Pili

(\textit{Canarium ovatum} Engl.)

Prospects and Potentials

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Pili nut is considered superior to almond (West, 1993). Processed pili kernel is delicious and can be used in the preparation of many food products.

It is also a source of edible oil of excellent quality for pharmaceuticals, cosmetics and for salad dressing.

Other uses of pili
- Pulp as vegetable, pickle, flour, puree, sauce and as feeds for swine
- Shell is used as fuel, growing medium for orchids and anthuriums, and crafted as fashion accessories
- Resin is used as lacquer, varnish adhesive and manila elemi –
- Trunk is made into furniture, wood panels.
Pili nut pulp and kernel are highly nutritious and are excellent sources of minerals, vegetable fats and protein. (refer to diagram on page 6)

The Philippines is the only country that produces and processes pili in commercial quantity (Coronel, 1978) and has the monopoly of processed pili in the foreign market.

The Bicol Region is known for its pili candies and confectioneries which are sold in different product forms and in various packaging containers.

These products are exported to other countries like Australia, Guam, Canada, Japan, Hongkong, China, UK, Korea, Singapore, Hawaii, Germany, France and the United States.

Pili trees can be planted all year round and thrives on a wide range of soil types and wide range of climatic conditions. It is sturdy and an excellent border tree, windbreak and for agro-tourism

Superior and accredited varieties are available for propagation and distribution which are high yielding, easy to propagate asexually, bears fruit all year round and resistant to pest and diseases.

Technical experts are available in the region. The Regional Pili Research and Training Center was established at AES, Buang, Tabaco, Albay to develop new propagation techniques; evaluate performance of promising pili cultivars, identify, index, collect elite pili varieties.

The existence of Bicol Pili Board which serves as a vehicle to unify/link the various key commodity players to ensure the sustainability of the industry;

The existence of organized Pili Growers and Pili Processors Association which can be tapped to produce and supply fresh, semi-processed and processed pili products;

Availability of areas for expansion. About 573,397 hectares of idle lands are available for planting to pili. Pili trees can be planted in remote rural areas without fear that the fruits will spoil or rot if not marketed immediately. Once the nut is properly dried it can be stored for one year under ordinary room temperature.

### POTENTIAL AREAS FOR PILI PRODUCTION (Bicol Region)
in hectares

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Province</th>
<th>Hectares</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Albay</td>
<td>87,494</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Camarines Sur</td>
<td>160,238</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Camarines Norte</td>
<td>106,953</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catanduanes</td>
<td>16,740</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masbate</td>
<td>97,910</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sorsogon</td>
<td>104,062</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>573,397</strong></td>
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Pili Prospects and Potentials 1
Bicol Region is the largest producer of pili in the country with an estimated share of 78% domestic production;

It has an existing area of 7,778 hectares with 617,317 bearing trees and 160,483 non-bearing trees. Regional production for CY 2009 was approximately 23,152 MT. There are around 13,435 pili farmers/producers and 164 processors regionwide.

Pili Foundation Scion Groves, Germplasm Bank, Techno Demo Farms and nurseries are maintained for the production of quality planting materials;

Availability of seven (7) NSIC accredited varieties of pili namely: Magnaye, Orolo, Layo, Magayon, Lanuza, Mayon #1, and Mayon #2 varieties and 74 promising pili selections now planted at the station’s scion grove.

Under the on-going Pili Development Program (Locally Funded) around 500,000 pieces pili seedlings and grafted pili seedlings will be produced and will be planted to around 5,000 hectares as expansion areas.

Pili can be intercropped with other crops and generate high Return on Investment (ROI).

Strong government and private sector partnership.

**Government Sector**
- SCU’s (BU, CSSAC, CNSAC, VSAC)
- Dept. of Science & Technology Industrial Technology Development Institute (ITDI)
- Food and Nutrition Research Institute (FNRI)
- Phil. Council for Agriculture, Forestry & Natural Resources Research and Development (PCARRD)
- Dept. of Trade & Industry (DTI)
- Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA)
- Dept. of Environment & Natural Resources (DENR)
- Local Government Units
- Bureau of Agriculture Fisheries Product Standards (BAFPS)

**Private Sector**
- Bicol Pili Board
- Pili Growers Associations/Coops.
- Pili Processors Associations/Coops.
- Private firms/Companies

- Development of state of the art processing equipment like depulping machine, sheller and oil extractor;
- Establishment of collection and processing centers in major producing area;
- Rehabilitation/improvement of the Rolando Andaya/Quirino Highway and PNR south line, a gateway to Visayas and Mindanao;

The opening of Pantao International Ports at Libon, Albay and improvement of Legazpi City and Naga City Airports, thereby increasing number of flights.

Policy Legislation passed for congressional hearings by Bicol Congressmen/Legislators.

Increased/improved tourist destinations in the region thereby attracting more tourists.

The opening of new Bicol International Airport construction is now underway.

**INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

- Financing on Production and Post-Harvest/Processing/Packaging Facilities and Equipments
- Nursery Establishment/Development
- Establishment of Orchard/Plantation Farms
- Infrastructure Development (i.e. Pili Processing Plant/Centers, Farm Technology Centers)
- Establishment of buying station for export and domestic market
- Establishment of E-marketing or E-commerce
- Inputs provider