



TRAINING COMPLETION REPORT

- I. **Title of Training:** Training on Abaca Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) and Integrated Pest Management (IPM)
- II. **Date and Venue:** December 2, 2021
Brgy. Amguhan, Baybay City
- III. **Implementing Unit(s):** National Abaca Research Center
- IV. **Cooperating Agencies (if any):** Baybay City Agriculture Office
- V. **Service area and type of participants:** Farmers of Baybay City
- VI. **Rationale**

The overarching mission of research, development and extension (RDE) programs of NARC is to help reduce poverty among resource-poor abaca farmers and other stakeholders and to help strengthen the abaca industry. The goal of extension is to help people make better choices by giving them relevant information and enhancing their capacities to act on that information.¹ In NARC, the primary concern is for technologies that improve abaca production to be adopted primarily by farmers, and other stakeholders (transfer of technology). As a research center, NARC develops technologies which are then transferred to the extension program through subject-matter specialists or the researchers. This is done through trainings and other forms of technical assistance.

Although this follows a conventional, top-down model, stressing transfer of technology and information dissemination², the trainings are designed in a way that participants can interact with the researchers. The content is also regularly updated to meet the needs of abaca farmers and other stakeholders. Crucial to the extension program is "information that has been assembled, systematized, and made available on good or progressive or new agricultural practices suited to a particular environment, and is based on either (or both) the accumulation of experience or findings from research."³ Because of this, there is also a need to educate not only farmers but professional agriculturists or agricultural extension workers (AEWs) who may further contribute to this body of knowledge based on field experience and "become active promoters and disseminators of it (*ibid*)."

¹ Christoplos I, Farrington J and Kidd AD. 2001. Extension, Poverty and Vulnerability. Overseas Development Institute

² Cristovao A, Koehnen T and Portela J. 1997. Developing and Delivering Extension Programmes. In BE Swanson, RP Bentz and AJ Sofranko (Eds.). Improving Agricultural Extension: A Reference Manual. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations: Rome, Italy. FAO

³ Jones G and Garforth C. 1997. The History, Development, and Future of Agricultural Extension. In BE Swanson, RP Bentz and AJ Sofranko (Eds.). Improving Agricultural Extension: A Reference Manual. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations: Rome, Italy. FAO

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Mission: Development of a highly competitive human resource, cutting-edge scientific knowledge and innovative technologies for sustainable communities and environment.