

SPECIAL RELEASE

CAMARINES SUR PALAY AND CORN SITUATIONER FIRST QUARTER 2018

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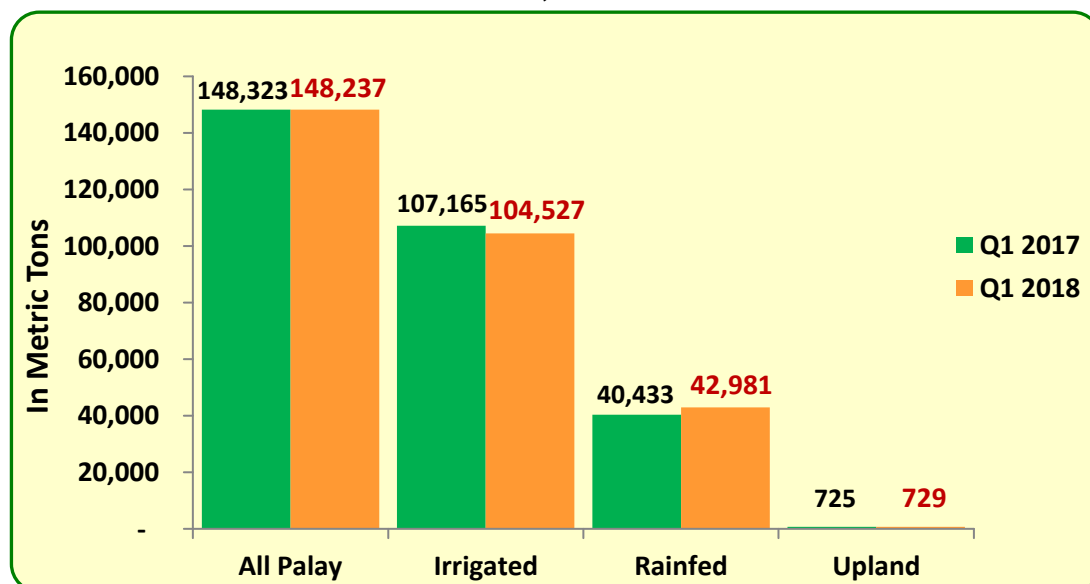
PALAY PRODUCTION DECREASES BY 0.1 PERCENT IN THE FIRST QUARTER

Palay production in the province of Camarines Sur decreased by 0.1 percent in the first quarter of 2018 compared with the same quarter in 2017. Frequent occurrence of rains in the early part of the quarter caused flooding, which resulted to replanting in several farms, thereby moving the scheduled harvest to the second quarter. From the posted production of 148,323 metric tons in the first quarter of 2017, the January to March 2018 production went down to 148,237 metric tons or a difference of 86 metric tons of palay.



By ecosystem, production among irrigated farms was 104,527 metric tons in the first quarter of 2018. This output was 2.5 percent lower compared with the 107,165 metric tons produced in the same period last year. However, production in rainfed ecosystem increased by 6.3 percent from the 40,433 metric tons produced in January to March 2017 compared to this quarter's production of 42,981 metric tons. Production in upland ecosystem in this province also went up by 0.6 percent from 725 metric tons in the first quarter of 2017 to 729 metric tons in the first quarter of this year.

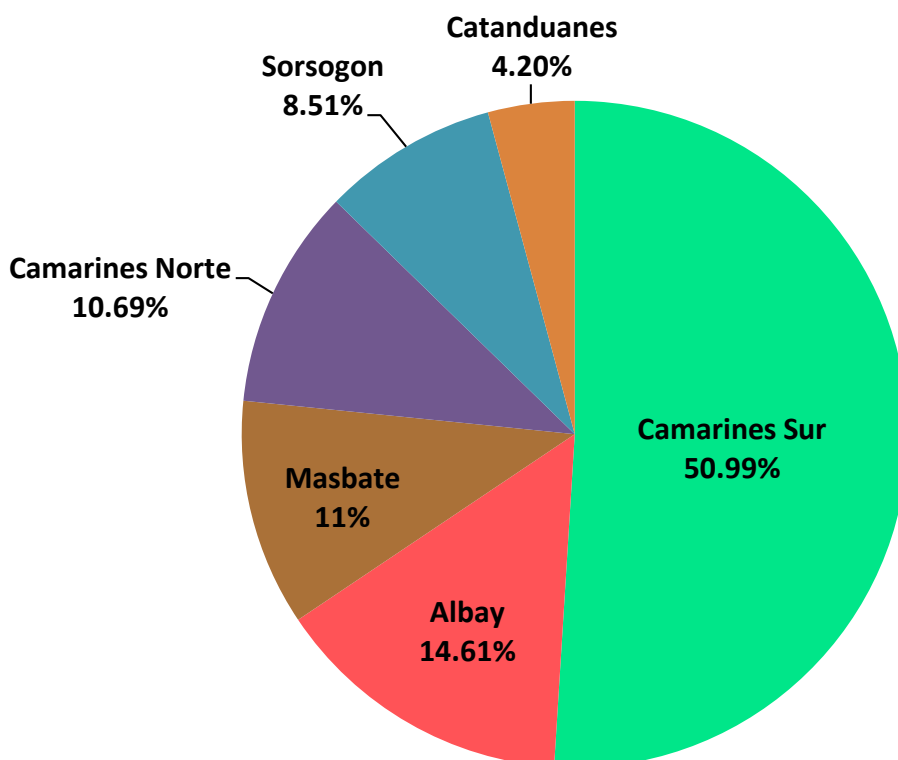
Figure 1. Volume of Palay Production in Camarines Sur,
First Quarter, 2017 and 2018



CAMARINES SUR IS THE TOP PALAY PRODUCER IN BICOL REGION IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 2018

In Bicol Region, Camarines Sur remains as the top palay producing province in the first quarter of 2018 with 148,237 metric tons of palay produced or about 51 percent of the total regional output of 290,700 metric tons. Albay was the second with about 15 percent share followed by Masbate with 11 percent share. Camarines Norte, Sorsogon, and Catanduanes' share was about 10 percent, 9 percent, and 4 percent respectively.

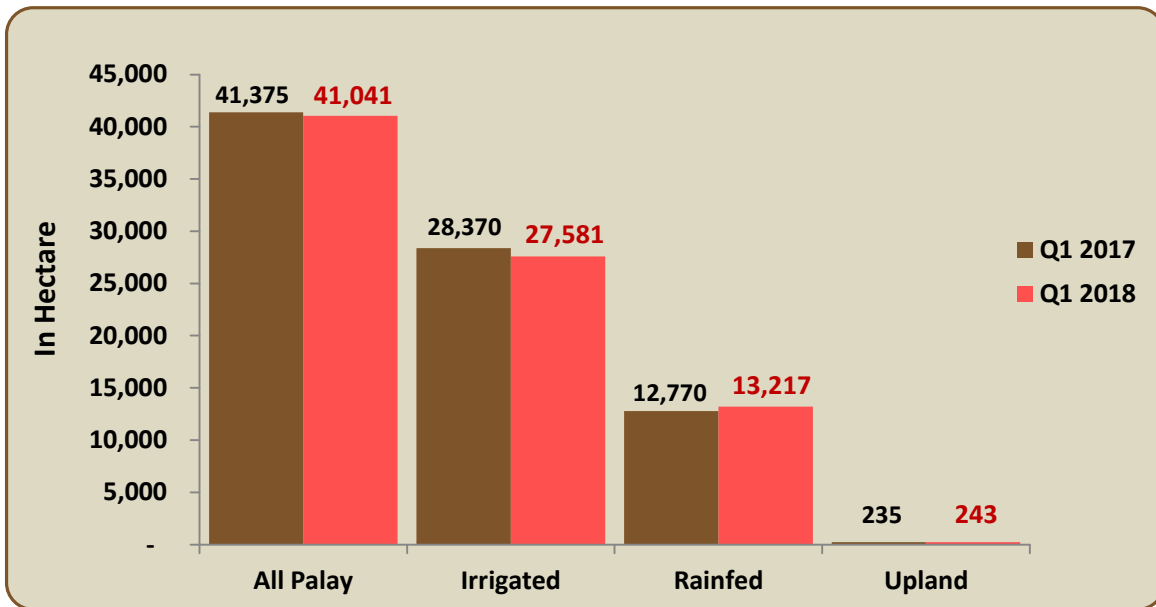
Figure 2. Palay Production in Bicol Region by Province, First Quarter 2018



AREA HARVESTED FOR PALAY DECREASES BY 0.8 PERCENT

For the first quarter of 2018, the estimated area harvested for palay went down by 0.8 percent from 41,375 hectares harvested in the first quarter of 2017 to 41,041 hectares harvested in the same quarter of 2018. By ecosystem, harvested area for irrigated palay decreased by 2.8 percent. However, rainfed and upland palay areas posted an increase of 3.5 and 3.4 percent respectively in the harvested area for first quarter of 2017 and the same quarter of 2018.

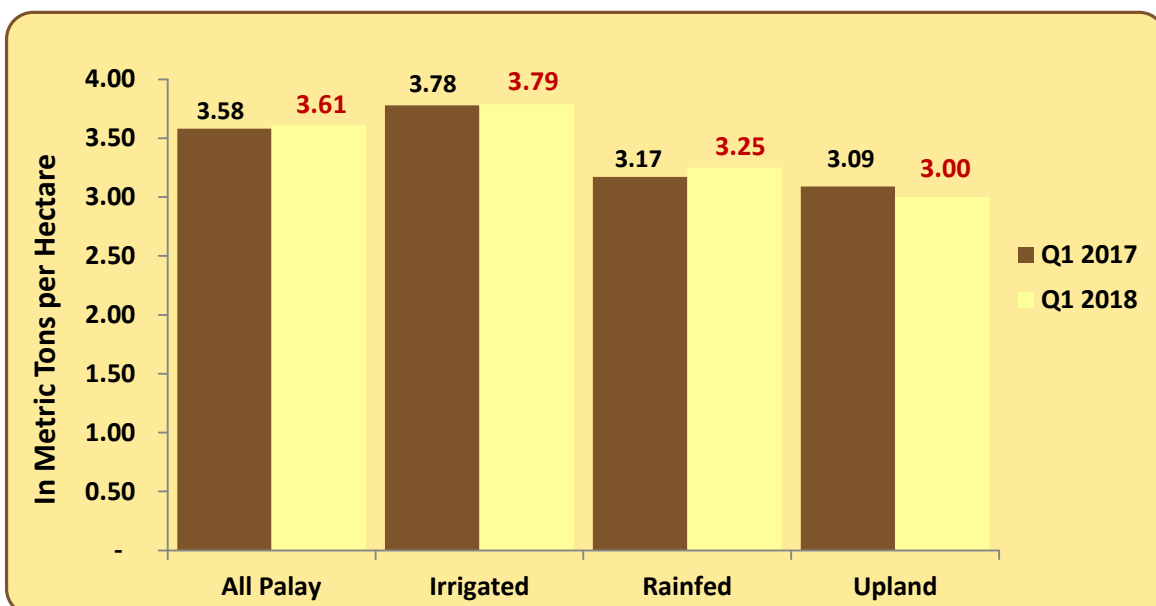
Figure 3. Area Harvested for Palay, Camarines Sur, First Quarter, 2017 and 2018



YIELD PER HECTARE INCREASES BY 0.8 PERCENT

The average yield in metric tons per hectare of palay in Camarines Sur increased by 0.8 percent in the first quarter of 2018 compared with the same quarter of last year. From 3.58 metric tons per hectare in the first quarter of 2017, the provincial average up to 3.61 metric tons per hectare in the same quarter of this year. This increment was due to less weather disturbances and the harvest in the same quarter of the previous year was affected by typhoon Nina. It was observed that irrigated palay areas posted an increase of 0.3 percent, while rainfed areas registered a 2.7 percent increase in its yield in metric tons per hectare. Upland palay areas posted a 2.8 percent decrease.

Figure 4. Palay Yield per Hectare by Ecosystem, Camarines Sur, First Quarter, 2017 and 2018



CORN PRODUCTION INCREASES BY 5 PERCENT

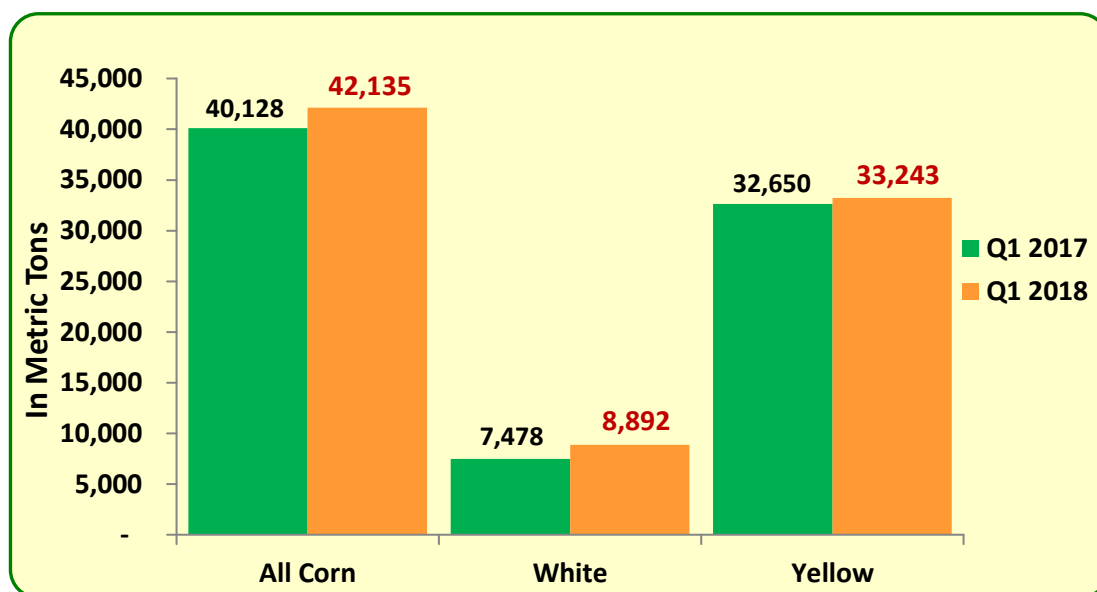
Corn production in Camarines Sur went up by 5 percent to 42,135 metric tons in the first quarter of 2018 compared with the 40,128 metric tons produced in same period last year. The increase in harvested corn area was the main cause of this increase in corn production.



By crop type, white corn production was pegged at 8,892 metric tons in the first quarter of 2018. This is 18.9 percent higher than the same quarter of 2017 production of 7,478 metric tons.

Likewise, yellow corn production was up by 1.8 percent with 33,243 metric tons produced in the first quarter of 2018 compared with the 2017 first quarter's production of 32,650 metric tons.

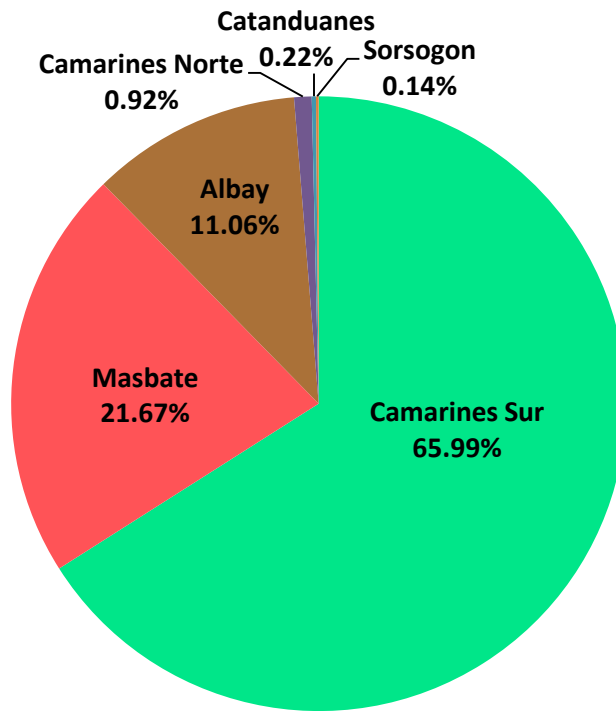
**Figure 5. Volume of Corn Production Camarines Sur
First Quarter, 2017 and 2018**



CAMARINES SUR IS THE TOP CORN PRODUCER IN BICOL REGION

In the first quarter of 2018, Camarines Sur remains as the top producer of corn in the Bicol Region. Of the 63,847 metric tons of corn produced in the Bicol Region, 42,135 metric tons or 65.99 percent came from Camarines Sur. This was followed by Masbate with 18,834 metric tons (21.67%), Albay with 7,062 metric tons (11.06%), Camarines Norte with 589 metric tons (0.092%), Catanduanes with 140 metric tons (0.22%) and Sorsogon with the least contribution of 87 metric tons (0.14%).

**Figure 6. Corn Production by Province, Bicol Region
First Quarter 2018**

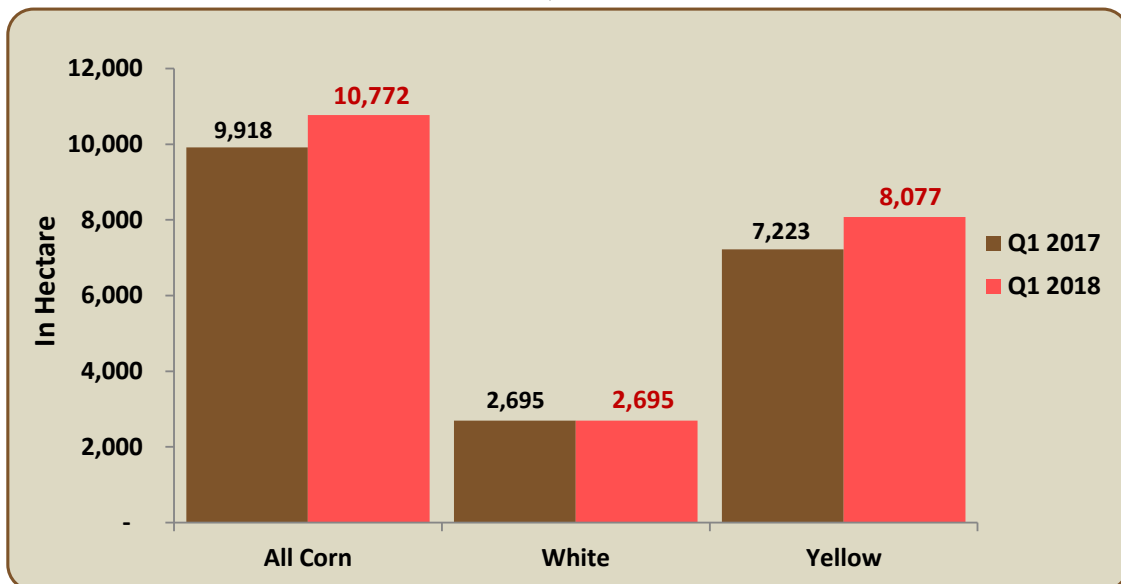


AREA HARVESTED FOR CORN INCREASES BY 8.6 PERCENT

The area harvested for corn in Camarines Sur during the first quarter of 2018 was estimated at 10,772 hectares. This is 8.6 percent higher than the same quarter of last year's record of 9,918 hectares.

By crop type, white corn area harvested in the first quarter of 2018 was posted at 2,695 hectares. This is the same area harvested for white corn in the same period of the previous year. Area harvested for yellow corn went up by 11.8 percent in the first quarter of 2018 in comparison with the same quarter of last year. A difference of 854 hectares was recorded from the 7,223 hectares harvested for yellow corn in the first quarter of 2017 to 8,077 hectares of yellow corn harvested during the first quarter of 2018.

**Figure 7. Corn Harvested Camarines Sur
First Quarter, 2017 and 2018**

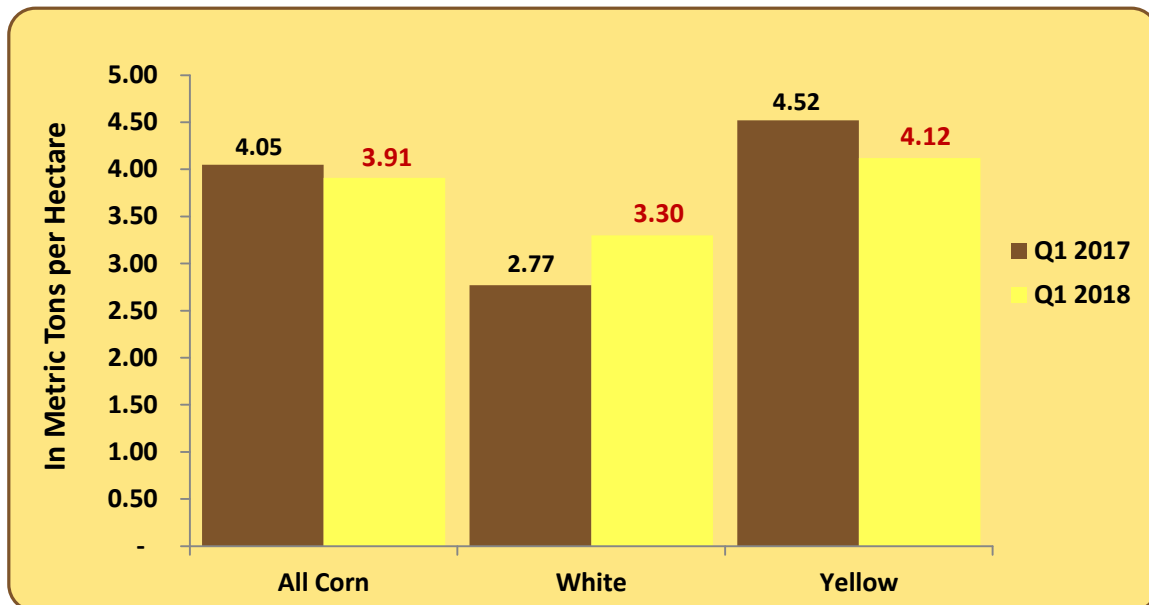


YIELD PER HECTARE FOR CORN DECREASES BY 3.3 PERCENT

The average yield per hectare of harvested corn in Camarines Sur in the first quarter of 2018 was 3.91 metric tons per hectare. This is 3.3 percent lower than the posted 4.05 metric tons per hectare average yield last January to March 2017.

By croptype, the yield per hectare of white corn increased by 18.9 percent from 2.77 metric tons per hectare in first quarter of 2017 to 3.30 metric tons per hectare in the same period of 2018. However, the average yield per hectare of yellow corn decreased by 8.9 percent in the first quarter of 2018. From the recorded 4.52 metric tons per hectare in the first quarter of 2017, the posted yield per hectare in the same period this 2018 was 4.12 metric tons per hectare. The decrease was due to less corn farmers availed of loans offered by private companies for hybrid corn production in the January to March 2018 harvest.

**Figure 8. Corn Yield per Hectare by Croptype, Camarines Sur
First Quarter, 2017 and 2018**




CLEMENTE S. MANAOG
Chief Statistical Specialist
PSA Camarines Sur