



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

SPECIAL ORDER

No. 76
Series of 2022

SUBJECT : RECONSTITUTION OF THE ORGANIC AGRICULTURE MONITORING TEAM (FORMERLY KNOWN AS THE ORGANIC AGRICULTURE VALIDATION TEAM)

In the exigency of service, and in line with the provisions of the Republic Act (RA) No. 11511, otherwise known as "An Act Amending RA No.10068 or the Organic Agriculture Act of 2010", the composition of the Organic Agriculture Monitoring Team (formerly known as Organic Agriculture Validation Team) is hereby reconstituted, as follows:

Title	Designation	Office
Dr. Lucille Elna P. de Guzman	University Researcher III	UPLB
Prof. Ma. Fatima O. Mercado	Assistant Professor VII	UPLB
Dr. Gina V. Pangga	Associate Professor V	UPLB
Dr. Purification O. Cahatian	Professor VI	USM
Engr. Ibrahim A. Racmat	Senior Science Research Specialist	BAFS
Mr. Jeffrey S. Garido	Science Research Specialist II	BAFS
Ms. Moraine M. Sumague	Science Research Specialist I	BAFS
Mr. Marc Owell A. Ama	Science Research Specialist I	BAFS
Mr. Gerald E. Cammagay	Senior Science Research Specialist	BAFS
Mr. Charlie T. Palilio	Science Research Specialist II	BAFS
Ms. Jenina B. Cusay	Science Research Specialist I	BAFS
Ms. Anna Dominique V. Cadsawan	Science Research Specialist I	BAFS

The Organic Agriculture Monitoring Team (OAMT) shall be responsible for the conduct of monitoring of registered integrated organic farms and organic inputs such as organic soil amendments (OSA) and organic bio-control agents (OBCA), and market surveillance of producers, produce, products, and inputs with organic claim.

Monitoring:

- Conduct monitoring activities to verify compliance of registered integrated organic farms and organic inputs such as OSA and OBCA to applicable Philippine National Standards (PNS) relevant to organic agriculture and other regulatory requirements within the validity of their Certificate of Registration (COR), at least once a year, or in a frequency as deemed necessary based on risk identified;
- Collect product samples from registered integrated organic farms and organic inputs such as OSA and OBCA for relevant laboratory analyses to verify conformance to applicable Philippine National Standards (PNS) relevant to organic agriculture and other regulatory requirements; and
- Conduct special case monitoring in cases of receipt of written formal complaints, written reports of non-conformities or request from a DA Regulatory Agency.

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Market Surveillance:

- Conduct market surveillance within DA-BAFS' purview, in coordination with concerned LGUs, as deemed necessary, in accordance with the provisions of Sections 17 (*Registration of Organic Producers, Produce, and Products*), 18 (*Labeling of Organic Produce*) and 19 (*Retailing of Organic Produce*) of RA No. 11511; and
- Collect product samples from producers and retail establishments where produce and products with organic claim are conspicuously displayed for relevant analyses to verify conformance to applicable PNS relevant to organic agriculture and other regulatory requirements.

Encompassing all types of monitoring, the **OAMT** is tasked to:

- Coordinate with the Organic Agriculture Registration and Evaluation Section (OARES) on the details of the registered integrated organic farms, OSA, OBCA operators to be monitored;
- Develop the monitoring itinerary and other details of the monitoring activities to be conducted;
- Facilitate the identification of **OAMT** Members;
- Prepare reports based on the results of conducted monitoring activities and submit these reports to the DA-BAFS Director copy furnished to the Organic Agriculture Division (OAD) Chief and relevant sections of OAD (i.e., OARES, OA Accreditation Section, and OA Monitoring and Labeling Enforcement Section);
- Facilitate the conduct of meetings, trainings and other capability building activities, mid-year and year-end assessment review, and workshops necessary to enable the **OAMT** to carry out their duties;
- Maintain a library of records and hold these as confidential records;
- Review and revise guidelines and procedure to facilitate the conduct of monitoring activities; and
- Act as resource speakers in relevant trainings and symposia.

Reimbursement and/or payment of per diems, transportation fares, food and accommodations, samples for laboratory analyses, laboratory fees, honoraria for non-Department of Agriculture personnel and other incidental expenses to be incurred in the performance of duties enumerated above is hereby authorized, shall be chargeable against the DA-BAFS Regular Funds, subject to the availability of funds and the usual government accounting and auditing rules and regulations.

This Order shall take effect immediately and remain in force until revoked in writing.

All orders, memoranda, and issuances inconsistent herewith and deemed revoked.

Done this 3rd day of February 2022.


WILLIAM D. DAR, Ph.D.
Secretary

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE


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