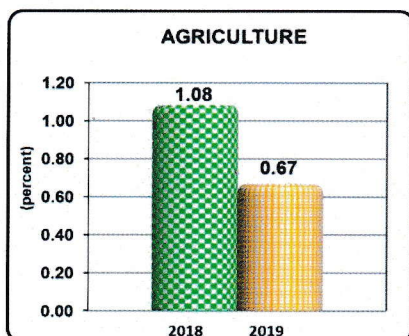


# PRESS RELEASE

## PERFORMANCE OF PHILIPPINE AGRICULTURE FIRST QUARTER 2019

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**In the first quarter of 2019, agriculture grew by 0.67 percent.** Production increases were noted for livestock, poultry and fisheries during the period. On the other hand, crops recorded a decrease in output. At current prices, the gross value of agricultural production amounted to PhP 429.7 billion. This represented a 3.12 percent reduction from previous year's level.


**Crops which accounted for 52.71 percent of the total agricultural output contracted by 1.01 percent.** Palay and corn production declined by 4.46 percent and 2.07 percent, respectively. Production decreases were also noted among the major crops such as banana, pineapple, coffee, mango, tobacco, peanut, cassava, garlic and rubber. At current prices, the gross value of crops production at PhP 235.4 billion was down by 6.41 percent this period.

**Livestock production posted a 1.25 percent increment.** It contributed 17.11 percent to the total agricultural production. Higher outputs were recorded for cattle, hog and dairy. The gross value of livestock production amounted to PhP 75.4 billion at current prices or 0.25 percent lower from last year's level.

**Production of poultry increased by 5.41 percent during the quarter. It shared 16.74 percent in the total agricultural output.** All poultry commodities exhibited production gains. At current prices, the gross value of poultry production amounted to PhP 55.4 billion, a decline by 3.66 percent this period.

**Fisheries production which inched up by 0.97 percent contributed 13.45 percent to the total agricultural production.** Roundscad and skipjack posted increments in production. The gross value of fisheries production at current prices amounted to PhP 63.5 billion or up by 7.81 percent from the previous year's record.

**On the average, prices received by farmers decreased by 3.76 percent during the period.** Lower prices were observed for crops at 5.46 percent, livestock at 1.49 percent and poultry at 8.60 percent. Meanwhile, prices for fisheries went up by an average of 6.78 percent.

  
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