

Paddy farmers in Philippines to get more fertilizer aid

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The Philippines Department of Agriculture will distribute additional fertilizer next month to support rice farmers nationwide.

According to the statement, this is in line with the recent meeting of President Marcos with the top officials of the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), and the Philippine International Trading Corporation (PITC) regarding the country's fertilizer importation requirements to boost local production.

The PITC was tapped to import the required volume of fertilizer at a lower cost through a government-to-government arrangement. With a P4.1 billion fund, the Department of Agriculture will be able to buy about 2.277 million bags of urea to be given in kind to farmers.

The Department of Agriculture targets to start the distribution of fertilizer assistance for the Dry Season 2022-2023 by December 2022 after the ongoing distribution of fertilizer discount vouchers funded through the allocations for 2021 and 2021 is completed.