agriculture and to instill positive attitudes about it in their children.

The boot camp provided delegates with a rich experience that included short lectures, hands-on use of rice production machinery, drone demonstrations, photo and essay competitions, group games, campfire activities, and a concept pitching contest designed to unleash their creative ideas for promoting Y4M further.

Delegates praised the event for enhancing their appreciation of agriculture as a modern and innovative field, transforming them into advocates for Y4M. They also expressed their eagerness to volunteer for future Y4M activities to engage more youth like them.

The Y4M program aims to rebrand the image of agriculture among youth and mobilize them into a skilled workforce in mechanization for the sector, which will help secure the food supply and future of the country.

Turnover of White Copra Drying Facility Held in Negros Oriental

✦ Cristine Joy S. Corpuz

ZAMBOANGUITA, NEGROS ORIENTAL - The turnover of White Copra Drying Facility was held on April 10 in Zamboanguita, Negros Oriental, awarded to the Zamboanguita Small Coconut Farmers Multi-Purpose Cooperative (ZASCOFAMCO). It is the first facility for white copra in the province.

Led by PhilMech as a convergence effort, the project brought together various government agencies to support coconut farmers. It is part of the Coconut Farmers and Industry Development Plan (CFIDP) – Shared Facilities for Processing (SFP), which aims to boost farmers’ income by enabling the

production of high-value white copra and improving postharvest processing in the coconut industry.

PhilMech Director IV Dr. Dionisio G. Alwindia assured continued support, while partner agencies emphasized collaboration for the project’s sustainability. Representatives from national agencies, the local government, and the cooperative attended the event.

ZASCOFAMCO expressed gratitude and committed to properly managing the facility, which is expected to benefit hundreds of small coconut farmers in the area.

RCEF Mech Program Highlighted at F2C2 Stakeholders Meeting

Mark Dheniel A. Gutierrez

ILOILO CITY, ILOILO – The RCEF Mechanization Program was presented during the F2C2 Stakeholders Coordination and Harmonization Meeting to clusters from Iloilo, Antique, Aklan, Capiz and Guimaras on April 15. The discussion highlighted the program’s goal of strengthening agricultural mechanization.

Alongside this, the technical and documentary requirements for availing of the program were explained, aiming to make it easier for beneficiaries to access support from RCEF.



Training for Local Manufacturers Held at PHilMech

Karl Allen V. Aquino

SCIENCE CITY OF MUÑOZ, NUEVA ECIJA – A training for local manufacturers was conducted by TMTD, AMD, and KOICA from April 13–17 at the PHilMech AMDPC Training Room, focusing on product design, manufacturing, and quality for agricultural machinery.

The activity aimed to help participants understand the full process—from design to production of machinery—and the impact of design decisions on product quality and performance. It also covered digital tools, basic manufacturing methods, and proper standards and practices in production.

PHilMech Joins Turnover of Agri Interventions in Quezon

Cristine Joy S. Corpuz

PANUKULAN, QUEZON - PHilMech joined the turnover ceremony of various agricultural interventions for farmers in Panukulan, Quezon on April 23.

The agency awarded the RHUDARDA Multi-Purpose Cooperative equipment—including a dehusking machine, mechanical coconut climber, earth auger, chainsaw, sprayer, and brushcutter—to support the operation and maintenance of their Shared Facility for Processing (SFP).



PHilMech Passes 2nd IMS Surveillance Audit

Noel S. Mariano Jr.

SCIENCE CITY OF MUÑOZ, NUEVA ECIJA – PHilMech successfully underwent a thorough evaluation and passed the second surveillance audit held on April 22–24, led by Audit Team Leader Engr. Eugene L. Librando of W3 Solutionz—a globally recognized certification body.

The audit aimed to ensure the agency’s continued compliance with quality, environmental, and occupational health and safety standards, as well as the effective operation and implementation of its policies and procedures.



PHilMech Participates in IP Week Celebration

Shaira Gem M. Lacson

SCIENCE CITY OF MUÑOZ, NUEVA ECIJA – PHilMech took part in the celebration of Intellectual Property (IP) Month on April 20, where it shared the agency’s first IP milestone along with its accomplishments for the year 2025.

Preparations also included the development of an IP system and the conduct of foundational courses. The celebration carried the theme “IP in Sports: Ready, Set, Innovate!”



PHilMech and PCC Formalize Broadcast Partnership

Ma. Bernadeth P. Grospe

SCIENCE CITY OF MUÑOZ, NUEVA ECIJA – A Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) has established a broadcast partnership between Radyo Agri 90.1 FM of PHilMech and the Philippine Carabao Center (PCC) held at PHilMech Main Office, Science City of Muñoz, Nueva Ecija last April 13, 2026

PCC Executive Director III Dr. Liza Battad personally visited PHilMech along with staff from the Knowledge Management Division (KMD) for the signing activity, while PHilMech Director IV Dr. Dionsio G. Alvindia represented the radio station.

Meanwhile, witnesses for the signing were KMD Information Officer III Ma. Cecilia Irang-Mariano and Applied Communication Division (ACD) Chief and Radyo Agri General Manager Elijah Z. Davalos.

Director Battad shared, “Ito ang totoong partnership”, as she emphasized the significant role of the media as an effective medium for delivering knowledge to farmers.

Prior to the MOA signing, Radyo Agri and PCC conducted exploratory meetings last August 2025 and January 2026, discussing potential opportunities for broadcast partnership and collaboration for information-dissemination.

The partnership will soon launch PCC’s radio program, “Let’s Talk Livestock,” on Radyo Agri 90.1 FM to share innovative livestock knowledge, success stories of carapreneurs, and valuable information for farmers.

The program will feature practical and useful information to help improve the livelihoods of farmers, especially in the field of carabao raising.

Let’s Talk Livestock is set to air its first episode this coming May 2026.



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PHilMech News Bits highlights the agency’s activities as the country’s lead institution in postharvest development and mechanization, delivering timely updates on programs, innovations, and partnerships that support farmers and the agriculture sector.