

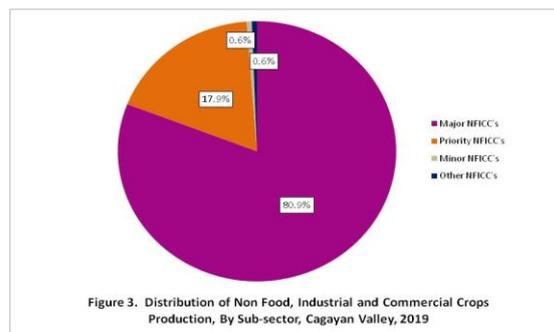
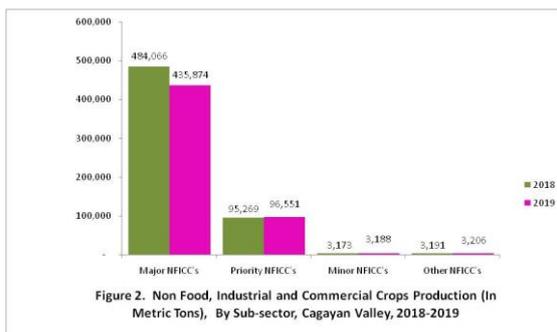
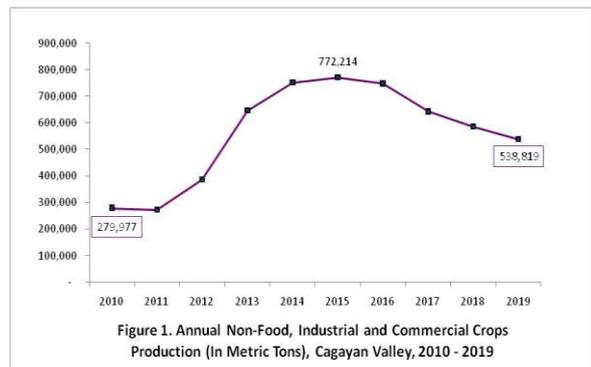


SPECIAL RELEASE

NFICC's production in the region drops for four years in a row

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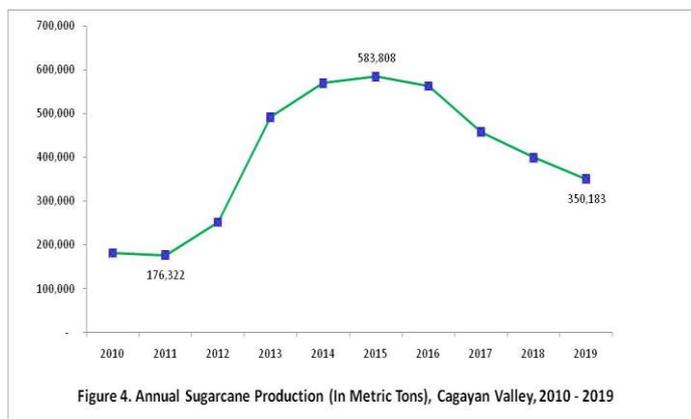
Production of Non Food, Industrial and Commercial Crops (NFICC's) in the region continue to decline for the past four years since the highest production was recorded in 2015. The latest production at 538,819 metric tons is almost one third below the highest output established in 2015 and 8.0 percent lower than the production reported in 2018 at 585,698 metric tons. In particular, the four year pattern fairly showed at an average of more than sixty thousand metric tons annual decrement with the highest cut noted in 2017 at more than 105 thousand metric tons decrease from the 2016 estimated production of 749,349 metric tons. The good thing is that the latest production is still way above the recorded estimate in 2010.



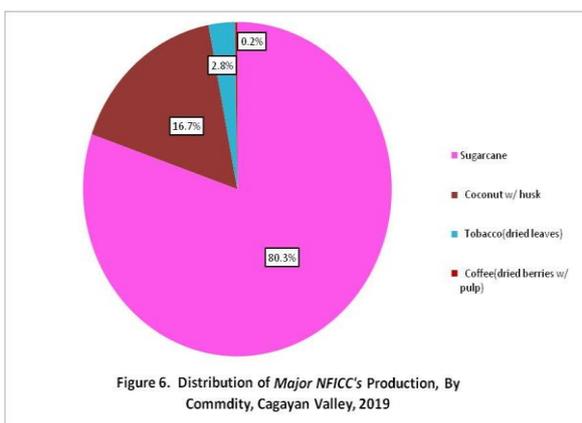
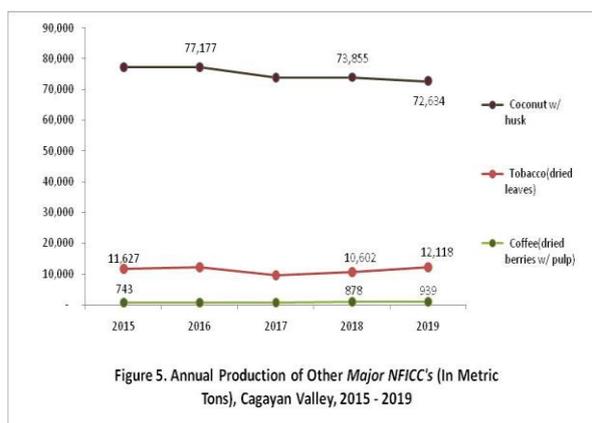
The deficit in the 2019 NFICC's production is imputed solely to the reduced production of *major NFICC's* sub-sector displaying about ten percent decrease from the 2018 estimate of 484,066 metric tons. The huge decrement of about 48,192 metric tons shaped the 2019 estimate to only 435,874 metric tons. It must be noted that about eighty one percent of the NFICC's commodities were classified as *major NFICC's*. Other sub-sector under the NFICC's showed minimal increases with *priority NFICC's* gaining 1.3 percent in its 2019 production while *minor NFICC's* and *other NFICC's* sub-sector inched up in last year's production by 0.5 percent each. *Priority NFICC's* shared 17.9 percent in the total NFICC's production in 2019 while *minor NFICC's* and *other NFICC's* contributed 0.6 percent each.

Sugarcane production fell sharply in the past four years

Sugarcane industry in the region is a little bit shaky as it rappels into declining pattern of production in the recent years. From the highest production registered in 2015, annual sugarcane production dropped to an average of more than ten percent per annum with the highest setback recorded in 2017. In terms of absolute value reduction, yearly decrement was noted at an average of more than fifty eight thousand metric tons.

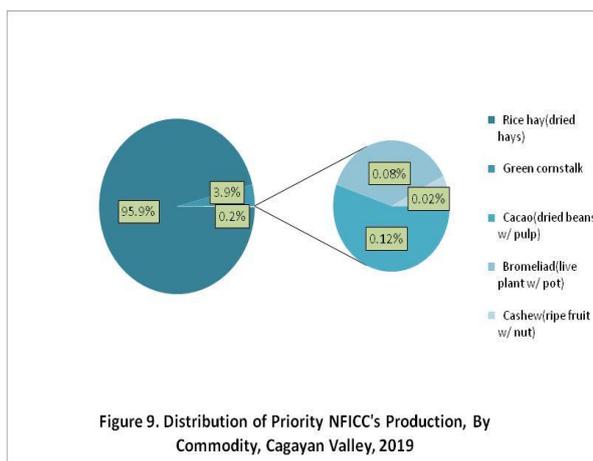
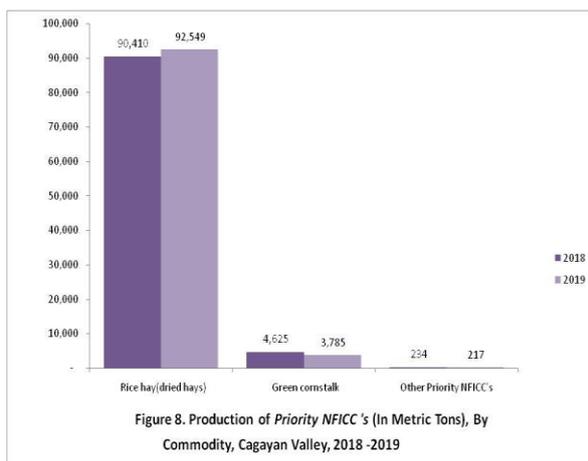
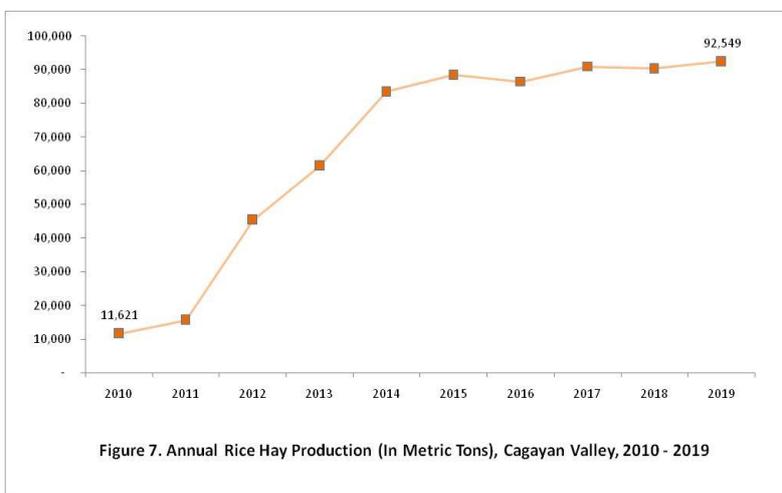


The latest production of 350,183 metric tons is almost sixty percent less than the highest production reported in 2015. On the brighter side, the latest production is still almost two-folds higher than the lowest recorded production in 2011. Sugarcane production accounted to more than eighty percent of the total *major NFICC's* production in the region last year.

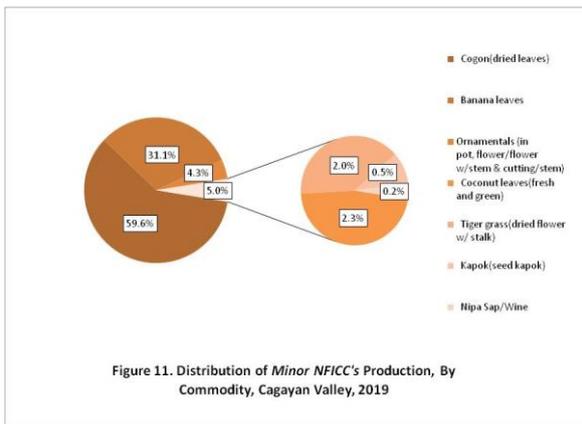
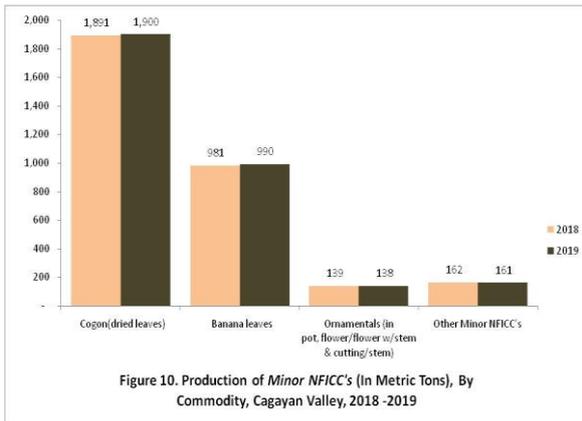


Unlike sugarcane production, coconut production seems to be stable at more than seventy thousand metric tons for the past five years with the highest production so far attained in 2016 at 77,177 metric tons. The latest estimate at 72,634 metric tons is about 5.9 percent lower than the highest estimate recorded in 2016 and about 1.7 metric tons lower than the 2018 estimate of 73,855 metric tons. Coconut production shared 16.7 percent in the regional production of *major NFICC's* in 2019. On the other hand, production of tobacco and coffee in the region swelled a bit, the former commodity by 14.3 percent or from its 2018 output of 10,602 metric tons to 12,118 metric tons in 2019. In fact, the latest tobacco production is only an inched away from the highest output for the past five years recorded in 2016. Tobacco production contributed around 2.8 percent in the *major NFICC's* production pie in 2019. Meanwhile, coffee production recorded its highest production for the past five years in 2019. The latest production at 939 metric tons is about 26.4 percent above the estimates in 2015 and 6.9 percent above 2018 estimate of production. It must be noted that coffee production pattern in the region during the past five years is slowly growing and recorded its share at 0.2 percent last year.

Rice hay production, the banner commodity under the *priority NFICC's*, continue to appreciate as demand for organic farming expands. In the past six years, production was noted at more than eighty thousand metric tons and the latest production at 92,549 metric tons is about 2.4 percent higher than the 2018 output of 90,410 metric tons. It must be noted that average production in the last five years is more than eight-folds higher than the production reported ten years ago. Further, rice hay production constituted almost ninety six percent of the total *priority NFICC's* production in 2019.



Green cornstalk production on the other hand, displayed a downward production last year. About 840 metric tons of green cornstalk was not produced in 2019 and this is equivalent to about 18.2 percent deficit from the 2018 estimated production of 4,625 metric tons. The commodity is commonly popular for animal feed purposes and production in 2019 is comprised four percent of the total *priority NFICC's* production last year. The same trend was noted in the estimated production other *priority NFICC's* (namely cacao, bromeliad and cashew). Specifically, cacao production in 2019 was only 120 metric tons, short by 6.0 percent from the 2018 production estimate of 127 metric tons while bromeliad was only recorded at 80 metric tons last year, 10.0 percent lower than the 2018 estimated production of 89 metric tons. Meanwhile, cashew production maintained its production at 17 metric tons for the past two years. Other *priority NFICC's* production comprised 0.2 percent in the total *priority NFICC's* in the region in 2019 with cacao contributing 0.12 percent while bromeliad and cashew at 0.08 and 0.02 percent, respectively.



For commodities classified as *minor NFICC's*, slight increase of the sub-sector can be traced from positive output of cogon and banana leaves. Cogon production in 2019 appreciated by more than nine metric tons from the 2018 estimate of 1,891 metric tons or about 0.5 percent increase forming the 2019 estimate of about 1,900 metric tons. Cogon is considered as the banner commodity of *minor NFICC's* sub-sector as it captured about sixty percent of the total production in the sub-sector over the past years. Similarly, banana leaves production also gained by nine metric tons or about 0.9 percent increase from the 2018 estimate of 981 metric tons. The 2019 production of banana leaves at about 990 metric tons is almost one third of total *minor NFICC's* production last year. Meanwhile, production of ornamentals in the region slide down by one metric ton from the 2018 estimate of 139 metric tons or about 0.7 percent decrease.

Ornamental production in the region was derived from output with economic value of various orchids and roses varieties including chrysanthemum and gladiola. The production from these ornamentals made up to about 4.3 percent of the total *minor NFICC's* production in the region. Other *minor NFICC's* production in the region last year also slide down by 0.6 percent from the 2018 estimate of 162 metric tons to 161 metric tons in 2019. The commodities include coconut leaves, tiger grass, kapok and nipa sap for wine. It shared about 5.0 percent in the regional *minor NFICC's* production last year


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TECHNICAL NOTES:

- Production refers to the quantity produced and actually harvested for a particular crop during the reference period.
- For other crops, area planted refers to the actual physical area planted while area harvested refers to the actual area from which harvests are realized.
- Estimates of production and area planted/harvested are generated from the Quarterly Crops Production Survey (CrPS) of which there are four survey rounds in a year, that is, February, May, August, and November.