



Foreign Agricultural Service

**GAIN Report**

Global Agriculture Information Network

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GAIN Report #RP0014

## Philippines

### Grain and Feed

### New Rice Varieties

## 2000

Approved by:

**Charles T. Alexander**

**U.S. Embassy**

Prepared by:

Perfecto G. Corpuz

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#### **Report Highlights:**

**During the last ten years, 41 new rice varieties have reportedly been bred and commercialized in the Philippines. Of the 41 rice varieties, 21 are suited for irrigated areas, 12 for rainfed areas, 4 for adverse field conditions, and 3 for upland conditions. The improved varieties are a major reason for the increase in paddy rice production in the country.**

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Includes PSD changes: No  
Includes Trade Matrix: No  
Unscheduled Report  
Manila [RP1], RP

**Executive Summary**

From 1990 to 2000, forty one (41) varieties of rice reportedly have been bred and approved for commercial release. These varieties currently grown in most parts of the country were approved by the National Seed Industry Council (NSIC), formerly the Philippine Seed Board (PSB). The varieties were bred by the Philippine Department of Agriculture-Philippine Rice Research Institute (PhilRice), University of the Philippines at Los Banos (UPLB), and the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI). A hybrid was also developed by AgroSeed, formerly Cargill, a private company.

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A report by Dr. Leocadio S. Sebastian, PhilRice Deputy Executive Director for Research, Dr. Sergio R. Francisco, Chief Science Research Specialist and Pedro Aviola, Senior Science Research Specialist, noted that the past three decades, paddy rice production increased from 5 million tons (1970) to 11 million tons (1997) at an average annual rate of 2.6 percent.