

SEARCH FOR OUTSTANDING LARGE ANIMAL RAISER

I. RATIONALE

Livestock production, which plays an important role in the growth of Philippine economy, is of primary importance in the attainment of national food security. The farmers who integrate livestock farming with grains and high value crops prove that farming is a sustainable enterprise.

In order to promote and showcase agriculture as a competitive economic activity, the Department of Agriculture has launched the search for Outstanding Large Animal Raiser Adopting Integrated Farming System. This is vital proof that livestock in combination with crops is a profitable venture which benefits not only the farmer but the Filipino people as well by increasing the supply of food to sustain national food security.

II. OBJECTIVES

1. To provide incentive to large animal raiser which integrate large animal production with other agriculture activities.
2. To give due recognition to large animal raiser for engaging in integrated farming system leading to the economic upliftment and contributing to the welfare of the community.
3. To encourage large animal raiser to engage in integrated farming system for adequate nutrition.
4. To show that large animal production is important in the attainment of food security.

III. SCOPE

The search provides award to a farmer adopting integrated farming system whose main activity and income is derived from livestock farming.

IV. SEARCH RULES AND REGULATIONS

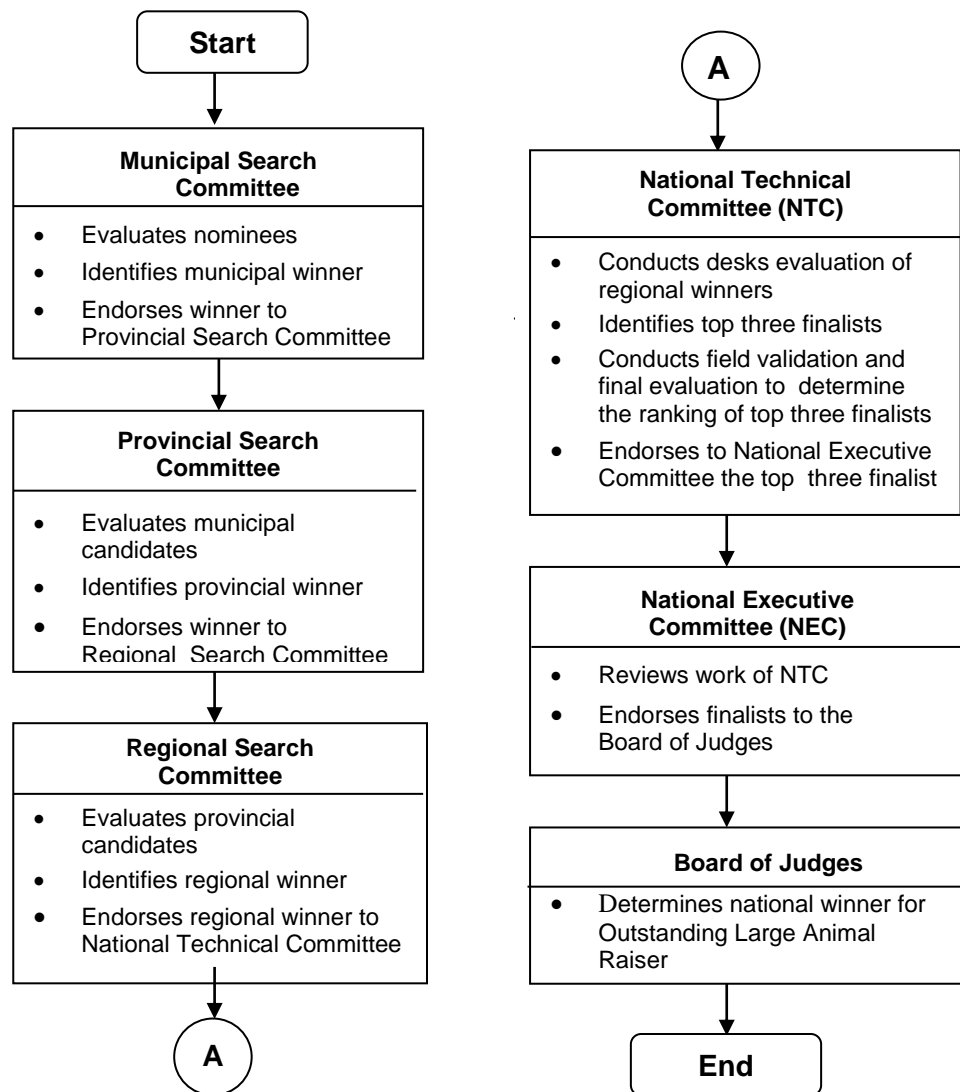
The following shall be the rules and regulation governing the search:

1. Nomination shall be made on the prescribed form by any individual who is a non-Department of Agriculture employee, a civic organization or a farmers association;
2. Only qualified nominees as defined in Section III - Scope and Section VI - Qualifications of Nominee and with complete scrap book and records of operations will be considered for evaluation;
3. A national winner shall not be eligible for nomination in the same category in the DA Annual Search within five (5) years after winning the award;

4. The immediate two (2) years preceding the start of the search is the performance period covered for evaluation;
5. Only one regional winner per region shall be considered for national evaluation;
6. The deadline set by the Search National Executive Committee (NEC) for each level is final and should be strictly followed;
7. There shall be only one national winner for the large animal raiser category who will received the award;
8. No winner may be recommended by the NEC to the Board of Judge and/or no winner may be declared by the Board of Judges if there is no meritorious nominee;
9. The decision of the Board of Judges shall be final.
10. The national winner's scrap book, video tape and other documents submitted for evaluation shall become the property of the Department of Agriculture.

V. SEARCH AND EVALUATION PROCESS

The nominee/candidate will be subjected to a series of evaluation of different levels. The following is the flow chart of evaluation:



VI. QUALIFICATIONS OF NOMINEE

Nominees for the outstanding large animal raiser adopting integrated farming system must possess all of the following qualification:

- a. A Filipino citizen of good moral character as certified by the Barangay Chairman;
- b. At least 21 years of age;
- c. **A farmer by principal occupation, practicing integrated farming system in a contiguous area of not less than (0.5) hectare but not more than five (5) hectares with animal inventory, not less than ten (10) animal unit but not more than thirty (40) animal unit at any given time. (to be cleared with Dir. Nuestro)**

If there are small animals, it must not be more than 50% of the large animal unit. (see Table 1 for calculation of total animal units);

- d. Must not be an employee/official of the Department of Agriculture.
- e. Must have complete records or documentation of his farm operations expenses and income for the two years immediately preceding the evaluation period; and
- f. Have good credit standing, if a loan borrower; and
- g. Must be a member of any farmer association/organization.

Table1
Animal Unit of Common Animal Species

Species	Animal Units (AU)
Large Ruminants	
Adult (cattle/carabao 3 yrs. & above)	1.00
Bull/heifer or steer	
(2-3 years)	0.75
(1-2 years)	0.5
Calves (below 1 year)	0.25

Note: To calculate the farm animal units, identify the animal species in the farm, their number and ages. Multiply the number of animals of each species by their corresponding animal units. The sum of all their products is the total animal units. **Example.**

5 adult cattle	5 x 1.00 = 5.00
2 calves	2 x 0.25 = 0.50
1 sow	1 x 0.50 = 0.50
2 chicken	2 x 0.01 = 0.02
Farm Total Animal Units		= 6.12

VI. THE EVALUATION FRAMEWORK

The farmer's management on the farm (or his environment) and resources using his knowledge and skills constitute the total farming system. This farming system has a direct farming linkage to the community, which also influence the farming system. The other sources of income represent the residual activity of the farmer (figure 1).

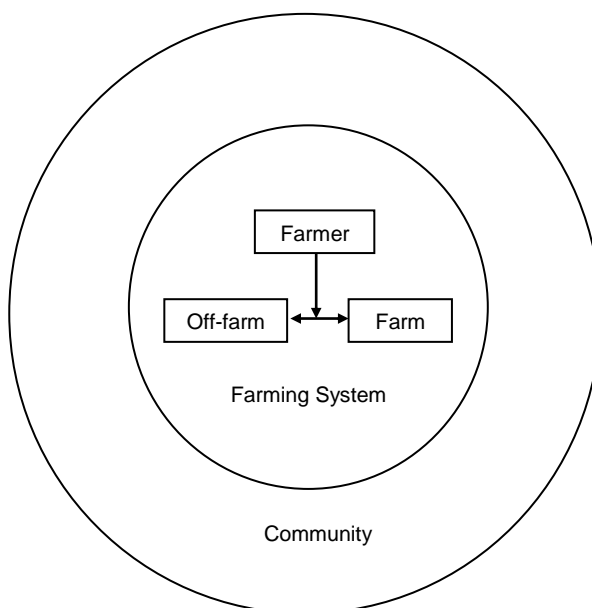


Figure 1

Considering the total farming system, five areas by which farmer could be evaluated are identified. These are: a) the farmer; b) the farm; c) the farming system; d) the other sources of income, and e) the contributions to the community where the farmer belongs.

1. **The Farmer.** The farmer is considered the prime architect of any given farming system, specifically in the small farming systems. He manages his resources (land, labor, & capital) according to his knowledge and skill for the attainment of family's goal (s). The existing farming system is therefore the result of his management skills.
2. **The Farm.** Evaluating the skills of the farmer would be difficult without looking into his farm. The farm represents the physical aspect of the farming system as a result of the farmer's management skills. In the farm, are seen the different enterprises the farmers are engaging with how he allocated his resources to the different enterprise, and how each enterprise is being managed.
3. **The Farming System.** The farming system reflects the interactive output of the farmer, the farm, the community. Thus, it shall constitute the bulk of the evaluation. It would indicate the level of technical know how of the farmer and how he utilize these to attain family's goal (s). This also shows his ability to select and match suitable technology to his farm.
4. **Other Sources of Income.** This represents the residual activity of the farmer and should therefore utilize minimal if not a farmer principally and is therefore disqualified from the search. Although it is not a part of activities, it is included

in the evaluation to know how the farmer utilizes his extra resources into productive activity.

5. **The Contribution to the Community.** Farmer's evaluation should not only indicate what the farmer has achieved for his family but also his contribution to the community. A farmer who has made exemplary performance in his farming system but did not stretch out this means of his endeavor to the farmers is not worthy of recognition. An important indicator of the effectiveness of a farming system is its impact to the community where the system exist. A wide adoption of the technology indicates effective and replicable technology.

VII. THE EVALUATION CRITERIA

The following are the criteria under each area of evaluation.

A. The Farmer

1. **The Management Skills.** This is the ability of the farmer to allocate his resources (land, labor, capital) to the different enterprises in his/her farm to optimize efficiency and effectiveness of farm resources, increase resource complementation and subsequently increase farm productivity. Importantly, it is the ability of the farmer to overcome resource constraints and how he/she manage farm opportunities/potentials to transform these into socio-economic benefits for the farm family.
2. **Technical Knowledge.** This is the level of farmer's knowledge of new technologies that will increase his production and income and how he/she overcome technical constraints and manages technical opportunities/potentials for the improvement of the farming system.
3. **Innovativeness.** This refers to the farmer's decision- making abilities in making improvements, innovation, and change on the technical, social, and economic aspect of the farm.
4. **Farm Record Keeping.** -----

B. The Farm

1. **Farm Resources Management.** This is a measure of how available farm resources are utilized to optimize efficiency and effectiveness.
 - a.) **Land resources utilization.** An important measure of land utilization is cropping intensity. This is a measure of land utilization to cropping. This is a computed as crops harvested during the year, the higher the index, the more intensified is the farm. Also important to know what are the constraints (e.g. soil toxicity). Likewise, how farm opportunities and potentials are converted into the farm benefits.
 - b.) **Farm labor optimization.** Good labor management must be able to overcome labor constraints and must be able to exploit labor opportunities/potentials into productive benefits.

- c.) **Capital allocation.** This refers to how farmer manages his cash capital and how he/she overcomes capital constraints.
 - d.) **Use of indigenous or local resources.** This provides information on whether resources from the farm and community being utilized such that the use of external inputs is minimized.
2. **Farm condition.** This is an assessment of the general condition of the farm as affected by the farmer's farming practices.
- a) **Land Use Allocation.** This is an assessment of how effective the pest control practices of the farmer. The abundance of these may indicate a poor pest control measure. However, the absence of them may not necessarily mean a healthy pest control practice since too much pesticides may have been used which is hazardous to health.
 - b) **Animal health condition.** The assessment of the health condition of the animals of the farm will provide information on the capacity of the farmer to control animal diseases.
 - c) **Health and environmental safety welfare.** This is an assessment on the soundness of the farming system in relation to human and animal health. For example, application of too much pesticide may endanger the lives of the farmer and the animals. This also refer to the effort of the farmer to keep his farm free from pollution, pest build up etc. (e.g. waste disposal and management.)

C. The Farming System

1. **Degree on integration.** This is a measure of the extent of integration in the farm, i.e. the number of enterprises integrated and the scale of integration.
2. **Use of technology.** This is an assessment of the suitability or effectiveness of the technology used in the farm. This may be gleaned from crop/animal condition and performance.
3. **Sustainability.** This is an assessment of the ability of the farming system to produce high production through generations. With limited data, this is rather difficult to measure but from informal interviews, the evaluators must be able to extract information about this based on the past experience of the farmer. This includes the following:
 - a) **Ecological conversation.** This refers to farming practices/ measure that will help in maintaining the ecological Balance, (e.g. soil and water conservation)
 - b) **Production stability.** This is the ability of the farming system to maintain high production level through the years.
 - c) **Income stability.** This is the ability of the farming system to be the same of other farms within the community.

4. Replicability -----

5. Efficiency. This is a measure of the output against the input used in the farm. This includes the following:

a) **Productivity**. This is a measure of production per unit area.

b) **Profitability**. This is a measure of return per monetary unit.

Because this is just a residual activity of the farmer, the only measure under this is the utilization of the extra resources of the farm.

D. The Contribution to the Community

1. Farmer's involvement with the community

a.) **Membership to farmer's organization**. This is one way of determining farmer's involvement in the community.

2. Impact of farming system to the community.

E. Other Source of Income

IX. FARM RECORD KEEPING AND ANALYSIS

1. Farm Record Keeping

Farm record is important for the preparation of the farm report. Farm record keeping should be done at least one crop year but preferably two years, immediately preceding the nomination. The prescribed forms should be used in keeping farm record. The Agricultural Technologist (AT) assigned in the locality should guide the prospective nominee in accomplishing the farm record.

The farm record should consists of the following:

a. **Operation of the Farm**. Use separate form for each enterprise in the farm. Entries should be made for every field operation. (e.g. land preparation, planting, harvesting, deworming, etc.) for each activity, the information needed includes:

1) *Date of operation*. Enter month and day when the operation /activity was done. It is possible to have two or more operations in one day.

2) *Material type* includes the name of material used and its formulation (e.g. corn seeds (IBP Var 2, Urea 46-0-0, Azordrin 202 R, etc.).

3) *Quantity*. This is the amount of the materials used or applied e.g. 5 kg., 10 cc, 6 ml., 3 tbsp., etc.)

4) *Labor hours*. This is the number of hours spent for each operation in the farm.

- 5) *Power source and Hours used.* Power source may be that of a draft animal or a mechanical source. In any operation using either animal or mechanical means, record properly the number of hours used.
 - 6) *Cost per man-day, man-animal-day or man-machine-day.* Record the prevailing rate per day.
- b. **Production record.** The production record should be in the actual production of the different enterprises in the farm. This should be recorded after every harvest (for crops) or at every animal disposal or at the end of the crop year (for livestock).

1. Preparation of the Farm Report

The farm report must contain in the following:

- a. *Management practices in the farm.* Based from the data on the operations in the farm, define the actual management practices used in the farm by the summarizing them into the major activities (e.g. land preparation planting, feeding practices, health management, etc.).
- b. *Cost and return analysis.* Calculate the cost and return by enterprise and for the whole farm. The following is the procedure in analyzing cost and return.
 - b 1. *Labor and Power Costs.* The amount of labor and power spent in each operation for an enterprise should be expressed in man-days (MD), man-animal-days (MAD) or man-machine-days (MMD). Calculate total labor/power cost for each enterprise and then for the whole farm. This is calculated as:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Total Labor \& Power Cost} &= \text{Total labor: MD} \times \text{Wage rate} \\ &+ \text{Total power : (MAD/MD/MMD)} \times \text{rate} \end{aligned}$$

- b 2 *Material input cost.* The total cost of all materials used in the farm (e. g seeds, fertilizers, pesticides, etc).This is calculated as:

$$\text{Total material cost} = (\text{Quantity material 1} \times \text{Price of material 1}) + \dots + (\text{Quantity of material N} \times \text{Price of material N})$$

- b 3. Determine the Gross Return

The type of products, amount of production and price of the product are important components in calculating for return.

Calculate the gross return using the formula:

$$\text{Gross Return} = (\text{Volume of product 1} \times \text{price of product 1}) + \dots + (\text{Volume of product N} \times \text{Price of product N})$$

b 4 Determine the Net Return

This is computed as:

$$\text{Net Return} = \text{Gross return} - \text{Total labor} + \text{Material costs}$$

Calculate the net return for each enterprise and for the whole farm.

b 5. Calculate the Return Over Investment (ROI)

This is a measure of the return for every monetary unit invested in the farm. The higher ROI, the better is the economic performance of the enterprise. This is calculated as:

$$\text{ROI} = \frac{\text{Net Income}}{\text{Total Cost}}$$

X. DOCUMENTS REQUIRED

Scrapbook. The nominee's scrapbook shall be prepared by the nominee himself, to be guided by the Agricultural Technologist (AT) of the locality, who will verify and check for the correctness and completeness of the book.

The book must have the following content and format:

- a. Table of contents
- b. Nomination form duly filled up by the nominating officer, who must not be an employee/official of the Department of Agriculture. (see Appendix 1)
- c. Brief story about the nominee (including two (2) latest ID pictures).
- d. *Farm location map.* Sketch the location of the farm indicating roads and important landmarks..
- e. *Farm layout.* Sketch the land allocation to the different enterprise in the farm with their respective area. Label each subdivision properly with the enterprise.
- f. *Production pattern diagram.* Graph all the production patterns used in the farm with breeding and kidding/lambing/farrowing time properly indicated.

- g. Farm report containing the following:
 - 1) Management practices used in the farm, by enterprise
 - 2) Production record
 - 3) Cost and return analysis, by enterprise and total farm

- h. Farm photographs. The farm photographs should show the actual stand of each enterprise of the farm during the record keeping period. Different activities for each enterprise (e.g. planting, spraying, etc.) may be also included. Activities that need special attention should be taken in focus.

- i. **Other supporting documents** which include the following:
 - 1) Certification from the Barangay Chairman that the farmer is a Filipino citizen and of good character.
 - 2) Certification from the AT that the nominee is a bona fide farmer actually farming a specified contiguous area.
 - 3) Certification from a financing institution that the farmer has good credit standing. (optional)
 - 4) Photocopies of all documents and materials indicating meritorious contributions, accomplishments, in the field of endeavor (e.g. certificate of membership to farmer organization, community involvement to certain projects, etc.)
 - 5) Income Tax Return (ITR) for the preceding two (2) years, duly certified by the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR).
 - 6) Five-minute video footage of farmers farm, animals, activities and other relevant information.

The scrapbook should be submitted to the Municipal Search Committee (MAFC & MA) for evaluation. Additional supporting documents shall be added on successful winners after each level of evaluation.

The following are the suggested procedure and methods to be used under different level of evaluation (municipal, provincial, regional and national).

- a. **Barangay and Municipal Level.** Data collection under the barangay and municipal levels shall be more dynamic and detailed since the nominating officer can visit the nominee regularly. The following are the suggested procedure and methods of collecting information:
 - 1) **Conducts of farmer interview.** Collect the prospective nominee information related to his/her personal data and basic information about his/her farming system. A questionnaire shall be provided for the nominee to answer, to be administered by the AT.

- 2) **Farm record keeping.** The prospective nominee with guidance from the AT shall gather information on the actual activities in his farm. These include the operation, material and labor inputs used and production. The procedure in farm record keeping is discussed in Chapter IX.
 - 3) **Conduct of continuous field observation/measurement.** Assess the prospective nominee's farm regularly. Examine the occurrence of pests, diseases, weeds and general standing of the crops/animals. Observe also the dissemination of technology on the neighboring farms.
 - 4) **Collection of existing data.** Some farmers may have kept a farm record before his nomination. These could be a good source of information about the farming system. Other existing data may also serve as proof to what the prospective nominee have claimed. Examples of these are certificates of training, seminars, membership to an organization, etc.
- b. **Provincial, Regional and National Levels.** Data collection at the provincial, regional, and national level is limited to one-shot data collection methods because of accessibility limitations. The following are the suggested procedure and methods of collecting information.
- 1) **Review and evaluation of the existing data (scrapbook).** The candidate's scrapbook provides the most of the information needed in the evaluation. The evaluators must first determine whether each of the candidates is qualified by checking if the candidates meet the qualifications set for the search. Make preliminary evaluation using the candidate's scrap book and rank them according to their respective scores. The evaluation criteria and analysis are discussed in Chapter VII.
 - 2) **Conduct of farm visits.** Farm visits should be scheduled on strategic times, i.e. when crop/animals are standing. Video picture of the candidate's farm, which may be taken by the regional office is important for the evaluation at the national level. At the provincial and regional levels, whenever convenient, all candidates may be visited by the evaluating team. At the national level, or when it is inconvenient to visit all candidates, it is necessary to make a short list of the candidates. Only the top four to five will be considered for further evaluation. These candidates shall be visited for evaluation. During the visits, collect the necessary information through:
 - a) *Informal interview.* The following are to be interviewed by the team:
 - *The candidates.* Interview with the candidate should be made to determine the accuracy of the farm report and the candidate's management skills including his/her attitude and behavior towards and farming. Basic information about the farming system could be checked from the candidate's scrapbook, which he/she has made earlier. A checklist of questions maybe prepared for the interview that should be

kept confidential to avoid pre-answered questions, coached by the AT or other DA personnel

- *Neighboring farmers.* Talks with the neighboring farmers are necessary to determine the candidate's status and contributions to the community.
- *Key informants.* These include barangay leaders and other person who are familiar with the candidate, (e.g. barangay officials, organization leaders, etc.)

b) *Field observation/measurement.* This enables the evaluators to get first hand information about the farm and verify the correctness of the candidate's scrapbook. The evaluators should be able to assess the general stand of the crops/animals in the farm by examining the occurrence of pests, diseases, nutrient deficiency, weeds of crops and diseases, parasites and deficiencies of animals.

3. The Evaluation Analysis

The "scoring method" shall be used in the analysis of the evaluation. For each level of evaluation, each evaluator shall rate each candidate using the set of criteria (**See Appendix II- Evaluation Criteria**). The weight for each criterion represents the maximum score for such criterion. Total score for each candidate is determined by adding all the scores of each criterion. The candidate with the highest score shall be declared the winner.

The results shall be summarized using Form 6 (Comparative Assessment Form).

**SEARCH FOR OUTSTANDING LARGE ANIMAL RAISER
ADOPTING INTEGRATED FARMING SYSTEM**

EVALUATION SCORE SHEET

NAME : _____ MUNICIPALITY : _____

ADDRESS : _____ REGION : _____

EVALUATION CRITERIA

INDICATORS	MAX. POINTS			POINTS DISTRIBUTION		
I. The farmer			15			
1. Management Skills		5				
2. Technical Knowledge		5				
3. Innovativeness		2				
4. Farm Record Keeping		3				
II. The Farm			30			
1. Farm Resources Management		20				
a. Land Resource Utilization	5					
b. Farm Labor Optimization	5					
c. Capital Allocation	5					
d. Use of Indigenous or Local Resources	5					
2. Farm Condition		10				
1. Land use allocation	4					
a. Conformity with natural feature	= 2					
b. Maintenance of farm facilities (Irrigation, , Post Harvest, Farm Machinery	= 2					
3. Animal Health Condition	4					
4. Health and Environment Safety Welfare	2					
III. Farming System			40			
1. Degree of Integration		15				
a. Two complementary enterprises	= 5					
b. Three to four complementary enterprises	= 10					
c. Five or more complementary enterprises	= 15					
2. Use of Technology		5				
a. Technology suitable on 50% less of enterprises	= 3					
b. Technologies suitable on all enterprises	= 5					

3. Sustainability		5				
a. Ecological Conservation = (2 – 0)						
b. Production Stability = (2 – 0)						
c. Income Stability = (1 – 0)						
4. Replicability		5				
5. Efficiency		10				
IV. Contribution to the Community			10			
1. Farmers community involvement		5				
2. Impact of farming system to the communities		5				
V. Other Sources of Income			5			
TOTAL			100			

Name & Signature

Name & Signature