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PHILIPPINE COUNCIL FOR AGRICULTURE. **FORESTRY AND NATURAL RESOURCES** RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (PCARRD) **Department of Science and Technology**

Disease Free Abaca Plantlets in Caraga Region



Introduction

Abaca (*Musa textiles* Nee) is a well-known crop in the Philippines especially in Eastern Visayas, Bicol Region, and Mindanao. Its fiber is known worldwide for its good quality and strength. Although abaca has long been an established industry, it is expected to continue keeping a stronghold in both domestic and international markets.

The Fiber Industry Development Authority (FIDA) of the Department of Agriculture (DA) has been implementing projects/programs geared toward affirming and strengthening further the country's position as the top producer and supplier of quality abaca worldwide.

Like abaca, banana is also indigenous in the Philippines, and its production augments our country's economy. To set-up these industries and to maintain and conserve these crops, the farmers are being motivated and encouraged by the different government and non-government agencies to plant abaca and banana. This resulted in an increased demand for planting materials from growers who wished to rehabilitate or establish abaca or banana plantation.

At present, the Northern Mindanao State Institute of Science and Technology (NORMISIST) is producing 2,000 abaca plantlets everyday. It also produces quality planting stocks of banana, vegetables, palm oil, fruit and forest trees for the burgeoning needs of the region.



Greenhouse Nursery

A multi-million-peso greenhouse-nursery is now ready to serve Caraga Region courtesy of the Priority Development Fund of Rep. Boy Banaag. It is a semi-automatic facility equipped with fogging system, misting system, fertigating machine, compressor with power sprayer and 12 beds of 22 m x 1.3 m dimension.

The floor area of the facility is 40 m \times 16 m and has a capacity of 1 million seedlings. The said greenhouse nursery is of Korean design with a double shading net above the beds, all shrouded by poly-firm plastic that is 35% UV-treated.

Supply/Demand Analysis

Year	Actual Demand	Actual Supply	GAP
Abaca			
2002	600,000	41,121	558,879
2003	660,000	46,510	613,490
2004	726,000	449,631	276,369
Cavendish			
2002	600,000	0	600,000
2003	660,000	0	660,000
2004	726,000	0	726,000

Projected Supply/Demand

Year	Demand	Supply	Gap
Abaca (Plantlets))		
2005	798,600	768,000	30,600
2006	878,460	844,800	33,660
2007	966,306	929,280	37,026
2008	1,062,937	1,022,208	40,729
2009	1,169,230	1,124,429	44,801
Cavendish			
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