



Republic of the Philippines
Municipality of Botolan
 Province of Zambales



OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN

EXCERPT

FROM THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN, BOTOLAN, ZAMBALES HELD AT THE MUNICIPAL SESSION HALL ON NOVEMBER 26, 2013.

Present:

Hon. Nick L. Manzo Presiding Officer

Regular Members

Hon. Anselmo S. Nalicat	SB Member
Hon. Aris George D. Lingat	SB Member
Hon. Marlo Thomas D. Doble	SB Member
Hon. Gregorio D. Jaring	SB Member
Hon. Luis D. Tabligan, Jr.	SB Member
Hon. Concepcion D. Caspe	SB Member

Ex-Officio Members

Hon. Alfredo A. Daria ABC President

Absent:

Hon. Atty. Noel S. Ferrer	SB Member
Hon. Arthur R. Daria	SB Member
Hon. Irish Mae D. Angeles	SKF President

RESOLUTION No. 34-2013

RESOLUTION IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE ORGANIC AGRICULTURE ORDINANCE OF BOTOLAN, ZAMBALES

INTRODUCED BY: Hon. Aris George D. Lingat

Chapter 1. INTRODUCTORY PROVISIONS

Section 1. TITLE – These rules shall be known and cited as ‘THE IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE ORGANIC AGRICULTURE ORDINANCE OF BOTOLAN, ZAMBALES’

RULE 1. PURPOSE – These rules are promulgated to prescribe the procedures and guidelines for the implementation of the Organic Agriculture Ordinance of Botolan, Zambales in order to facilitate compliance therewith and achieve the objectives thereof.



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Section 2. DECLARATION OF POLICY –It is the duty of the local government to protect life and advance the rights of all citizens to food sufficiency, sovereignty, and safety, sustainable livelihood and social equity in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature. Towards this end, the local government will mainstream organic agriculture as a main agricultural practice in Botolan, Zambales.

Section 3. DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES. – The practice of organic agriculture shall adhere to the following principles, to guide the implementation of this ordinance:

- a. The promotion and enhancement of the conservation and sustainable use of agricultural biodiversity shall prevail over any other activity in the agriculture sector;
- b. The empowerment of all small and marginalized farmers in the agriculture areas of the Municipality is a priority which will include the value chain for organic agriculture products;
- c. The implementation of a strategy for migration and adaptation to climate change is an urgent policy matter that needs to be integrated in all policies in all sectors;
- d. While unifying the initiatives and efforts of all government agencies and reduction strategy should not be lost in sight;
- e. Organic Agriculture is a contributor to the Municipality's economy and the attainment of food security, ecological sustainability and the well-being of the people of Botolan, Zambales;
- f. Organic agriculture cannot co-exist with genetically-modified crops, chemically produced crops and related organisms, both living and non-living;
- g. Organic agriculture is a multi-functional and in this sense, all existing policies of the government on agriculture should take this into account; and
- h. The integrity of organic products through the approved organic certification process and organic production, handling and processing standards should be ensured.

Section 4. DEFINITION OF TERMS. – As used in this Ordinance, the following terms shall mean:

- a. **Biopesticides** – are naturally occurring substances and microorganisms that control pests;
- b. **Buffer Zones** – are defined areas on the boundary of an organic farm that has land use controls and allow only activities compatible with the protection of the organic farm. It serves as a barrier that surrounds or separates an organic farm from other traditional or conventional farms where plants are not designated as organic. The area of the buffer



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- c. zones shall be determined in the Implementing Rules and Regulations depending on the total situation on the ground;
- d. Consumer Groups – are organized consumer group patronizing and advocating organic products;
- e. Conversion – is the process of transforming a traditional or conventional farm into an organic farm for the period of 3 to five years;
- f. Food Security – is the ability of the individual, household and community to produce and/or access/acquire appropriate, abundant, nutritious and safe food on a regular basis using socially acceptable means;
- g. Organic Agriculture – is a production system that sustains the health of soils, ecosystems and people. It relies on ecological processes, biodiversity and cycles adapted to local conditions, rather than the use of inputs with adverse effects. Organic agriculture combines tradition,
- h. Innovation and science to benefit the shared environment and promote fair relationships and good quality of life for all involved (IFOAM);
- i. Organic Center – is a center with the following goals:
 - 1. Establish a strategic venue for consumer education, information and communication for a sustainable healthy lifestyle;
 - 2. Design as a showcase for organic products and farm techniques;
 - 3. Develop holistic and sustainable technology training programs;
 - 4. Formulate farm-based farmer coordinated applied research program, and
 - 5. Promote environmental economic values in enterprise development;
- j. Small Farmers – are marginal and sub-marginal farm households and/or cultivating not more than three (3) hectares;

CHAPTER 2 – STRATEGIES

Section 5. ORGANIC AGRICULTURAL ZONES – For the effective implementation of this Code, there are hereby set aside agriculture zones that will be protected from encroachment and contamination of using chemical-based farm inputs, mining, including contamination of genetically-engineered crops and other similar activities. These zones shall be organized according to ecological districts based in existing categories of land tenure instruments and arrangements such as the ancestral domain, the protected areas, the agrarian reform communities; the community-based forest management zones, and such similar instruments and arrangements, including the coastal and marine zones;



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These zones shall be set up according to the following minimum criteria:

- a. Presence of actual organic agriculture practitioners;
- b. Presence of natural or man-made water formations, including areas covered by irrigation and similar facilities;
- c. Identified buffer zones to shield organic agriculture from other land uses that impact in the integrity of the practice of organic agriculture, and
- d. Areas suited for agricultural production as defined in Botolan, Zambales Land Use Plan.

To be submitted to the Sanggunian for approval in an Ordinance,

RULE 5.1. To facilitate the establishment of the organic agricultural zones, the Municipal Agriculture Office shall gather information on the geographical location, hectareage, number of farmers, land tenure, crops planted, and yield of the existing organic farms in Botolan within four (4) months from the approval of this IRR. This information shall be regularly updated every year.

RULE 5.2. Within six (6) months from the approval of the IRR, the Municipal Agriculture Office and/or Organic Agriculture Management Council shall identify the possible areas that maybe declared as organic agriculture zones in accordance with the minimum criteria provided by the ordinance.

RULE 5.2.1. In consultation with the concerned farmers in the area, the Municipal Agriculture Office and/or organic agriculture Management Council shall determine the appropriate buffer zones, bearing in mind relevant international standards and total situation on the ground.

RULE 5.3. Without prejudice to the empowerment of small and marginalized farmers in the municipality, organic farmers organizations shall not be prevented from submitting to Municipal Agriculture office and/or organic Agriculture Management Council their own recommendations of areas to be declared as organic agriculture zones.

RULE 5.4. The Municipal Agriculture Office and/or Organic Agriculture Management Council shall subject the possible areas to be declared as organic agriculture zones. To consultation with various stakeholders particularly those living in the areas to be declared as such zones.



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RULE 5.5. The Municipal Agriculture office and/or organic Agriculture Management Council shall endorse the possible areas to be declared as organic agriculture zones to the Municipality in accordance with the ordinance.

RULE 5.6. Priority support services shall be given to declared organic agriculture zones to strengthen, sustain and protect these areas from encroachment, including but not limited to access to markets like farm-to-market roads and tramlines, pre and post harvest facilities, irrigation systems and other similar services.

RULE 5.6.1. Such support services shall include the development of the human resources within the organic agriculture zones through the provision of capacity building programs and projects as mentioned in Rule 9.1.

Section 6. **ORGANIC CENTERS** – The Municipality of Botolan, Zambales, through the Municipality's Agriculture Office, shall establish, recognize and/support Organic Centers including those initiated by the private sector that will promote, market, and develop organic agriculture;

The Municipality's Agriculture Office may also recognize or support market centers which are established for the purpose of marketing organic products

RULE 6.1. Within three (3) months after the approval of this IRR, the Municipal Agriculture Office shall establish organic centers in strategic and viable areas within the territorial boundaries of the Municipality.

RULE 6.2. The Municipal Agriculture office shall recognize existing organic centers in the Municipality of Botolan, Zambales that signify their interest in writing, provided they promote, market, and develop organic agriculture.

RULE 6.3. The Municipal Agriculture Office shall extend support to these recognized organic centers such as but not limited to resources, equipment and facilities, as appropriate.

Rule 6.4. Market centers organized by organic farmers may seek support from Municipal Agriculture Office through the provision of necessary resources.



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RULE 6.5. In place where it is deemed appropriate and viable, the Municipal Agriculture Office may establish market centers for organic products to support organic farmers especially small marginalized farmers.

Section 7. **CONSERVATION OF INDIGENOUS FARM PRACTICES.** Measures shall be established, by the farming communities, including indigenous peoples' communities, to conserve and protect indigenous knowledge relating to organic agriculture, including those that relate to seed conservation and propagation and the various ways in which ways on-farm and ex-situ mechanisms are established and sustained.

RULE 7.1. Together with the farming, the Municipal Agriculture Office shall document, conserve and protect existing indigenous agricultural knowledge and practices relating to organic agriculture and exert efforts to propagate, adapt and transmit such knowledge to other interested farming communities including their succeeding generations and the like.

Section 8. **ORGANIC GENE/SEED BANK.** – The Municipality of Botolan, through the Municipal Agriculture office, in coordination with the Non-Government Organizations (NGOs), international organizations and other appropriate agencies shall establish an Organic Seed/Gene Bank which will produce and supply organic, endemic or indigenous seeds to farmers;

RULE 8.1. The Municipal Government of Botolan thru the Municipal Agriculture Office shall provide adequate resources and support for the establishment of organic gene/seed bank especially for endemic and indigenous seeds.

RULE 8.1.1. The Municipality of Botolan may seek support and assistance from appropriate agencies including but not limited to non-government organizations (NGOs), national and local government agencies, academic institutions, international organizations, and the private sector in the establishment of organic gene/seed bank.

RULE 8.2. Small farmers with existing community seed/gene banks and those who are planning to set up similar initiatives may also seek support and assistance from the Municipal Government of Botolan, Zambales.

Section 9. SUPPORT SERVICE TO ORGANIC FARMERS – The Municipality of Botolan shall ensure support to organic farmers who wish to engage in organic agriculture, such



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as training, production, marketing and branding, including financial management and accounting, among other necessary skills to develop an organic agriculture product that will secure a market niche, including the practice of fair trade.

Support services shall also be primarily extended to small and marginalized farmers and women's groups including the promotion, enhancement and fulfillment of their rights as defined in national laws.

RULE 9.1. To ensure support to organic farmers, the Municipality of Botolan through the Municipal Agriculture Office, Municipal Cooperative Office and other offices, shall develop programs and projects that will develop their capacities in production, marketing and branding, including financial management and accounting, among other necessary skills, and the practice of fair trade.

RULE 9.2. To secure a market niche, all public private markets are hereby encouraged to have organic products' sections within their markets.

RULE 9.3. The Municipal Government of Botolan shall identify the small and marginalized farmers and women's groups who would qualify for priority support services including the promotion of their rights as defined by existing laws.

Section 10. ACCESS TO CREDIT FOR SMALL AND ORGANIC FARMERS – Small and organic farmers, through the assistance of the Municipality's Agriculture Office, shall have access to credit facility and financial services through organized groups of small farmers preferably those cooperatives registered with the Municipality Cooperative Development Office;

RULE 10.1. The Municipal government of Botolan shall ensure that organized small and organic farmers have access to credit facilities and financial services from existing financial institutions through appropriate agreements and instruments.

RULE 10.2. The Municipal Agriculture Office shall assist the organization and registration of farmers who have not yet been organized in order that they may likewise access similar facilities and services through the means stated in Rule 10.1.

Section 11. BIOLOGICAL AND BOTANICAL CONTROL – Organic farmers shall practice and utilize biological and botanical methods, which relies on predation, parasitism, herbivory or other natural mechanisms in the control of pests and diseases in their farm;



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The Municipal Government of Botolan shall provide support to the Research Division of the Municipal Agriculture Office for the research and development of biological and botanical control.

RULE 11.1. The Municipal Government of Botolan shall strengthen and expand its programs on biological and botanical control, integrated pest management, vermiculture, soil and water management program and other related programs considering the principles of agricultural biodiversity, by providing sufficient funds and resources to the Municipal Agriculture Office.

RULE 11.2. Cultural management practices and soil and water conservation, such as but not limited to, crop rotation, multiple and/or relay cropping, contour farming practiced by organic farmers shall be encouraged and supported by the Municipal Agriculture Office.

CHAPTER 3 – IMPLEMENTATION MECHANISMS

Section 12. IMPLEMENTATION MECHANISMS – The Municipal Government of Botolan, Zambales, through the Municipality's Agriculture Office, shall ensure the implementation of this ordinance guided by the principles of organic value chain. It shall ensure the marketing of organic products by providing centers for selling, transport and other necessary services. It shall also ensure that organic products have certified organic branding in accordance with the Philippine National Standards;

Section 13. ORGANIC AGRICULTURE MANAGEMENT COUNCIL – The municipality may institute the formation of an Organic Agriculture Management Council, headed by the Municipal Agriculture Office that will assist in the implementation of the ordinance and the formulation of an Organic Agriculture Plan for the Municipality of Botolan, Zambales. The council, to be composed of appropriate national government agencies, non-government organizations (NGOs) People's organization (POs), academe and such other appropriate offices engaged in or advocating organic agriculture, shall have the following functions:

1. Identify and recommend organic agriculture zones as established in Section 5 of this ordinance;
2. Adopt the existing national standards for the accreditation of organic agriculture practitioners which may take into account second party certification systems and farmer's guarantee systems;
3. Develop incentive mechanism for the organic agriculture sector, in collaboration with local government agencies under the Municipal Budget



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Office which may include, but not limited to, necessary crop insurance and other support system of agriculture sector;

4. Perform such other functions as may be necessary for the realization of the policies as well as the principles enunciated under this ordinance;

In the absence of the establishment of the said Council, the Municipal Agriculture Office shall perform the above-mentioned functions on collaboration with other government agencies, NGOs, POs, academe and other appropriate offices.

RULE 13.1. After the approval of this IRR, the Municipal Mayor may institute the formation of an Organic Agriculture management Council to aid the Municipal Agriculture Office in the implementation of this ordinance.

RULE 13.2. The organic Agriculture Management Council shall be composed of:

- a. 1 Municipal Agriculture Office – Chairperson
- b. 1 Committee Chair on Agriculture of the Sangguniang Bayan
- c. 1 Municipal Environment and Natural Resources Office
- d. 1 DTI – Municipal Representative
- e. 3 Rep. of Pos of organic practitioners in Botolan, Zambales
- f. 2 NGOs advocating Sustainable Agriculture
- g. 1 from the academe
- h. 1 municipal agriculture and fishery council (MAFC)
- i. 1 Department of Agriculture
- j. 1 Business Sector representative

RULE 13.2.1. The Organic Agriculture Management Council may invite resource persons from agencies and sectors as appropriate.

RULE 13.3. The organic Agriculture Management Council shall perform the following functions:

1. Assist in the formulation of the Organic Agriculture Plan
2. Assist in the implementation of the ordinance
3. Identify and recommend mechanisms for establishment of organic agriculture zones as stipulated in Sec. 5 of this ordinance;
4. Assist in the identification and establishment of organic centers
5. Adopt the existing national standards for the accreditation of organic agriculture practitioners which may take into account second party



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RULE 13.4. in the absence of the establishment of the said Council, the Municipal Agriculture Office shall perform the above-mentioned functions in collaboration with other government agencies, NGOs, Pos, academe and other appropriate offices.

RULE 13.5. The Municipal Government of Botolan shall provide the necessary funds for gathering baseline data and other relevant information to form the basis in the formulation of the Municipal Organic Agriculture Plan taking into account the various initiatives that the Municipal Agriculture Office will undertake in the implementation of the ordinance.

Section 14. APPROPRIATION – the Municipal Government of Botolan, Zambales shall appropriate substantial budget to ensure the implementation of this ordinance and to support the organic agriculture activities of the municipality;

Section 15. INCENTIVE TO FARMERS, SCHOOLS AND BARANGAYS – The Municipality shall give incentive, awards and financial support to farmers, schools and barangay local government units which pursue, promote and practice organic farming. The Municipal Agriculture Office shall formulate guidelines for developing incentive programs, award systems and/or financial support.

RULE 15. Within one year of the approval of this IRR, the Municipal Agriculture Office in consultation with appropriate agencies and sectors shall formulate guidelines for the incentive program, award system and/or financial support to farmers, schools and barangays adopting organic farming, such as through the Gulayan sa Barangay, among others.

Section 16. STANDARD-SETTING – The Municipal Mayor, through the Municipal Agriculture Office or the Organic Agriculture Management Council, in case it is established, shall formulate and organic agriculture standard appropriate for the Municipality's Small Farmers;

RULE 16.1. Within one year of the approval of this IRR, the Municipal Agriculture Office, in collaboration with the Organic Agriculture Management Council, in case it is established, shall formulate an organic agriculture standard that would be appropriate for Botolan, Zambales Small Farmers.

RULE 16.2. The standards of this ordinance shall be appropriate for the Municipality of Botolan small farmers' guarantee systems which already exist or



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those that may later be established by organized farmers' groups in the Municipality.

Section 17. CAPACITY BUILDING – To sustain and broaden the base for the implementation of this ordinance, there is hereby adapted a continuous effort, funded by at least ten percent (10%) from the budget set aside for organic agriculture as identified in Section 14 of this ordinance, for capacity-building and training, including the accreditation of institutions for standard-testing and verification. Measures shall also be adopted to encourage integration of organic agriculture in the primary, secondary and tertiary school curricula;

RULE 17.1. The Municipal Agriculture Office and/or Organic Agriculture Management Council, shall formulate a capacity-building program that will include, among other capacity building-programs, training on accreditation of institutions on standards-testing and verification by farmer's groups with established second party certification and farmers' guarantee system.

RULE 17. 2. The Municipality through the Municipal Agriculture Office in coordination with Department of Education, TESDA, CHED and other appropriate agencies shall adopt measures to encourage integration of organic agriculture in the primary, secondary and tertiary school curricula. These measures may be considered as a component of the Municipal Organic Agriculture Plan.

Section 18. RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT – A Master Plan for Research and Development on Organic Agriculture shall be created by the Municipal Agriculture Office in the coordination with the Department of Agriculture – Regional Field Unit III that will be funded by the Municipality by at least 10 % of the budget set aside for organic agriculture as identified in Section 14 in this ordinance. The master Plan shall be regularly updated in consultation with different sectors. The participation of farmers and other stakeholders such as, but not limited to, private entities, NGOs and LGUs in the research, development and implementation of the master plan is preferred

RULE 18.1. The Municipal Agriculture Office and/or Organic Agriculture Management Council shall formulate and regularly update the Master Plan on Research and Development on organic agriculture, which may form part of Municipal Agriculture Part.

RULE 18.2. Among the priorities for research and development shall be, but not limited to, research biological and botanical control pests and diseases as stipulated in Rule 11.1 and 11.2 and for establishment and realization of data bank



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of organic agriculture practices and organic seed/gene bank as stated in Rule 8.1 and Rule 9.1 of this IRR, respectively.

Section 19. PROMOTION OF URBAN ORGANIC AGRICULTURE – The Municipal Agriculture Office shall promote urban organic agriculture even in urban areas utilizing new technologies and taking advantage of ecological solid waste;

RULE 19.1. The municipal Agriculture Office and/or organic Agriculture Management Council will formulate an Urban Organic Agriculture Program in urban areas utilizing new technologies and taking advantage of ecological solid waste in coordination with the Municipal Environment and Natural Resources Office.

RULE 19.2. In utilizing new technologies to implement this provision, the Municipal Government may enter into appropriate technology transfer arrangements.

Section 20. IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS – The Municipal Mayor is hereby authorized to create a joint executive-legislative committee to formulate the implementing rules and regulations of this ordinance upon its effectivity;

Section 21. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE – If any section or provision of these Rules and Regulations is held or declared unconstitutional or invalid by a competent court, the other sections or provisions hereof shall continue to be in force as if the sections or provisions so annulled or voided had never been incorporated herein.

Section 22. REPEALING CLAUSE – all rules and regulations or parts of said rules and regulations of pertinent laws inconsistent with these Rules and Regulations are hereby revised, amended, modified and/or superseded as the case maybe by these Rules and Regulations.

Section 23. That this implementing rules and regulations shall take effect immediately.

RESOLVED FURTHER, that copies of this resolution be furnished the Municipal Agriculture Office, for their information and files.

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

I HEREBY CERTIFY to the correctness of the foregoing resolution.



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GLADYS D. DE VERA
GLADYS D. DE VERA
 Secretary to the Sanggunian

ATTESTED:

ANSELMO S. NALICAT
ANSELMO S. NALICAT
 SB Member

ARIS GEORGE D. LINGAT
ARIS GEORGE D. LINGAT
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ALFREDO A. DARIA
 ABC President

NICK L. MANZO
NICK L. MANZO
 Vice Mayor

APPROVED:

DORIS E. MANQUIZ-JERESANO
DORIS E. MANQUIZ-JERESANO
 Municipal Mayor