



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Agriculture
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Elliptical Road, Diliman
Quezon City, 1100 Philippines

January 3, 2020

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

NO. 02

Series of 2020

SUBJECT : STRENGTHENED GUIDELINES IN MONITORING AND EVALUATION OF LOCAL PRODUCTION AND IMPORTATION OF ONION (*Allium cepa*) AND GARLIC (*Allium sativum*)

WHEREAS, alliums are important cash crops in the Philippines widely used as spices and are common ingredients of most Filipino dishes and used by industries engaged in the manufacture of processed food products. ^[1,2]

WHEREAS, for 2018-2019 cropping season, local production of onion reached 208,448.6 MT for red and 31,866.66 MT for yellow; while importation of yellow onion was recorded at 11,483.27 MT; ^[3,4]

WHEREAS, for 2018-2019 cropping season, local production of garlic reached 11,750.87 MT; while importation was recorded at 71,048.58 MT (arrival); ^[3,4]

WHEREAS, these commodities have been regulated by the Bureau of Plant Industry to prevent entry of pests and diseases and ensure food safety;

WHEREAS, these commodities have always been a major part of the Filipino diet, thus making the monitoring and evaluation of its local production, importation, food safety and pricing paramount.

In the exigency of service and for the strengthening of the monitoring, evaluation, and the functions of the Bureau of Plant Industry, this order is hereby promulgated.

Agencies responsible for the monitoring and evaluation of local production and importation of allium:

1. Department of Agriculture – Office of the Secretary/Policy and Planning
 - a. Establish institutional policy including governance and transparency in determining the following:
 - volume requirement for allium (garlic and onion - both for red creole and yellow granex) based on 5-year historical profile on actual imports plus local production;
 - Planning, coordination, provision for support and incentives to intensify local supply production (aligning it with farmers' transition to high value crops as per Rice Tariffication Law)

¹ Lopez, E.L. and Anit, E.A. (1994). ALLIUM PRODUCTION IN THE PHILIPPINES. Acta Hort. 358. 61-70
DOI: 10.17660/ActaHortic.1994.358.8
<https://doi.org/10.17660/ActaHortic.1994.358.8>

² Department of Agriculture- High Value Crop Development Program (DA-HVCDP)

³ DA RFOs and Terminal Reports of LGUs

⁴ BPI- Allium Monitoring Team

- b. Define and operationalize medium to long-term strategy to ensure supply availability and create market opportunities for local farmers to transition to high value commodities and present this to stakeholders. Ensure participation of organized farmers' group from the major onion and garlic-producing provinces; local government units of concerned provinces, BPI accredited importers, PHILFOODEX, DARFO heads and focal persons, DA-HVC, AMAS, ACPC, BPI, PASUC/concerned SUCS.
 - c. Ensure that support system and funding are available through cost-sharing at national and local levels.
 2. Bureau of Plant Industry (BPI) - The BPI shall regularly monitor, evaluate and provide technical support to the local production of allium through its Crop Research and Production Support Division (CRPSD) ie traceability and technical support to ensure reliability of planting materials. The BPI shall also be proactive in managing the pests of allium by surveying and assessing pest and disease risks in allium production areas through its Crop Pest Management Division (CPMD). It shall also ensure the food safety compliance of local and imported allium through the Plant Product Safety Services Division (PPSSD) and be vigilant in the prevention of entry and spread of pests and diseases through the National Plant Quarantine Services Division (NPQSD). The existing BPI Allium Monitoring Team (BPI-AMT) shall continue its functions and initiate closer collaboration with DA agencies and non-DA organizations related to the allium industry.
 3. DA Agribusiness and Marketing Assistance Service (DA-AMAS) - AMAS shall lead in the identification, information dissemination and updating of allium supply and demand for domestic markets including institutional buyers; regular Price advisories in all major public and private markets throughout the Philippines; and market intelligence and surveillance.
 4. DA Information and Communication Technology Services (DA-ICTS) - The DA- ICTS shall establish dynamic website and other ICT- enabled tools to ensure proactive engagements all concerned stakeholders at the local and national levels. This specifically shall reflect the current stocks/inventory and prices of local and imported allium. This information shall come from the DA-BPI, DA-AMAS, DA- RFOs and the allium industry stakeholders.
 5. DA-Regional Field Offices (RFO) - The DA-RFOs shall provide the information, logistics and technical support to the DA-BPI and its allium monitoring activities (e.g., production, pest management, food safety and plant quarantine) and DA-AMAS in its price monitoring activities. It shall be the clearing house of information at the regional level when it comes to gathering of pertinent allium-related data. In terms of local production management, i.e. touch basing with local government units in terms of prioritization, ordinances and support)



B. BORDER

Inward Foreign Cargo Manifests (IFM) shall be required for every Allium shipment. The DA-IFM website shall be re-initiated. BPI NPQSD shall implement 100% inspection of Allium products, until such time when these imports have reached the proper pest and disease and food safety level as set by BPI. Philippine National Standard (PNS) on onion and garlic shall also be strictly adhered to. Close coordination with the Bureau of Customs (BOC) in cases of non-compliance shall be adhered to. Pertinent reports shall be submitted to the DA-BPI.

C. POST-BORDER

After clearing all the SPS requirements at the border, all allium importations shall undergo the necessary second border inspection and sampling protocols as recommended by ISPM No. 23 "*Guidelines on Inspection*" and ISPM No. 31 "*Methodologies for Sampling of Consignments*". Pertinent reports shall be submitted to the DA-BPI.

IV. COLD STORAGE WAREHOUSES

All cold storage warehouses (CSWs) catering to local and imported allium shall be registered with the DA and shall be subjected to existing guidelines for inspection of pests and diseases and food safety for plant food. Full accreditation of the CSWs for plant food specifically allium shall be done *ad hoc* by BPI-AMT. A grace period of six months shall be given to non-compliant CSWs for their corrective actions. All registered CSWs' inventories with local and imported stocks of allium shall be submitted to the BPI-AMT every two weeks. The Office of the Secretary shall be furnished a copy of these. Allium stock inventories shall be uploaded in the database maintained by the DA-ICTS for internal consumption only.

V. STAKEHOLDER COLLABORATION

To institutionalize participatory monitoring and ensure transparency in balancing supply-demand side, Allium growers, traders, importers, and exporters shall be actively involved in the sharing of accurate information. Regular meetings shall be conducted for this purpose. Any result in the monitoring and evaluation activities of this group shall be forwarded to the Philippine Competition Commission and/or other appropriate authorities in order to ensure fair competition in the market for the benefit of the consumers and businesses.

This order shall take effect immediately.



WILLIAM D. DAR, Ph.D.

Secretary

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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