UTILIZATION OF FARM MECHANIZATION FACILITIES AMONG RICE FARMERSIN STO. DOMINGO, NUEVA ECIJA

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An Undergraduate Thesis Manuscript Submitted to the Department of Agricultural Extension Education, College of Agriculture, Central Luzon State University, Science City of Muñoz, Nueva Ecija, Philippines, In Partial fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree

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By

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An Undergraduate Thesis Manuscript Presented to the Faculty of the Department of Agricultural Extension Education and Rural Development, College of Agriculture, Central Luzon State University, in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of Bachelor of Science in Agriculture

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BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

The Author, of this Study is Mark Lyndon Adriano Baquirin, He was born on September 24, 1996. He is the second of the three sons of Mr. Laudemer Pagaduan Baquirin, a native of Brgy. San Fabian, Sto. Domingo, Nueva Ecija and Mrs. Aida Adriano Baquirin, a native of Brgy. San Agustin Sto. Domingo, Nueva Ecija. His older brother Leo Angelo works at Millenium Optical Company in South Korea. His youngest brother Limuel Matthew is Grade Six in San Fabian Elementary School. The Family lives in Brgy. San Fabian Sto. Domingo, Nueva Ecija

The author finished his Pre-Elementary Level in Love Faith Baptist Church where he graduated as class Salutatorian. He was a consistent honorable mention until he finished elementary level in Sto. Domingo Central School. He earned his secondary education at Julia Ortiz Luis National High School (JOLNHS) in 2013 as 7th Honorable Mention.

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ABSTRACT

The study analyzed the extent of rice farmers' utilization of farm mechanization facilities in Sto. Domingo, Nueva Ecija.

Simple random samples of 226 rice farmers were personally interviewed using an interview schedule. The data were analyzed using descriptive and inferential statistics.

The rice farmers were on the average, 50 years of age, younger than the Filipino farmers in general. They were mostly male, high school graduates, from a family of five, and with a 24-year farming experience.

They were basically percentage farmers, operating an average of 1.43 hectare farm, obtaining an average of 113 cavans per hectare, and earning an average family income of PhP13,000 per month, all not slightly above the national averages.

The rice farmers had little access to mechanization support services such as organization and credit services but good access to technical assistance and information support. They generally used two mechanization facilities, particularly hand tractor and combine harvester, which they mainly rented. They found using the facilities beneficial in terms of making farming easy and less costly as well as increasing rice yield.

The farmers' main problems regarding farm mechanization were their limited access to credit and little knowledge of farm mechanization. The solutions they suggested were improving their credit access and training them on farm mechanization.

The correlation test results showed that of all the variables studied, age, such us number of years in farming, and farm size were associated with farmers' utilization of farm mechanization facilities. Meanwhile, sex, educational attainment, family size, yield

farm mechanization facilities. Meanwhile, sex, educational attainment, family size, yield per hectare, and family income, were not linked to farmers' utilization of the facilities. Farmers' utilization of mechanization facilities were correlated with their perceived benefits of using those facilities.

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