

Department of Agriculture BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY

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Dear IPPC Contact Points,

To circumvent tremendous effect on trade due to CoViD-19 especially that an Enhanced Community Quarantine (ECQ) is implemented in various areas in the Philippines and the quarantine measures implemented in other countries, the following measures will be carried-out:

1. For export

Since courier service is one of the affected industries with the current ECQ there would be a delay in sending original Phytosanitary Certificates (PC) needed for Customs clearance hence, the Bureau of Plant Industry (BPI) respectfully requests that trading partners accepts paper copies of PCs. Should agriculture inspectors have concerns with the paper document, the BPI, through the Plant Quarantine (PQ) Stations, would be willing to send scanned/PDF copies of original phytosanitary certificates through electronic mail to trading partners' preferred recipient. To ensure authenticity of the PC, emails should be coming only from BPI PQ stations. Attached is the List of BPI PQS Stations and their official email address.

2. For import

Knowing that other countries are implementing measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19, BPI will accept scanned copies of important documents (e.g. Phytosanitary Certificates, Treatment Certificates, and Health Certificates etc.,) given however, that an official notification from the exporting country will be provided to BPI. Scanned/PDF copies may be sent to this email address: pqsbpi@yahoo.com.

Through this, we hope that we can help in minimizing the effect of COVID-19 in the industries which may be affected by the emergency protocols implemented in each country.

Thank you and my best regards!

Very truly yours,

GEORGE Y. CULASTE, PhD

Director

A food-secure Philippines with prosperous farmers and fisherfolk

