

**AGRO-INDUSTRY OF SAN JOSE CITY: ITS CONTRIBUTION
TO RURAL DEVELOPMENT**


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(Rural Development)**

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This thesis entitled, **AGRO-INDUSTRY OF SAN JOSE CITY: ITS CONTRIBUTION TO RURAL DEVELOPMENT**, prepared and submitted by **HANNAH GUILLERMO RAMOS - DOMINGO** in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of **MASTER OF SCIENCE (Rural Development)**, is hereby accepted.


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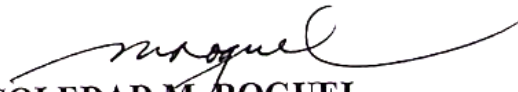

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BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

The author is the eldest child of Generlito and Tessie Ramos. She was born on the 27th day of November 1977 at Muñoz, Nueva Ecija. She has three brothers, namely; Alexander, Owen and Jose Generlito.

Her childhood years were spent in Laoag City, Ilocos Norte where she finished her elementary and secondary level at the Northern Christian College, Elementary Laboratory School (NCC-ELS) and Ilocos Norte National High School (INNHS), respectively. She was a consistent honor student during her elementary days. In high school, she ranked 8th place in her batch.

In 1994, she enrolled at the Central Luzon State University and finished Bachelor of Arts in Social Science. Immediately after her graduation in 1998, she landed a job in the same institution as Science Research Assistant in the Water Resources Management Program and the Comprehensive Irrigation Research Development and Umbrella Program (CIRDUP). She also worked as part-time instructor for the Nueva Ecija Provincial Government Scholarship Program (NEPG) in the same university.

The year 2000 opened another opportunity for her when she joined the Office of the City Agriculturist – Local Government Unit of San Jose City as an Agricultural Technologist. She has concurrently served as Information Service Specialist for the Farmers Information Technology Services Center or Techno-Pinoy.

She is married to Geremie J. Domingo, a civil engineer graduate who works as a Construction Materials Laboratory Technician in Dubai, UAE. The marriage was blessed

with three beautiful children, namely; Ma. Sophia Gabrielle (7), Joshua Keigo (5) and Lorenzo Gabriel (3). The kids are her source of strength, love and happiness.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

	PAGE
LIST OF TABLES	xi
LIST OF FIGURES	xiii
LIST OF APPENDICES	xiv
LIST OF APPENDIX TABLES	xv
ABSTRACT	xvi
INTRODUCTION	1
Statement of the Problem	2
Objectives of the Study	3
Significance of the Study	4
Scope and Limitation	5
REVIEW OF LITERATURE	6
Concepts of Agro-Industrial Development	6
Agro Processing Industry: Definition and Dimensions	9
Concepts of Rural Development	11
Indicators of Rural Development	11
Concept of Program and Project Development	15
Reasons for Program Conceptualization	15
Characteristics of a Program	16
Programs of LGUs	17
Related Studies on Agro-Industry	18
Crops (Rice)	18
Fish (Tilapia)	20
Livestock	21
Processing	24
Socio-economic Factors	26
Production Technology and Practices	26
Productivity and Profitability	27
Access to Support Services	27
Other Stakeholders Role	32

METHODOLOGY	35
Theoretical Framework	35
Conceptual Framework	35
Operational Definition of Terms	39
Locale of the Study	43
Unit of Analysis	46
Research Design	46
Sampling Technique	46
Instrumentation	47
Method of Data Gathering	47
Methods of Analysis	48
RESULTS AND DISCUSSION	50
Agricultural Landscape of San Jose City	50
The Rice Industry	53
Rice Production	53
Rice Production Technology and Practices	59
Rice Productivity and Profitability	60
Rice Programs	61
Rice Farmers Access to Support Services and Stakeholders Role	66
Rice Processing and Marketing	71
Palay to Rice Processing	71
Rice Cake	73
Problems and Needs of Rice Producers, Implementers and Stakeholders	78
The Rice Industry: Its Status, Potential and Contribution to Rural Development	80
Fish (Tilapia) Industry	84
Fish Production	84
Fish Production Technology and Practices	86
Fish Productivity and Profitability	87
Fish (Tilapia) Programs	88
Fish Producers Access to Support Services and Stakeholders Role	89
Fish Processing and Marketing	91
Problems of Fish Producers and Stakeholders	92
The Fish Industry: Its Status, Potential and Contribution to Rural Development	92
Cattle Industry	94
Cattle Production	94
Cattle Production Technology and Practices	96

Cattle Productivity and Profitability	97
Cattle Producers Access to Support and Stakeholders Role	98
Cattle Programs	99
Cattle Processing and Marketing	100
Problems of Cattle Producers, Implementers and Stakeholders	101
The Cattle Industry: Its Status, Potential and Contribution to Rural Development	101
Swine Industry	103
Swine Production	103
Swine Production Technology and Practices	104
Swine Productivity and Profitability	105
Swine Producers Access to Support Services and Stakeholders Role	106
Swine Programs	107
Swine Processing and Marketing	109
Problems of Swine Producers, Implementers and Stakeholders	110
The Swine Industry: Its Status, Potential and Contribution to Rural Development	110
SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	113
Summary	113
Conclusions	117
Recommendations	119
LITERATURE CITED	122
APPENDICES	126

LIST OF TABLES

TABLE		PAGE
1	Distribution of respondents	47
2	Method of data collection and respondents	49
3	Existing irrigation facilities and their area served	52
4	Comparative rice production (wet and dry Season) of Nueva Ecija and San Jose City from 2001-2005	54
5	Comparative yield of good seeds, certified seeds and hybrid seeds per hectare	57
6	Farm size, tenure status and source of irrigation of respondents	59
7	Production cost, net income and net earnings of rice producers	61
8	Programs and projects implemented for rice	64
9	Distribution of financial institution according to type in San Jose City	67
10	Number of existing rice traders/millers in San Jose City	73
11	Equipment and facilities used by rice processors	74
12	Employment generation of rice processing	82
13	Gross income, net income and household size of rice producers	83
14	Tilapia production of commercial and backyard raisers from 2002-2006	85
15	Comparative tilapia production of Nueva Ecija and San Jose City	86
16	Production cost, net income and earning rate of tilapia production	88

17	Fish programs of San Jose City 2002-2006	89
18	Distribution of permanent employees in the Office of the City Agriculturist	90
19	Gross income, net income and household size of fish producers	93
20	Comparative cattle production of Nueva Ecija and San Jose City	95
21	Production cost, net income and earning rate of cattle Production	95
22	Programs for cattle production 2002-2006	99
23	Gross Income, net income and household size of cattle producers	102
24	Comparative swine production of Nueva Ecija and San Jose City	105
25	Production cost, net income and earning rate of swine producers	106
26	Programs for swine production 2002 – 2006	108
27	Gross income, net income and household size of swine producers	111

LIST OF FIGURES

FIGURE		PAGE
1	Conceptual framework	38
2	Map of San Jose City	45
3	Distribution of major crops in San Jose City	53
4	Rice production in San Jose City 2001-2005	56
5	Distribution of Tenurial Status in San Jose City	58
6	Share of CAO & CVO on LGU Budget	71
7	Rice milling flow	72
8	Rice market flow	75
9	Palay price fluctuation	77
10	Market flow of rice cake products	78
11	Tilapia market flow	91
12	Cattle production 2002 – 2006	96
13	San Jose City swine production 2002-2006	104

LIST OF APPENDICES

APPENDIX		PAGE
A	Request letter	127
B	Questionnaire for LGU key informant	128
C	Questionnaire for key informant (City Agriculturist/City Veterinarian)	130
D	Questionnaire for key informant (Processors)	131
E	Interview schedule for agro-industry producers	133
F	Legislations/resolutions passed by San Jose City Council 2002-2006	141
G	Proposed San Jose City agro-industry program	144
H	Photo-documents of FGD conducted	147

LIST OF APPENDIX TABLES

APPENDIX		PAGE
1	Rice Production of Nueva Ecija 2001 – 2005	149
2	San Jose City rice production 2001	150
3	San Jose City rice production 2002	151
4	San Jose City rice production 2003	152
5	San Jose City rice production 2004	153
6	San Jose City rice production 2005	154
7	San Jose City cattle production 2002-2006	155
8	Slaughtered cattle 2002-2006	156
9	San Jose City swine production 2002-2006	157
10	Slaughtered swine 2002-2006	158
11	Total production, per capita consumption and estimated demand of the four Commodities	159
12	Agro-Industry producers access to support services	159

ABSTRACT

DOMINGO, HANNAH GUILLERMO RAMOS. Institute of Graduate Studies, Central Luzon State University, Science City of Muñoz, Nueva Ecija Philippines, November 2007. **AGRO-INDUSTRY OF SAN JOSE: ITS CONTRIBUTION TO RURAL DEVELOPMENT.**

Adviser: **PASTORA S. COLOMA, PhD**

This study was conducted to assess the agro-industry of San Jose City, Nueva Ecija. The present status of four commodities such as rice, fish (tilapia), cattle and swine was studied. The indicators assessed were production, production technology and practices, processing and market information, access to support services by farmers in the city and stakeholder's role toward the development of agro-industry for rural development.

Data were gathered through key informant interview (KII) and interview schedule. These data were confirmed in six focus group discussions with the commodity producers.

Findings revealed that rice production in the city increased from the past years whereas total production for fish, cattle and swine production decreased. The high cost of inputs and low cost of produce were found to be the constraints in production.

Also, processing in the city took the form of palay milling into rice, rice cake making, simple meat, and fish processing. Rice milling is the biggest industry in the city with Metro Manila as the market.

Four commodities showed potential for further development because of existing production data and resources such as land and water. For cattle, fish and swine, production can still increase to meet the current demand of increasing population for the said commodities. The rice processing industry, on the other hand, can still be explored by value adding milled rice and developing rice cakes for *pasalubong* as the city is a cross-road to Isabela, Pangasinan and Metro Manila.

In general, the agro-industry of San Jose City has contributed to the various indicators of rural development. Economically, the industries studied contributed not only in terms of food sufficiency and employment generation specifically in the rice processing sector. Farmers are also able to generate additional income from engaging in fish (tilapia), cattle, and swine production that in turn generate taxes for the LGU.

Socially and culturally, migration patterns exist as employment is generated especially during harvest season. Furthermore, agro-industry has contributed to the physical development in the city particularly the establishment of farm-to-market roads and irrigation facilities.

Based on these findings, recommendations were drawn in several aspects. These are on agro-industrial development planning, farmers' association/cooperatives, credit scheme, regulation of prices of production inputs, policy support against unfair trade systems, technical and financial assistance to processors, and support services.

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