

Dr. Arnel del Barrio challenges 15 New Trainees of AI and PD Course in UP, Laguna

Dr. Arnel N. del Barrio, Director of Philippine Carabao Center (PCC) at UP -Los Baños, challenged the 15 new trainees on Basic Artificial Insemination & Pregnancy Diagnosis on Large Animals during the opening Ceremonies held at the Dairy Training & Research Auditorium (DTRI), Animal and Dairy Sciences Cluster, College of Agriculture (ADSC-CA) yesterday, September 27, 2010.

Citing the government's Unified Artificial Insemination Program (UNAIP) thrust of helping cattle/carabao farmers secure good animal breeds, he said that ruminants are among the most important livestock animals of our agricultural sector. " They are also the major sources of high protein foods and can provide year-round work and extra income to our farmers", he added.

UNAIP seeks to put in place the AI infrastructure and mechanism that would ensure the sustainability by way of improving essential integrals to include development of human resource, provision of equipment and equipment strength. Its goal is to integrate the smallholders into the total production and marketing systems.

The importance of AI in ruminant breeding was likewise emphasized; Del barrio said that with AI, we can be assured of good quality cattle meat and milk using semen from bulls with high-end breeds. Raisers can also ensure that their cows will acquire semen although they are in faraway places, they do not need to buy a bull just to have their services. AI method is faster and more practical than the traditional method- it would also be easier for them to arrange the records of their breeding program.

Armed with this knowledge, he then posed the challenge to these trainees to make use of the skills learned. The training course will be on-going till October 26, 2010

By: Ching M. Lumanta
Info Group C.O.
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