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ABSTRACT

ACOPA, EVELYN F., Institute of Graduate Studies, Central Luzon State University, Munoz, Nueva Ecija, March 1994. CHARACTERISTICS OF FARMER IRRIGATOR-ORGANIZERS (FIOs) AND PERFORMANCE OF FARMER IRRIGATORS ASSOCIATIONS (FIAs).

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This study sought to determine the perception on characteristics and performance of functions of the Farmer Irrigator Organizers (FIOs) and its relation with the performance of Farmer Irrigators Associations (FIAs).

Seventeen FIOs and 122 FIA members from the virgin (newly organized) FIAs of Zones 2 and 3 of District I Nueva Ecija provided the data needed for the study.

An interview schedule was used to gather data which were analyzed using descriptive statistics and Pearson's Product Moment Coefficient of correlation.

Results revealed that the average FIO was 47 years old, had 11.18 years in school, and with an average of 23 years of farming experience. The farm size was .35 to 3 hectares, and the tenurial status was mostly amortizing owner. The average membership in other

organizations was 1.29 and average number of trainings attended was 2.29.

On the other hand, the average FIA member was 51 years old, had 8 years of schooling, and with an average of 28 years of farming experience. The tenurial status was mostly amortizing owner. The average membership in other organizations was 0.86 and the average number of trainings attended was 1.25.

The FIOs described themselves as friendly and always credible most of the time while the FIA members perceived them as friendly and credible most of the time.

Furthermore, according to the FIOs, they always demonstrated a combination of the four leadership characteristics such as participative, supportive, directive, and achievement-oriented. According to the FIA members, the FIOs demonstrated the four leadership characteristics most of the time.

According to the FIOs they always performed their pre-organization and organization functions and often performed those in the post-organization phase while the FIA members claimed that the FIOs sometimes performed their pre-organization and post-organization functions and often performed those in the organization phase.

Results revealed that of the seven socio-demographic characteristics of the FIOs, only tenurial status was significantly related with payment of other fees in the association. Education of the FIA members was also found to be significantly but negatively related with level of satisfaction regarding water allocation and distribution. All other socio-demographic characteristics namely age, farming experience, farm size, membership in organization and trainings attended were not significantly related to FIA performance indicators.

Personal characteristics of the FIOs such as friendliness and credibility were not related to organizational performance, however, participative and supportive leadership were. Moreover, FIA members perception of the FIOs' personal and leadership characteristics were significantly related with FIA organizational performance.

Furthermore, FIOs' performance of their functions specifically on the post-organization phase was significantly correlated with organizational performance. Similarly FIOs' performance of functions in the three phases as perceived by the members significantly influenced organizational performance.

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