

#### CONTENTS

48-74

AN INTEGRATED AGROFORESTRY SYSTEMS IN BENGUET, CORDILLERA ADMINISTRATIVE REGION (CAR)	1-22
EROSION IN CHAYOTE FIELDS FOCUSING ON CHARACTERISATION, PERCEPTION AND DEVELOPMENT OF EROSION FIELD TOOL IN SHILAN, LA TRINIDAD, BENGUET, PHILIPPINES	23-32
GENDER PARTICIPATION AND WOMEN'S VIEWS OF THE FEXTILE INDUSTRY IN BAGUIO CITY AND BENGUET PROVINCE	33-47

# STATUS AND DESCRIPTION OF THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY IN BAGUIO CITY AND BENGUET PROVINCE. B. T. Gayao, D. T. Meldoz, E. B. Alupias and J. S. Sagpa-ey

**BENGUET STATE UNIVERSITY** La Trinidad 2601 Benguet Philippines

All communications should be addressed to:

#### **THE EDITOR**

BSU Research Journal Benguet State Univeristy La Trinidad, Benguet 2601, Philippines **Telefax:**(+6374) 422-5547 **Email address:** bsupublications@gmail.com or repo@bsu.edu.ph **Website:** www.bsu.edu.ph



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#### BASELINE INFORMATION ANALYSIS FOR AN INTEGRATED AGROFORESTRY SYSTEMS IN BENGUET, CORDILLERA ADMINISTRATIVE REGION (CAR)

#### Valentino L. Macanes<sup>2</sup>, Mario M. Marquez<sup>3</sup>, Hilario C. Perez<sup>3</sup>, Jimmy A. Wakat<sup>3</sup>, Christopher P. Deponio<sup>3</sup>, Cunegunda D. Abellera<sup>3</sup>, Von Y. Amado<sup>4</sup>

<sup>2</sup>Program Coordinator, Associate Professor at the Department of Agroforestry, College of Agriculture, and Director of the Institute of Highland Farming Systems and Agroforestry, <sup>3</sup>Study Leaders and Faculty members of the College of Agriculture, <sup>4</sup>Research Assistant, BS Agriculture Benguet State University

#### ABSTRACT

A baseline information analysis for Agroforestry farming systems was done in the 13 municipalities of Benguet Province. A total of 41 barangays from the different municipalities were surveyed and 95 actual Agroforestry practitioners were interviewed.

There are four Agroforestry systems being practiced in all three Agroforestry Ecological Zones (AFEZ) in Benguet Province. These are: Agrisilvicultural (combination of annual crops particularly squash, gabi, sweet potato, rice, or corn plus forest trees specifically Benguet Pine or Alnus), Agrisilvipastoral (combination of rice, corn, gabi or sweet potato including fruit trees and coffee plus domestic animals typically native pigs, native chickens, and cattle integrated under Benguet Pine or Alnus), Silvipastoral (combination of domestic animals particularly cattle under Benguet Pine or Alnus), and; Agrisilviculture plus Sericulture, (combination of gabi, sweetpotato, or rice planted in open areas with coffee planted under Benguet Pine or Alnus plus mulberry cultivated in the open areas for Sericulture). Among these Agroforestry systems, Agrisilviculture was the most practiced. These Agroforestry systems are situated in areas having greater than 100% slope (which is deemed very strong to very steep slope), have sandy loam soil, experience the Type 1 climate, with temperature range of 18-28.950C and mainly rainfed. Coffee, sweet potato, gabi, cassava, corn, and chayote are the common crops cultivated while cattle, native pigs, and native chickens are the domestic animals found in most of these Agroforestry systems. On the other hand, Alnus (Alnus spp.), and native Ipil-ipil (Leucaena leucocephala L) are the dominant Nitrogen fixing trees integrated while Benguet Pine (Pinus kesiya Royle ex Grodon) is the most prominent forest tree cover. Meanwhile, the identified Non-Timber Forest Species (NTFS) are different bamboo species and "rono" (Miscanthus sinensis) which are sold as pole or trellis, respectively. These are also used for fuel wood and fencing. The respondents perceived Agroforestry as a wide tract of land with large trees growing, unaware that they are practicing Agroforestry. For forest conservation measures, the respondents plant trees and strictly follow forest protection ordinances like not practicing the old "kaingin" system.

**Keywords:** Agroforestry farming systems, Agroforestry, Baseline Information, AgroforestryEcological Zones, Agrisilviculture, Agrisilvipastoral, Silvipastoral and Sericulture

#### EROSION IN CHAYOTE FIELDS FOCUSING ON CHARACTERISATION, PERCEPTION AND DEVELOPMENT OF EROSION FIELD TOOL IN SHILAN, LA TRINIDAD, BENGUET, PHILIPPINES

#### A.M.C. van Miltenburg

Graduate student in Netherlands who conducted her thesis prequesite in La Trinidad, Benguet

#### ABSTRACT

Soil erosion at chayote fields is grown in generally steep slopes of Shilan, La Trinidad, Benguet. Soil erosion is severe because of little soil cover and few soil conservation techniques. To measure soil erosion within chayote fields in Barangay Shilan, the Morgan, Morgan and Finney (MMF) model and the Assessment of Current Erosion Damage (ACED) was used. The erosion risk according to the MMF prediction is in the range of 5.7 kg/m2 to 12.7 kg/m2 per average year. The ACED method measured a soil loss of 13.5 kg/m2 and 96.3 kg/m2 in case of a gully. Both methods show severe erosion and are comparable in case of the erosion features rills and channels. However, only the MMF method takes into account sheet erosion. The ACED method includes a longer period than one average year. This makes the ACED more suitable to measure gully formation.

Interviewed chayote farmers in the area revealed their perception about erosion. Some did not notice erosion in their fields while others have slight knowledge about erosion processes. However, they noted that high rainfall and steep slopes are contributors of erosion. A difference of land management was observed, like the undergrowth of grasses. Grass left underneath the chayote plants results in less risk on erosion. Unfortunately, most farmers remove grasses because of the expected competition for moisture and nutrients with chayote. Only few farmers understood that grasses are necessary to reduce the risk on erosion. None of the farmers attended land conservation trainings.

Because of the little knowledge about erosion processes, an erosion tool was developed in this research. This can help to investigate the erosion process. The data gathered from the erosion field tool will be used in a database and the results can increase the knowledge about erosion processes. The database will be used by farmers, extension workers, students and teachers of the University. By using the database, the links between for instance, vegetation cover, rainfall, and steepness can be related with soil loss. Understanding the influence of different factors on erosion risk is important and can be recorded by use of a simple database.

**Keywords:** soil erosion, chayote fields, erosion field tool, ACED erosion model, MMF erosion model, steep slopes

#### GENDER PARTICIPATION AND WOMEN'S VIEWS ON THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY IN BAGUIO CITY AND BENGUET PROVINCE

#### Betty T. Gayao<sup>1</sup>, Dalen T. Meldoz<sup>1</sup>, Erlinda B. Alupias<sup>2</sup> and Jaila S. Sagpa-ey<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Science Research Specialist, Northern Philippines Root Crops Research and Training Center (NPRCRTC); <sup>2</sup>Associate Professor, University Business Affairs (UBA); and <sup>3</sup>Research Assistant Benguet State University

#### ABSTRACT

The study documented gender participation, women's textile-related activities contribution to household income, and women's views of the textile industry in Baguio City and Benguet Province. Rapid market and municipal surveys were conducted, followed-up with informal in-depth interviews and case histories of some key players such as the thread and yarn suppliers, the weavers, knitters and manufacturers of textile based products, the wholesalers and retailers of finished products, and farmers engaged in sericulture.

Women are the prime movers of the textile industry representing 97% of the textileplayersinBaguioCityandBenguetProvince.Womenfunctionasproprietorsmanagers of weaving, wholesaling and retailing enterprises, and as weaver-designers of woven fabrics and made-up products in addition to their responsibilities in household and foodmanagement, childcareandeducation.Participationofwomenintextileindustryrelated activities contributes PhP750-70,000 per month to their household income which makes the women feel empowered, i.e. less dependent on husband's income, stronger influence in household decisions and recognition of their talents.

The textile industry is a potential investment opportunity and employment for women and men, regardless of education, age and time involvement, and is presently more in the informal sector. It has an important role in the tourist economy of the city and province attracting worker migrants mostly from Mountain Province and Ifugao.

Keywords: textile industry, gender participation, weaving, women of business,

#### STATUS AND DESCRIPTION OF THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY IN BAGUIO CITY AND BENGUET PROVINCE

#### Betty T. Gayao<sup>1</sup>, Dalen T. Meldoz<sup>1</sup>, Erlinda B. Alupias<sup>2</sup> and Jaila S. Sagpa-ey<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Science Research Specialist, Northern Philippines Root Crops Research and Training Center (NPRCRTC); <sup>2</sup>Associate Professor, University Business Affairs (UBA); and <sup>3</sup>Research Assistant Benguet State University

#### ABSTRACT

This study was done to assess the status and describe the textile industry in Baguio City and Benguet Province, and to identify research and development areas towards improving the industry in the light of bringing back the grandeur of the Cordillera region. Data was generated through: rapid market walks, library research, field visits, and informal interviews of the selected industry players. The textile industry in Benguet includes the components of sericulture, yarn trading, thread and textile factory trimmings, weaving, processing or manufacturing of made-up textile products, wholesaling and retailing of finished products, and the processing of maguey or sisal fibers.

The sericulture industry is still in its infancy of development with 9.73 hectares of mulberry farms as of 2008 which is expected to increase to 26ha by 2010. Silkworm rearing resulted to a production of 657 kilograms of silk cocoons (2009) and 56kg of raw silk fibers in 2008, produced by members of the Kapangan Environmental Livelihood and Multipurpose Cooperative (KELMC).

Growth in the tourism industry spurred the establishment, and currently influencing the status of the textile industry in Baguio and Benguet. It made possible for the expansion of trade in imported thread and raw materials among 31 entrepreneurs and manufacturers of textile goods providing job opportunities. There were 108 individuals and associations included in the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) listing of registered firms but as many as 515 individuals are formally and informally engaged in manufacturing, which includes the weaving, knitting, crocheting and the creation of madeup textile goods or novelty items. Those engaged in wholesaling and retailing of manufactured textile products includes 253 establishments. Their contribution to employment and the economy could easily reach more than PhP133 million per year.

Maguey or sisal fiber processing became an obsolete home industry among the old folks in Bokod and Kabayan with the introduction of cheaper polypropylene ropes.

Lack of support on marketing and technology, slow turn-over of capital, and the unstable and increasing costof threads, yarns or textile fibers are some issues the textile industry in Baguio and Benguet is facing.

**Keywords:** *textile, textile industry, weaving, knitting, maguey and sisal fiber processing, sericulture, and textile producers* 

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