

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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Philippines

Post: Manila

Philippine Agriculture Grows 5.3 Percent in First Quarter 2017

Report Categories:

Agricultural Situation

Approved By:

Jeffrey Albanese

Prepared By:

Perfecto Corpuz

Report Highlights:

According to the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA), Philippine agriculture expanded 5.3 percent in the first quarter of 2017, mainly due to favorable weather conditions. All subsectors posted positive growth. Farm prices were 3.3 percent higher in the first quarter of 2017 as compared to the same period for 2016.

General Information:

According to the report “Performance of Philippine Agriculture, January-March 2017” from the PSA, after contracting in recent quarters, Philippine agriculture recovered and increased 5.3 percent from January to March 2017. Average farm prices increased 3.3 percent compared to the same period for 2016. See attachment.

The crops subsector expanded 8.3 percent in the first quarter of 2017 with paddy rice and corn production increasing by 12.4 percent and 23.4 percent, respectively, compared to the same period in 2016. Production gains were also noted in sugarcane, banana, pineapple, tobacco, peanut, mung bean, cassava, tomato, garlic, onion, eggplant, and rubber. Crops accounted for 54 percent of total farm output during the first quarter of 2017. Rice contributed 18.4 percent, while corn accounted for 8.7 percent.

The livestock subsector increased 3.2 percent and accounted for 17 percent of overall agricultural output. Hog production grew 3.5 percent and was the top contributor to the subsector’s performance.

The poultry subsector contributed 15.4 percent to total agricultural production, and increased 1.9 percent compared to the same period for 2016. Output gains were also noted in all components of the subsector (i.e., chicken, duck, chicken eggs, duck eggs).

The fisheries subsector produced 0.7 percent more output during the first quarter of 2017 and contributed a 14.2 percent share to total agricultural output.

Average farm prices increased 3.3 percent in the first quarter of 2017 as compared to the same period for 2016. Livestock and fisheries prices were higher by 6 percent and 7.2 percent, respectively. Crops posted an average price increase of 2.0 percent, while poultry prices marginally (0.3 percent) were up compared to the same period for 2016.