



SPECIAL RELEASE

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PALAY AND CORN PRODUCTION IN REGION I DECCELERATES IN FOURTH QUARTER 2015

(Results from the Palay and Corn Production Survey, January 2016 Round)

Palay and corn production in Region I for 4th fourth quarter 2015 were lower than their reported levels in the same quarter last year by 0.03 percent and 3.6 percent, respectively. The downtrend was mainly attributed to the effect of Typhoons Ineng and Lando, and insufficient water supply during the period.

Palay

Palay production in Region I during the 4th quarter 2015 was posted at 1,209,360 metric tons (MT), or 0.03 percent lower than the output in the same period last year. Harvest area expanded to 287,200 hectares from the 280,454 hectares recorded in 4th quarter 2014. The yield, however, was lower by 2.4 percent from 4.31 metric tons per hectare in 4th quarter 2014 to 4.21 metric tons per hectare in 4th quarter 2015. The provinces of La Union and Pangasinan contributed to the overall negative growth of the region. Meanwhile, the overall production of the country during the 4th quarter 2015 period also declined by 3.8 percent as the yield per hectare went down by 7.4 percent. Total harvest area, on the other hand, expanded by 3.9 percent.

Table 1. Palay Estimates, Philippines and Region I, 4th Quarter 2015 and 4th Quarter 2014

Item	Philippines		GR (%)	Region I		GR (%)
	4th Qtr 2015	4th Qtr 2014		4th Qtr 2015	4th Qtr 2014	
Production (metric ton)	7,274,740	7,560,865	(3.8)	1,209,360	1,209,690	(0.0)
Area (hectare)	1,940,942	1,868,090	3.9	287,200	280,454	2.4
Yield (metric ton/hectare)	3.75	4.05	(7.4)	4.21	4.31	(2.4)

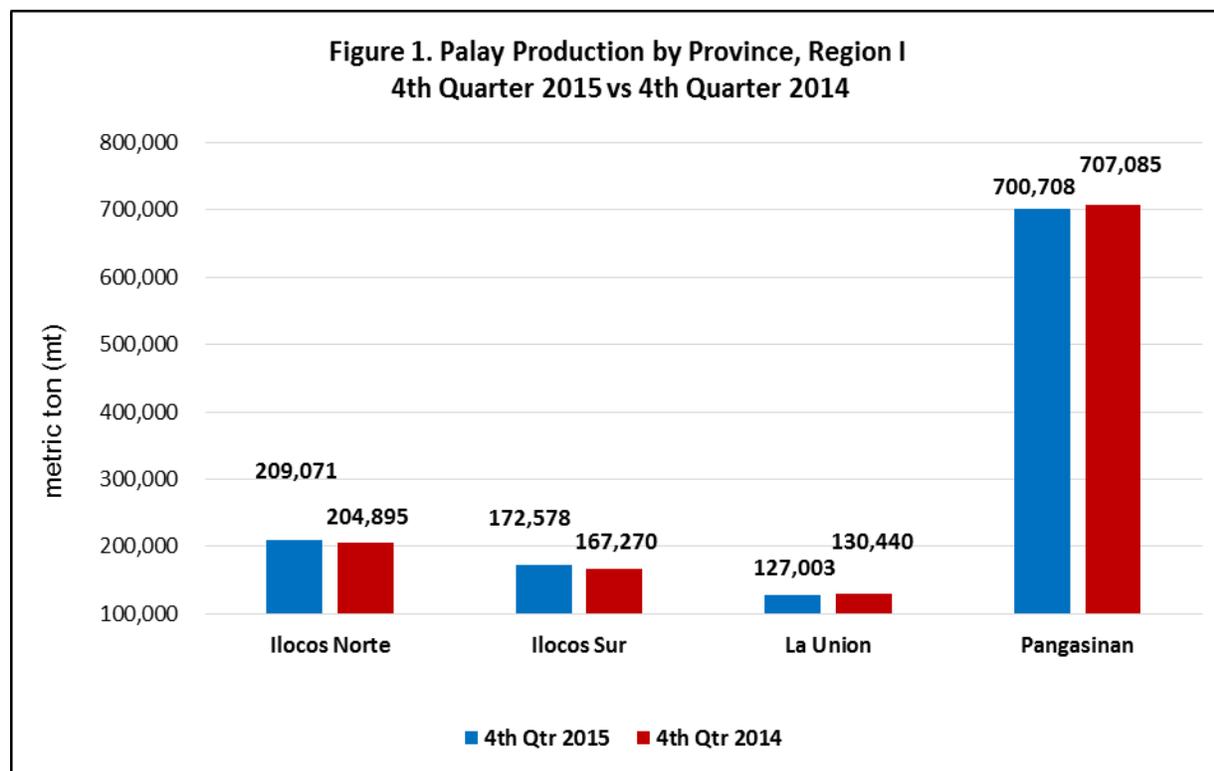
Source: Philippine Statistics Authority, Palay and Corn Production Survey, January 2016 Round

The province of Pangasinan shared the bulk (57.9 percent) of palay production in Region I in 4th quarter 2015. Its output, however, went down from 707,085 metric tons in 4th quarter 2014 to 700,708 metric tons in 4th quarter 2015. Harvest area of the province expanded by 4.4 percent from 168,066 hectares in 4th quarter last year to 175,391 hectares this year but plantings were affected by Typhoon Lando, thereby, lowering the yield from 4.21 metric tons per hectare last year to 4.00 metric tons per hectare.

The province of La Union also experienced decline in production during the 4th quarter 2015. Its output was posted at 127,003 metric tons, or 2.6 percent lower than the output in 4th quarter 2014. Lesser plantings in irrigated areas were observed due to insufficient water supply. Overall harvest area of the province contracted to 28,098 hectares from 28,162 hectares in 4th quarter 2014. Yield also went down from 4.63 per hectare to 4.52 per hectare.

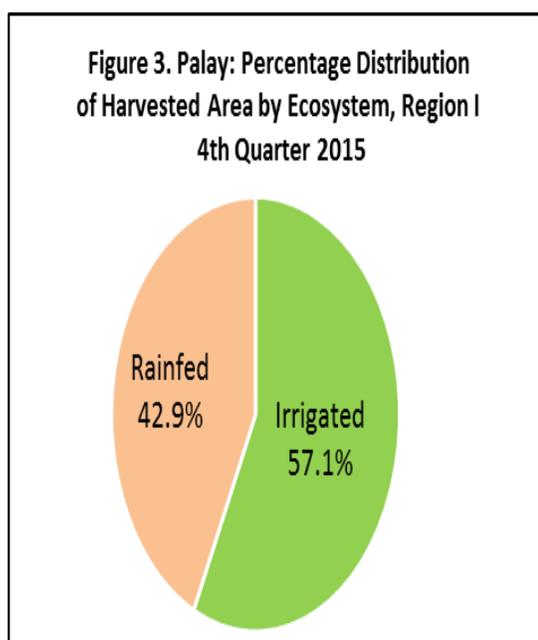
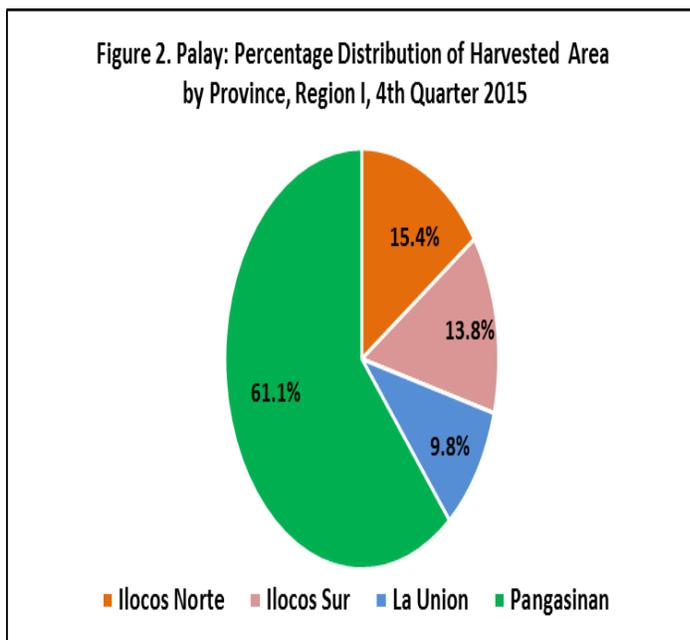
Palay production in Ilocos Sur registered positive growth in 4th quarter 2015. From its output of 167,270 metric tons in 4th quarter 2014, it went up to 172,578 metric tons in 4th quarter 2015. Increased usage of hybrid and inbred seeds contributed to the gains in output.

In Ilocos Norte, palay production also went up by 2.0 percent from 204,895 metric tons in 4th quarter 2014 to 209,071 metric tons in 4th quarter 2015. There were available subsidized hybrid seeds from the local governments units and High Yielding Technology Adoption (HYTA) Program, and increased fertilizer usage which can be attributed to the reported increase in production.



Source: Philippine Statistics Authority, Palay and Corn Production Survey, January 2016 Round

In terms of area harvested, the province of Pangasinan has the largest with a share of 61.1 percent to the total harvested area of palay in Region I during the 4th quarter 2015 period. It was followed by Ilocos Norte with 15.4 percent, Ilocos Sur with 13.8 percent, and La Union with 9.8 percent. By ecosystem in Region I, irrigated palay shared 57.1 percent, while rainfed palay shared 42.9 percent.



Source: Philippine Statistics Authority, Palay and Corn Production Survey, January 2016 Round

Corn

Corn production in Region I for the 4th quarter 2015 was estimated at 7,540 metric tons, or 3.6 percent lower than the estimate in the same period a year ago. The overall harvest area contracted by 2.2 percent from 1,973 hectares in 4th quarter 2014 to 1,929 hectares in 4th quarter 2015. Yield also went down from 3.96 metric tons per hectare to 3.91 metric tons per hectare. All the provinces of the region, except Ilocos Norte, posted decreases in output. Meanwhile, overall corn production of the Philippines went down by 6.0 percent from 1,842,232 million metric tons in 4th quarter 2014 to 1,730,993 million metric tons in 4th quarter 2015. Area harvested at the national level contracted to 634,496 hectares from 642,805 hectares. Yield also dropped from 2.87 metric tons per hectare to 2.73 metric tons per hectare.

Table 2. Corn Estimates, Philippines and Region I, 4th Quarter 2015 and 4th Quarter 2014

Item	Philippines		GR (%)	Region I		GR (%)
	4th Qtr 2015	4th Qtr 2014		4th Qtr 2015	4th Qtr 2014	
Production (metric ton)	1,730,993	1,842,232	(6.0)	7,540	7,821	(3.6)
Area (hectare)	634,496	642,805	(1.3)	1,929	1,973	(2.2)
Yield (metric ton/hectare)	2.73	2.87	(4.8)	3.91	3.96	(1.4)

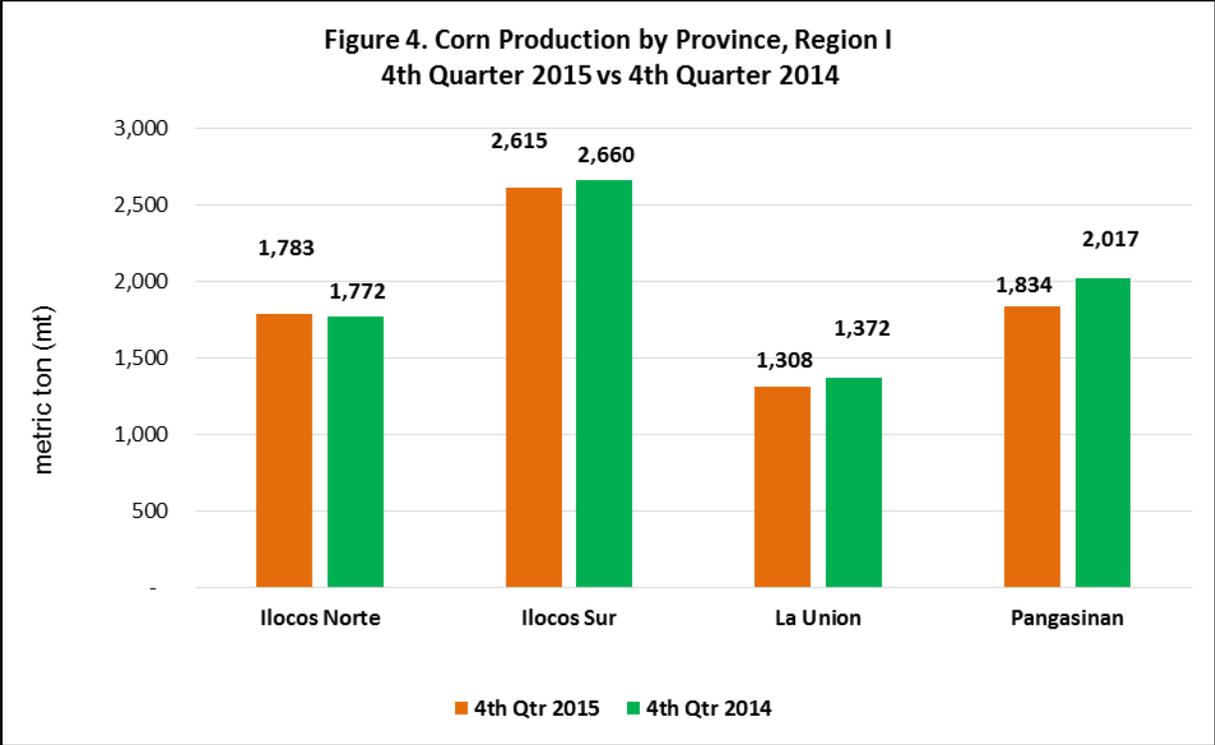
Source: Philippine Statistics Authority, Palay and Corn Production Survey, January 2016 Round

The province of Ilocos Sur shared the bulk of corn harvest in Region I in the 4th quarter 2015. However, the overall production of the province during the period went down by 1.7 percent. Some areas of yellow corn were damaged during the occurrence of Typhoon Ineng. With the effect of the said typhoon, together with Typhoon Lando, overall yield of Ilocos Sur dropped from 4.33 metric tons per hectare to 3.85 metric tons per hectare.

The province of Pangasinan, which ranked second in terms of volume of production, also posted negative growth of 9.1 percent. From its output of 2,017 metric tons in 4th quarter 2014, it went down to 1,834 metric tons in 4th quarter 2015 due to the effect of Typhoon Lando. Harvest area also contracted to 450 hectares from 494 hectares.

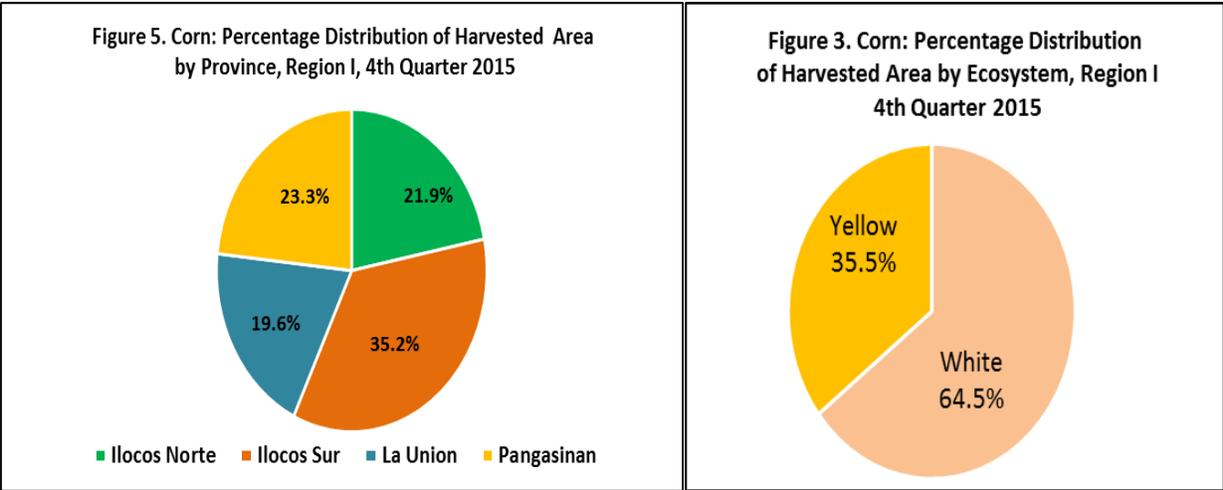
The province of Ilocos Norte registered positive growth of 0.6 percent during the 4th quarter 2015. From its production in the same period last year of 1,772 metric tons, it grew to 1,783 metric tons. Improvements in the yield of both white corn and yellow corn due to increased usage of high yielding varieties were noted. Thus, overall yield of the province increase by 12.8 percent, from 3.75 metric tons in 4th quarter 2014 to 4.23 metric tons in 4th quarter 2015.

The province of La Union posted decline in output from 1,372 metric tons in 4th quarter 2014 to 1,308 metric tons in 4th quarter 2015. Only white corn was planted during the period, and its yield was affected by Typhoon Lando. Thus, yield of corn in the province went down from 3.51 metric tons per hectare to 3.46 metric tons per hectare.



Source: Philippine Statistics Authority, Palay and Corn Production Survey, January 2016 Round

The province of Ilocos Sur has the largest harvested area of corn in 4th quarter 2015 with 35.2 percent to the total harvest area of Region I. It was followed by Pangasinan with 23.3 percent, Ilocos Norte with 21.9 percent, and La Union with 19.6 percent. Meanwhile, greater area in Region I was harvested with white corn with a share of 64.5 percent. The remaining 35.5 percent was devoted for yellow corn production.



Source: Philippine Statistics Authority, Palay and Corn Production Survey, January 2016 Round

TECHNICAL NOTES

- The Palay and Corn Production Survey covers sample farming household in sample barangays in all provinces except Batanes but including Zamboanga and Davao Cities. This is conducted quarterly with the quarters as the reference periods, as follows:

April Round Survey - January to March

July Round Survey - April to June

October Round Survey - July to September

January Round Survey - October to December

- The objective of the survey is to generate estimates and forecasts on palay/corn area, production and yield.
- The purpose of this survey is to provide data inputs for policy and programs on rice and corn.

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