

## Tanging Yaman Program: Its Effects on the Lives of Farmers

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**ABSTRACT :** This study determined the effects of Tanging Yaman Program on the lives of farmers in Sorsogon City. The research was conducted through survey and interview among 233 active vegetable and rice farmers from farmers' associations in Sorsogon City. The study determined the farmers' profile, services availed under the program, farmers' levels of satisfaction on the services availed, as well as the effects of the program on the lives of farmers. The results showed that most of the farmer associations in the study has a large land holding which ranges from 60-90 hectares and above, mostly located in Bacon District, commonly sharecroppers, with small to average household-size. Findings also revealed that free tillage (*libreng paarado*), technical assistance and vegetable seeds were the frequently availed services among vegetable farmers, while hybrid palay seeds, assistance on crop insurance, and fertilizer loans were the most availed among rice farmers. Based on the results of the focus group discussion the program has improve farmers farming practices and techniques, increase income and productions, as well as elevate farmers' standard of living in the aspects of acquisition of quality education, food on the table and acquiring additional livelihood for their families. Based on the findings, it is recommended that, in order to promote sustainable agriculture and agricultural practices program has to improve the roll-out of various services. These include adequacy and timeliness in the provision of palay seeds and fertilizer loans, farm machinery and sufficient technical trainings among farmers. Thus, enhancing the process of applying for crop insurance assistance is necessary to empower the sector towards a more felt and impactful results

**Keywords -** Tanging Yaman Program, provision of services, farmers' satisfaction, agriculture sector, sustainable development

### I. INTRODUCTION

The global threat of hunger and food insecurity has increased alarmingly since 2015. United Nations (2022), believes that this trend has been worsened by the pandemic, climate change, and mounting inequalities. More than that, the lack of food production systems and sustainable agriculture, shortage of aid for the sector, food waste, and high level of vulnerability of certain populations to natural disasters and war added to the underlying issue. With this dilemma, various initiatives from across the globe ranging from international efforts to local action programs have arisen. Several campaigns such as United Nation's (2022), Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals (SGDs), Philippine's Ambisyon Natin 2040, Philippine Development Plan 2023-2028 were made among local government units (LGUs) as framework for community development, particularly in empowering or elevating the quality of lives among the agricultural sector.

In Sorsogon City, the core principles of these frameworks are being observed in the programs and project implementation of the local government. As the mayoralty of the incumbent administration landed on year 2020 up until today, actions to solve the socio-economic challenges faced by the citizens had been the center of focus (Office of the Mayor's Budget Message, 2021). Out of the Ten Point Plus One Agenda, the flagship program of the administration, one of it is focused on achieving food-security among households by achieving a well-sustained agriculture sector, this is the Tanging Yaman Program.

Tanging Yaman Program, as Sorsogon City Government scheme to strengthen the town's agriculture sector, provides the town's fisherfolks and farmers with up-to-date knowledge in farming, serving Sorsoguenos with agricultural inputs, assistance and services (Sorsogon City Agriculture Office, 2025). The main purpose of Tanging Yaman is to serve farmers with fertilizer loan assistance with subsidy and compulsory requiring farmers for insurance coverage of their *palay* and other crops in the city of Sorsogon to ensure food security. This initiative is vital in arming the sector with its basic needs to sustain their livelihoods, especially in the present of changing weather patterns, natural disasters and other threats.

## Purpose of Research

The study determined the effects of Tanging Yaman Program in the lives of farmers on Sorsogon City. Hence, this study specifically tackles the (1) profile of the farmer beneficiaries of Tanging Yaman; (2) services availed by farmers under Tanging Yaman; (3) level of satisfaction of the farmers on the services availed; (4) effects of Tanging Yaman on the lives of farmers.

## II. METHODOLOGY

### Research Design

The general objectives of the study are to determine the effects of Tanging Yaman on the lives of farmers in Sorsogon City, by investigating the services availed by farmers and its transformative impacts on farmers lives. This study used the concurrent mixed methods of research, using a researcher's made questionnaire, interview, and focus group discussions (FGD). Furthermore, quantitative and qualitative data were collected simultaneously, where in survey was utilized to determine the farmers' profile, services availed, and farmers' level of satisfaction. Meanwhile, the effects of Tanging Yaman were obtained through focus group discussion.

### Instrument

A survey questionnaire was used to collect data from the respondents. The respondents' profile data were collected and were limited to their land area of association per hectare, type of land ownership, and number of households. Similar instrument was used to determine the services availed by farmers in Tanging Yaman from 2020-2024, along with their level of satisfaction on the services, which was measured through 4-point liker scale rating. The list of services provided in the survey questionnaire was obtained from the program administrator of Tanging Yaman, Sorsogon City Agriculture Office.

### Respondents, Sampling Procedures, and Ethical Consideration

The samples of the study were active farmer beneficiaries of Tanging Yaman in Sorsogon City. The respondents were identified through stratified random sampling to ensure that each group of the farmer population in the town is properly represented in the study. Out of 233 total number of respondents, 163 were from Bacon District, 45 were from East District while only 25 were from West District Sorsogon City. The respondents agreed to participate regarding their personal experience and viewpoints. As part of the research ethics, responses of the farmers were kept confidential.

### Data Collection and Data Analysis

The researcher asked permission from the Sorsogon City Agriculture Office to conduct the study, which involved the Tanging Yaman Program beneficiaries. Upon approval the researcher started the distribution of the printed survey questionnaire to the respondents, and conducted the interview. The researcher conducted the survey and interview simultaneously, based on the available schedule of the respondents. The confidentiality clause was specified in a letter to the survey forms, which was conveyed to the respondents during the data gathering.

The retrieval rate is 100 percent and the information from the survey questionnaire and interview was collated. It was then analyzed using the frequency percentage, standard deviation, average weighted mean, and thematic analysis. The scores on the weighted mean were interpreted with the following scale and description:

Scale	Description
3.50-4.00	Very Satisfied
2.50-3.49	Satisfied
1.50-2.49	Somewhat Satisfied
1.00-1.49	Not Satisfied

## III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### *Farmers' Profile*

This section presents the data of the farmer respondent of the study. The data was obtained from survey questionnaires collected from 10 active farmer associations in Sorsogon City, in year 2025.

**Table 1 Profile of the Respondents**

<b>Variables</b>	<b>f</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>Farmer Assoc. Land Area in Hectare</b>		
<b>30 below</b>	3	30%
<b>31-60</b>	3	30%
<b>61-90 above</b>	4	40%
<b>Land Ownership</b>		
<b>Farm Owner</b>	83	35%
<b>Tenant</b>	50	22%
<b>Sharecropper</b>	100	43%
<b>No. of Household Members</b>		
<b>1-4</b>	123	53%
<b>5-8</b>	76	32%
<b>9-12</b>	27	11%
<b>13 and above</b>	7	4%

Results have shown that 4 or (40%) out of 10 farmers associations who participated in the study have a land area in hectares of 60- 91 and above. Also, 3 or 30% have 31 to 60 hectares and another 3 or 30% have 30 hectares and below. Meanwhile, in terms of land ownership, 100 out of 233, or (43%) of the farmer-respondents were sharecropper, 83 or (35%) were farm -owners while only 50 or (22%) were tenants. Furthermore, in terms of no. of households 123 out of 233, (53%) of the farmer participants have 1-4 household members, 76 or (32%) have 5-8 members, while only 27 or 11% have 9-12 household members.

In summary, 40% of the farmer associations cultivate a large land holding that ranges 61-90 hectares and above, 43% were sharecropper and 53% have a small family size of 1-4 household members.

Food and Agriculture of the United Nations (2013) found that large-scale farmers likely have better access to resources and markets, while smallholders may face more challenges, such as limited capital and technology. Medium-scale farmers may be transitioning and need targeted support to expand. Meanwhile, in terms of farmers land ownership, Global Food Security (2017) mentioned that shift in preference of farmers in the land ownership, may be attributed to the potential for more flexible payment arrangements and reduced financial burden on farmers under sharecropping. However, this finding, is somehow contradicting to the study of Guardian, where in evidence of the study revealed that, more landowners in farmers' associations than tenants generally lead to benefits like improved decision-making, greater investment in the land, and potentially better access to resources and support. Landowners, having a vested interest in the long-term productivity of the land, are more likely to make sustainable decisions and invest in improvements, which can benefit the entire association.

Moreso, in relation to the impact of farmers land holding to farmers productivity, Otsuka (2019), found that larger farms can achieve higher productivity due to economies of scale and better access to technology. When it comes to family size, number of farmers household also affects farm production in a way that a larger household may require larger farms or a larger labor pool to support the family, potentially leading to unsustainable farming practices or pressure on land resources. Conversely, a smaller household might have more resources available to invest in sustainable practices or adopt innovations that improve agricultural efficiency (Liang Et. Al., 2015).

#### *Services Availed by Farmers under Tanging Yaman Program*

This section presents the most availed services among vegetable and rice farmers under the five-year implementation of the Tanging Yaman Program, from 2020-2024.

Table 2.1 Services Availed by Vegetable Farmers

Services	2021		2021		2022		2023		2024	
	f (n=55)	r	f (n=55)	r	f (n=55)	r	f (n=55)	r	f (n=55)	r
1. Vegetable Seeds	55	1	0	6	55	1	55	1	55	1
2. Fertilizer Loan "Organic and Inorganic"	18	7	4	4	19	8	19	8	19	8
3. Technical Assistance	22	5	7	3	37	5	55	1	55	1
4. Vegetable Seeds Loan	20	6	40	2	20	7	20	7	20	7
5. Free Tillage ( <i>Libreng Paarado</i> )	55	1	55	1	55	1	55	1	55	1
6. Surveillance from City Agriculture Office	55	1	0	6	55	1	55	1	55	1
7. Farm Machineries	55	1	0	6	55	1	55	1	55	1
8. Assistance on Crop Insurance	5	8	3	5	26	6	50	6	45	6

The study has found that the most frequently availed services among vegetable farmers were free tillage (*libreng paarado*) and vegetable seeds, this is due to the fact that land preparation and access to quality seeds are fundamental needs of the farmers (Republic of the Philippines, 2012).

Bautista (2017), proved that the consistent uptake of farmers on farm machinery from the Department of Agriculture and surveillance from the City Agriculture Office (CAO) further indicates that vegetable farmers rely heavily on mechanization and disaster management services to improve farm productivity and mitigate risks associated with calamities.

Meanwhile, the Villena Et. Al. (2024), explained that farmers lower uptake on crop insurance, fertilizer loans and vegetable loan may be an indicator for lack of awareness or difficulty accessing these services, or it could reflect farmers' prioritization of immediate and tangible resources, such as seeds and land preparation, over long-term financial tools like crop insurance.

In relation to the shift of services availed during and after the pandemic on 2021, Nnanna Et. Al. (2025) mentioned that future interventions should account for potential emergencies by incorporating remote access options and contingency plans that can continue to serve farmers even under mobility restrictions or other disruptions. Additionally, efforts to digitize agricultural services could increase accessibility for farmers, allowing them to access essential resources like machinery and seeds without the need to travel, particularly during challenging periods.

Table 2.2 Services Availed by Rice Farmers

Services	2020		2021		2022		2023		2024	
	f (n=178)	r	f (n=178)	r	f (n=178)	r	f (n=178)	r	f (n=178)	r
1. "Certified" Palay Seeds	83	2	50	2	36	4	54	4	51	6
"Hybrid" Palay Seeds	113	1	120	1	153	1	153	1	135	2
2. Fertilizer Loan "Organic" and "Inorganic"	32	3	29	4	67	3	103	2	103	5
3. Technical Assistance	3	6	4	7	7	6	26	7	33	7
4. Surveillance from CAO after	11	5	30	3	26	5	42	5	106	4
5. Assistance Crop Insurance	16	4	25	5	95	2	95	3	130	3
6. Farm Machineries	0	7	19	6	0	7	38	6	164	1

The data on the services availed by rice farmers revealed some shifts in service utilization in the course of five year. Data shows that hybrid and certified seeds were the consistently availed services by rice farmers from 2020-2024. These services were followed by crop insurance, and fertilizer loan, however, in the later part of the program implementation number of farmers availing certified palay seeds declined. Meanwhile, the number of farmers availing farm machinery, surveillance from City Agriculture Office, and Crop Insurance hikes in the later part of the program roll-out.

Bayudan-Dacuyucuy (2020), found that farmers often prioritize services that are directly linked to improving immediate agricultural productivity and managing financial risks. It means that the farmers prioritize resources that can enhance their crop yield and safeguard their investment. Meanwhile, Delos Santos (2022),

explained that the number of farmers who availed farm machinery, in the first years of program implementation was hindered by logistical issues and funding constraint.

Friedel (2015), mentioned that the significant increase of services availed by rice farmers on 2024, is due to the growing awareness of rice farmers on the long-term benefits of these services. The increase in machinery utilization could reflect a growing recognition of the efficiency and productivity gains offered by mechanization, while the uptick in crop insurance and surveillance may point to a heightened awareness of risk management strategies in response to the unpredictable weather patterns exacerbated by climate change.

*Farmers' Level of Satisfaction on the Services Availed under Tanging Yaman Program*

**Table 3.1 Vegetable Farmers' Level of Satisfaction on the Services Availed**

Level of Satisfaction of Vegetable Farmers	(WM)	(SD)	Description
<b>1. Vegetable Seeds</b>			
Quality	3.75	0.317	VS
Adequacy	3.75	0.317	VS
Timeliness	3.75	0.317	VS
Efficiency	4.00	0	VS
<b>2. Fertilizer Loan Assistance</b>			
Efficiency	4.00	0	VS
Adequacy	3.75	0.317	VS
<b>3. Technical Trainings</b>	4.00	0	VS
<b>4. Vegetable Seeds Loan Assistance</b>			
Quality	3.00	0	S
Adequacy	3.00	0	S
Timeliness	3.00	0	S
Efficiency	3.00	0	S
<b>5. Free Tillage (Libreng Paarado Service)</b>	4.00	0	VS
<b>6. Surveillance After Calamities</b>	3.75	0.317	VS
<b>7. Farm Machineries from DA and PhilMech</b>	3.75	0.317	VS
<b>8. Assistance on Crop Insurance</b>	2.73	0.476	S
<b>Overall Level of Satisfaction</b>	3.61	0.233	VS

LEGEND: WM- Weighted Mean, SD- Standard Deviation VS-Very Satisfied (WM=3.50-4.00), S-Satisfied (WM= 2.50-3.49) and SWS- Somewhat Satisfied (2.49-1.50)

The study found out that vegetable farmers have a high level of satisfaction on the services they availed under Tanging Yaman Program, with a very satisfied rating on overall services. Data revealed that farmers are very satisfied on six out of eight services offered by the program, including the quality, adequacy, timeliness and efficiency of vegetable seeds, assistance on fertilizer loan, technical assistance, free tillage (*libreng paarado*), surveillance after calamities, and farm machinery. Meanwhile, a generally satisfied rating was given by farmers on crop insurance due to unmet demands. Thus, overall, the services provided by Tanging Yaman have positively affect the farm productivity of vegetable farmers.

Ituriaga (2024) mentioned that strong alignment between the services offered by an agricultural program and the actual needs of the farmers, is the key to improved productivity and possibly reduced input costs. Ankrah (2021) explained that in relation to the low satisfaction level of farmers on crop insurance, complicated procedures and bureaucratic hurdles in claiming insurance benefits can discourage farmers from enrolling in such programs. The perceived difficulty in navigating these processes reduces the attractiveness of crop insurance schemes. With this, improving the system on applying for a crop insurance would encourage farmers to avail the service.

**Table 3.2 Rice Farmers' Level of Satisfaction on the Services Availed**

Level of Satisfaction	(WM)	(SD)	Description
<b>1.Provision of Certified and Hybrid Palay Seeds</b>			
In terms of Quality	3.14	0.456	S
In terms of Adequacy	2.52	0.863	S
In terms of Timeliness	2.69	0.731	S
In terms of Efficiency	3.53	0.408	VS
<b>2. Provision of Fertilizer Loan Assistance</b>			
In terms of Efficiency	3.35	0.607	S

<b>In terms of Adequacy</b>	3.21	0.642	S
<b>3. Provision of Technical Trainings</b>	3.26	0.593	S
<b>4. Surveillance after calamities</b>	3.44	0.550	S
<b>5. Provision of Assistance on Crop Insurance</b>	2.89	0.853	S
<b>6. Provision of Farm Machineries from DA and Philmech</b>	2.4	0.996	SWS
<b>Overall Level of Satisfaction</b>	2.85	0.754	S

LEGEND: WM- Weighted Mean, SD- Standard Deviation, VS-Very Satisfied (WM=3.50-4.00), S-Satisfied (WM= 2.50-3.49) and SWS- Somewhat Satisfied (2.49-1.50)

Findings of the study revealed that rice farmers had an affirmative response when asked on their level of satisfaction on the services availed under Tanging Yaman Program. Data revealed that rice farmers were very satisfied in the program's efficiency on the provision of certified and hybrid palay seeds, meanwhile, only satisfied on almost all of the services rating. Although farmers level of satisfaction on palay seeds, quality, adequacy, timeliness, as well as other services such as fertilizer loan, technical trainings, surveillance after calamities, and crop insurance assistance were still satisfied still the result represent that farmers have unmet demands in the program implementation, particularly on the provision of farm machinery, which has recorded the lowest level of satisfaction- somewhat satisfied.

In the similar context, Dano (2018) found out that issues on the delay in the delivery of services, inadequate training, and lack of access to necessary equipment, hinder the effectiveness of support programs. These inefficiencies can lead to suboptimal outcomes for farmer beneficiaries. With this Tanging Yaman has to work further on addressing delays and inefficiencies in the provision of services to enhance farmer satisfaction and program outcomes towards agricultural productivity and food security.

As explained by Ituriaga (2024), low level of farmers satisfaction indicates potential issues such as delayed delivery, insufficient quantity, or lack of accessibility and training in machinery use. He highlighted that, factors may hinder the overall efficiency and impact of the program, especially in mechanizing agricultural operations, which is crucial for increasing labor productivity and reducing manual workload.

Continuous feedback mechanism and engaging local stakeholders in the planning and evaluation phases can significantly enhance the responsiveness and sustainability of agricultural programs (Gubbins, 2021). Chaitra and Shivalingaiah (2023), mentioned that assessing farmers satisfaction is essential to measure program effectiveness, in order to determine ways for improvement or program realignment in the future. As stated by the Department of Agriculture (2024), ensuring the government's effort on timely and adequate provision of resources needed by the farmers must be met to achieve a sustainable agriculture.

### *Effects of Tanging Yaman in the Lives of Farmers*

**Table 4 Effects of Tanging Yaman Program in the Lives of Farmers**

<b>Program</b>	<b>Effects</b>
<b>Tanging Yaman</b>	Improved Farmer's Farming Methods and Practices
	Increased Farmers' Income
	Elevated Farmers' Living Condition

The study found that Tanging Yaman Program have positively affected the lives of farmers in three main areas, these include, improved farmers' farming methods and practices, increased farmers' income, and elevated farmers' living condition.

Under improved farming methods and techniques, farmers signified that through Tanging Yaman, program beneficiaries have been provided with p to date knowledge in farming such as, Palay Check System, Farmer Field Schools, upgraded farm inputs, along with other seminars and trainings. Secondly, farmers affirmed that increase on their income was driven by the program's support on reducing the cost of their production, through farmers access to resources, government subsidies and partnerships with private entities, contributing to overall, farms productivity. Lastly, farmers agreed that Tanging Yaman made a positive improvement on their quality of life or living condition, through the multi-dimensional approach provided by the program on empowering and promoting a sustainable agriculture and food-secured community.

In relation to the findings of the study, Sumedca (2024) highlighted that Farmer Field Schools (FFS) proved FFS's effectivity in increasing farmers' human and social capital by improving participants' technical knowledge and skills. She concluded that farmers who participated in FFS were able to apply their acquired knowledge and skills to their own farms. As time goes by, these knowledge and skills were transferred to their family members, relatives and friends which enable knowledge dissemination on proper farming practices.



Science and Technology Based Farm Projects (STBFP, 2012) found out that Palay Check System, a rice crop management framework developed by Philippine Rice Research Institute (PhilRice) revealed that beneficiaries had higher technical knowledge scores and achieved greater crop yields and farm income compared to non-beneficiaries of palay check system. In the similar context, Philippine Coconut Authority (2023), reported that the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) has conducted training programs on organic vegetable production for agrarian reform beneficiaries in regions like Quezon and Kalinga. These programs aim to equip farmers with knowledge and skills in organic farming, enhancing their productivity and income while promoting sustainable agricultural practices.

Moreover, the Scientific Research (2021) have stated farmers who consistently engage in the program avails the services earlier than those who do not inquire for it. It was supported by the Department of Agrarian Reform (2024), where in findings highlighted that individual farmer effort remains a pivotal determinant of productivity and income generation. The agency also suggests that programs success often hinges on the beneficiary's commitment to applying learned techniques, maintaining equipment and actively participating in community-based initiatives.

Access to agricultural support programs can signify enhance livestock production, with this beneficiary had increased agricultural income, improved food security, and were better able to invest in assets such as livestock and education for their children (MDPI, 2020). Jones (2017), have a similar finding in relation to this, he found that food insecurity can lead to poor mental health outcomes, social exclusion, and increased vulnerability among rural populations. By addressing these challenges, agricultural programs can better support farmers, leading to improved productivity and livelihoods.

#### IV. CONCLUSION

The study determined the effects of Tanging Yaman on the lives of farmers in Sorsogon City, after the five-year program implementation.

The study revealed that a significant number of farmer respondents, primarily located in the Bacon District of Sorsogon, possess landholdings ranging from 61 to 90 hectares and above. Despite having relatively large land areas, a considerable portion of these farmers were sharecroppers, indicating that land ownership remains limited among many cultivators. Additionally, most of the farmers belong to small to medium-sized households, suggesting that family labor may be moderately available.

The findings of the study also demonstrate that the *Tanging Yaman* program has made a significant contribution to the agricultural development of Sorsogon City, particularly among vegetable and rice farmers. The program was found to be effective in providing essential inputs such as free tillage services, quality seeds, and access to financial assistance, which helped reduce production costs and improve crop yield. While uptake and satisfaction levels varied across services, with crop insurance and seed loans receiving lower ratings due to delays and repayment burdens, the majority of farmers expressed high satisfaction with the program, particularly in terms of hybrid seed provision, fertilizer loans, and technical support. Notably, the program's positive impact is evident in three key areas: enhancing farmers' agricultural practices, increasing their income, and improving their overall living conditions. Therefore, it can be concluded that *Tanging Yaman* has been instrumental in advancing the goals of sustainable agriculture and food security in Sorsogon. Continued support, improvement in service delivery, and addressing implementation gaps will be vital to sustaining these gains and further empowering the farming communities.

As pathways for improvement, the study recommends on addressing the key issues on the program implementation, these include inadequate and delayed distribution of essential inputs such as fertilizer and hybrid palay seeds, lack of appropriate and sufficient farm machinery, delayed crop insurance payouts, and limited access to technical training opportunities.

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