



SPECIAL RELEASE

Majority of fruits were valued at a higher farm gate prices in Q4 2019

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Trading at first point of sale for most fruits harvested during the 4th Quarter of 2019 (Q4 2019) were valued at a higher price compared to 2018 price level (Q4 2018). Price gains were registered for all varieties of banana, mandarin (ladu variety), papaya and pineapple (hawaiian variety) and coconut (young). In contrast, downward price trend was noted for calamansi, mandarin (szinkom variety), pomelo and coconut (matured) during the 4th quarter of 2019 as against last year. Compared to last quarter’s (Q3 2019) price level, six commodities exhibited upward trends while prices of four fruit crops’ prices were down during the current quarter.

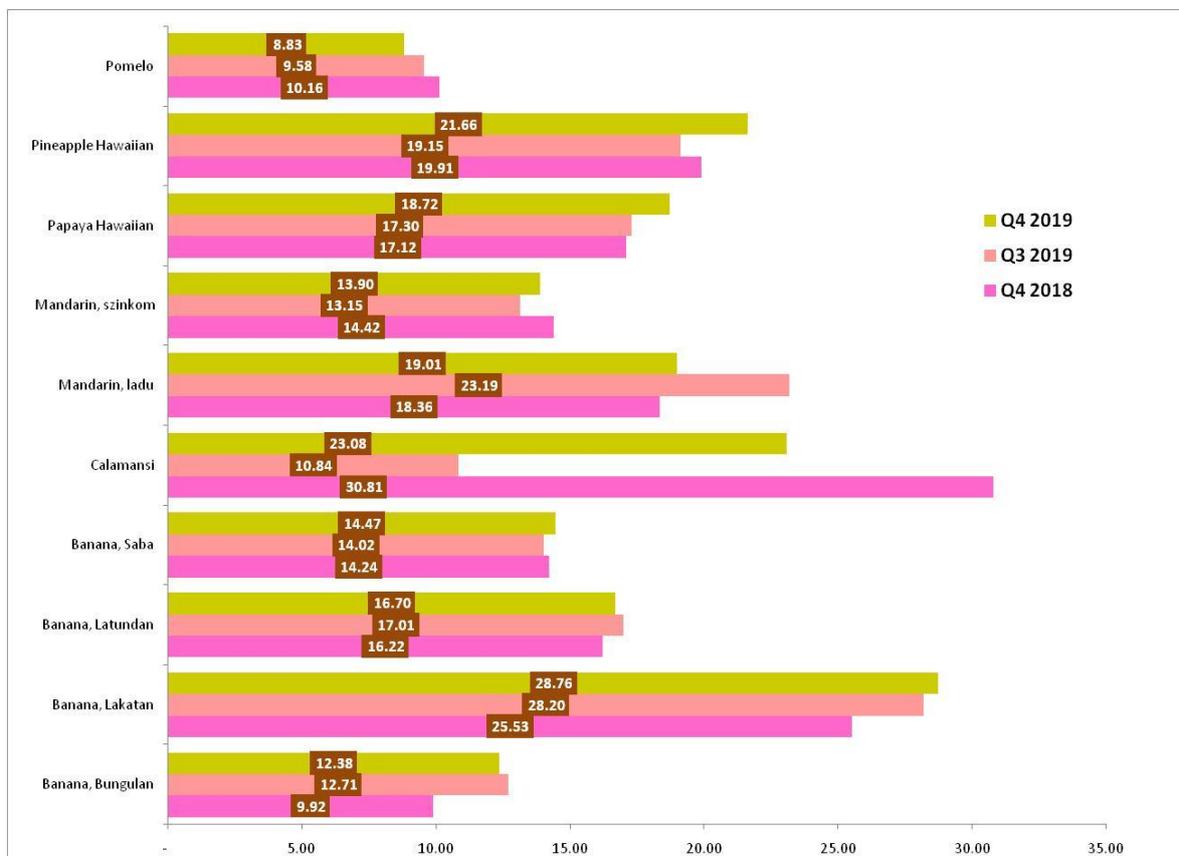
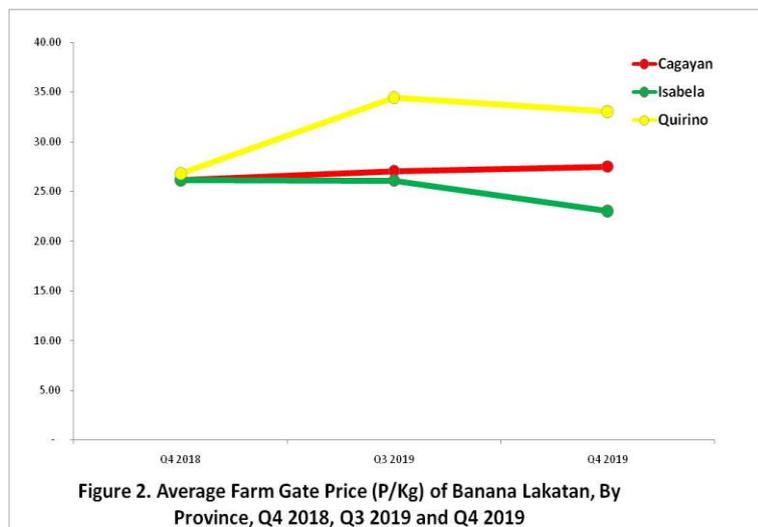


Figure 1. Average Farm Gate Prices (P/Kg) of Fruits, By Commodity, Cagayan Valley, Q4 2018, Q3 2018 and Q4 2109

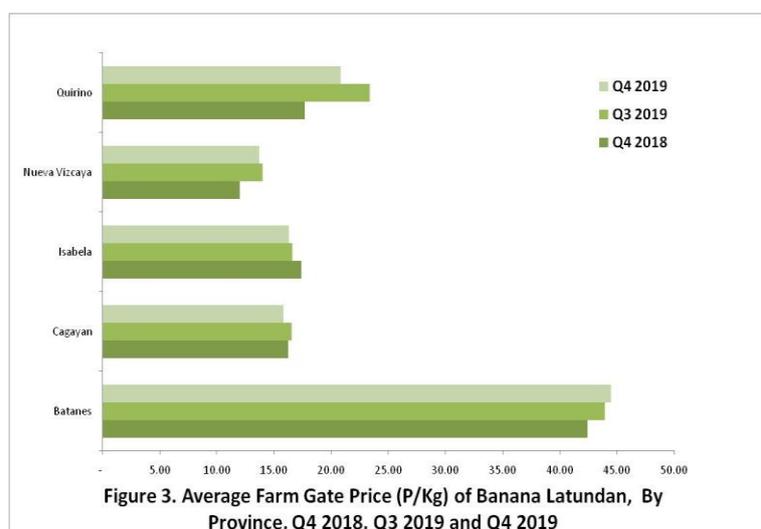
Specifically, prices of banana in Cagayan Valley reported according to variety and in green form (unripe), were observed to have higher average farm gate prices during the current period (Q4 2019) compared to that of the same quarter in 2018 (Q4 2018). Lakatan variety posted the highest additional price of 3.23 pesos per kilogram followed by bungulan at 2.46 pesos per kilogram while latundan variety by 0.48 pesos per kilogram and saba variety with price increase of 0.23 pesos per kilogram. Compared to last quarter's (Q3 2019) valuation, only lakatan and saba varieties reported with higher prices at an additional of 0.56 and P0.45 pesos per kilogram, respectively. Prices of bungulan and latundan varieties fell short by 0.33 and 0.31 per kilogram each.



Lakatan variety was traded in the provinces of Cagayan, Isabela and Quirino. Banana farmers in Cagayan and Quirino received higher returns from their produced this 2019 with an increase of 5.0 and 23.2 percent respectively, compared with the prices they received in Q4 2018 while Isabela growers received prices of their produced 12.1 percent lower than they received last year. In comparison to farm gate

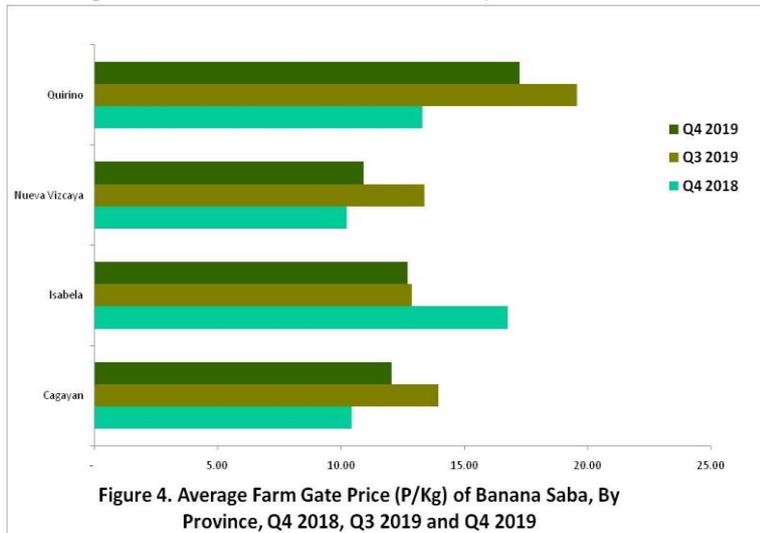
prices received by farmers against last quarter, growers in Isabela and Quirino were paid less while Cagayan farmers savored the additional P0.44 per kilogram from their produce.

For latundan variety, production and trading of the same was monitored across all provinces of the region with the recorded highest price per kilogram across all periods under review noted in Batanes province while the lowest transacted price was posted in Nueva Vizcaya. Correlating movement of prices in Q4 2019 versus last year, transactions in Batanes, Nueva Vizcaya and Quirino



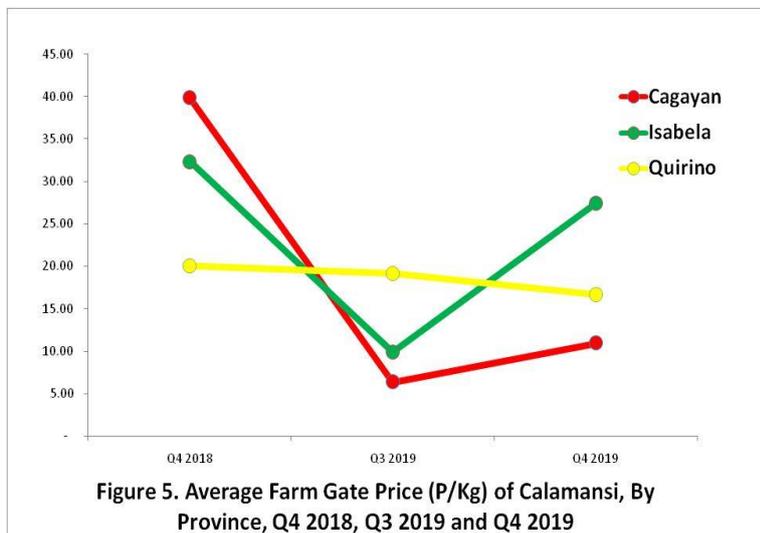
provinces were all in the same trend in which the commodity was priced higher while lower price was charged in Cagayan and Isabela at the 1st point of sale. Comparing the price received by farmers this year against last quarter, only those transacted in

Batanes province got additional 2.07 pesos per kilogram while all other produced of the region were traded at a lower price.



Banana saba, the most popular variety of banana in the region were produced and traded in bulk in the provinces of Cagayan, Isabela, Nueva Vizcaya and Quirino. In Q4 2019, producers in Quirino province received the highest farm gate price of the commodity while the lowest transacted price per kilogram was in Nueva Vizcaya. Except for the price quoted in Isabela, all provinces of the region

were gainers compared to last year's price quotation with Quirino farmers getting the highest increment of 3.93 pesos per kilogram while Nueva Vizcaya planters received the lowest increase of 0.66 pesos per kilogram. Isabela farmers received less than 4.05 pesos per kilogram from their produced compared to the price quoted in 2018 of the same period. Evaluating farm gate prices in Q4 2019 versus previous quarter's average price, all provinces recorded downward trend where Isabela farmers had the biggest cut in its latest price by 2.46 pesos per kilogram.

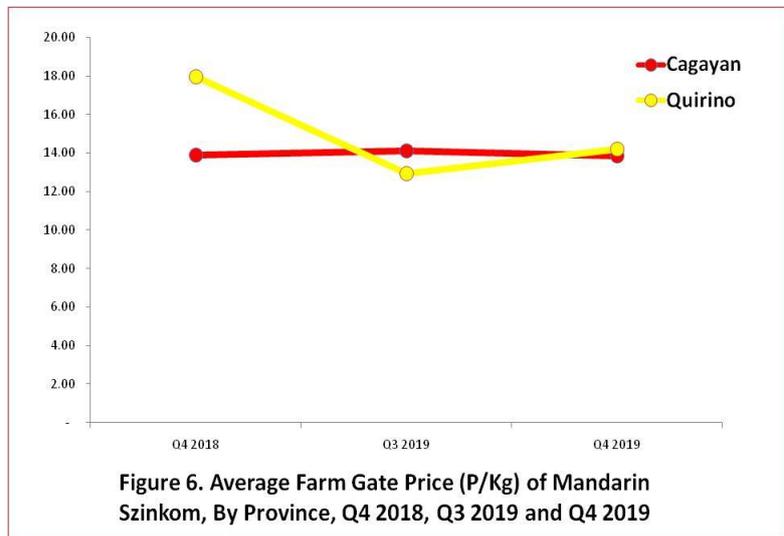


In the case of calamansi where significant production and trading was monitored in Cagayan, Isabela and Quirino, average farm gate price of the commodity during the fourth quarter of 2019 in Cagayan Valley declined from P30.81 per kilogram in 2018 to P23.08 per kilogram in Q4 2019. The regional average reduction was brought about by abrupt decreased in farm gate price of the commodity

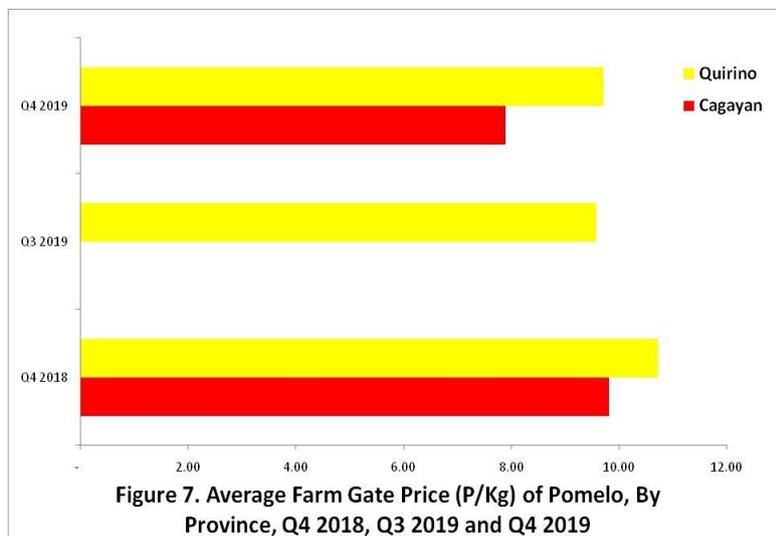
noted in the province of Cagayan by about 28.97 pesos per kilogram decrement from its 2018 reported price coupled by about 4.95 pesos per kilogram slashed in the monitored price in Isabela from its Q4 2018 recorded farm gate price and further pushed down by 3.35 pesos per kilogram decreased in the farm gate price in the province of Quirino. Comparing the current farm gate price to the last quarter's price record, farmers from Cagayan and Isabela provinces gained at least 4.61 and 17.68 pesos per kilogram respectively, while price recorded in Quirino was down by 2.47 pesos per kilogram. It may be noted further that farm gate prices reported in Q3 2019 for the commodity in the provinces of Cagayan and Isabela was way below the

farm gate prices reported in Q4 2019 while price in Quirino province was down only by less than one peso.

Meanwhile, the region's average farm gate price per kilogram of mandarin (Szinkom) in Q4 2019 decreased by 3.6 percent from its 2018 price record but higher by 5.7 percent in relation to last quarter's price quotation. Both provinces which traded the commodity displayed Q4 2019 farm gate prices lower than what was reported last year of the same period. Particularly, Cagayan and



Quirino provinces posted a decrease of 0.36 and 20.9 percent, respectively. Compared to Q3 2019, there was a decrease of about five centavo per kilogram in Cagayan while an additional P1.29 per kilogram was noted in Quirino province. More so, farm gate price of the provinces is virtually identical in Q4 2019 at fourteen pesos per kilogram.



The same provinces mentioned above produced and traded pomelo in Q4 2019. The collated regional average farm gate price in this quarter showed a price roll down of 1.32 pesos per kilogram of pomelo during the quarter. Both provinces' farm gate prices went down compared to last year's price level while Quirino's farm gate price in Q4 2019 inched up compared to its Q3 2019 price record.

Further, there was no monitored trading of the commodity in the province of Cagayan during Q3 2019.

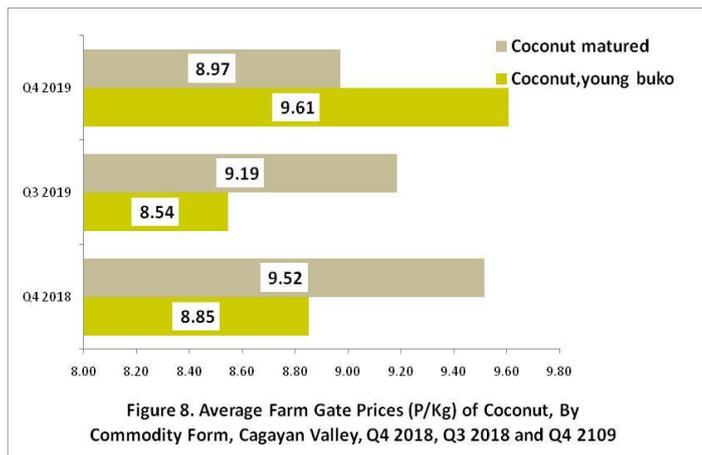
Meantime, the other four fruit commodities were all largely traded in the province of Nueva Vizcaya where bulk of production was noted. This includes banana (bungulan), mandarin (ladu), papaya and pineapple both of hawaiian variety. Banana (bungulan variety) was traded with farm gate price at almost 30.0% higher or an additional P2.46 per kilogram compared to the average price of the commodity last year but failed to beat the price offered last quarter by 0.33 centavos per kilogram.

Mandarin (ladu) commodity picked up farm gate price per kilogram during the fourth quarter of 2019 was expensive by P0.65 per kilogram compared to its price in 2018 and a price lower by P4.19 per kilogram was reported in Q4 2029 versus Q3 2019. Papaya (Hawaiian) farm gate price on the other hand rose from P17.12 per kilogram in 2018 to P18.72 per kilogram in 2019. In like manner, average farm gate price of the commodity in Q4 2019 is P1.42 per kilogram higher than the price recorded in Q3 2019. Lastly, hawaiian pineapple average farm gate price increased by P1.75 per kilogram in the region compared to last year of the same period and with an additional increase of P2.50 per kilogram compared to price quoted last quarter.

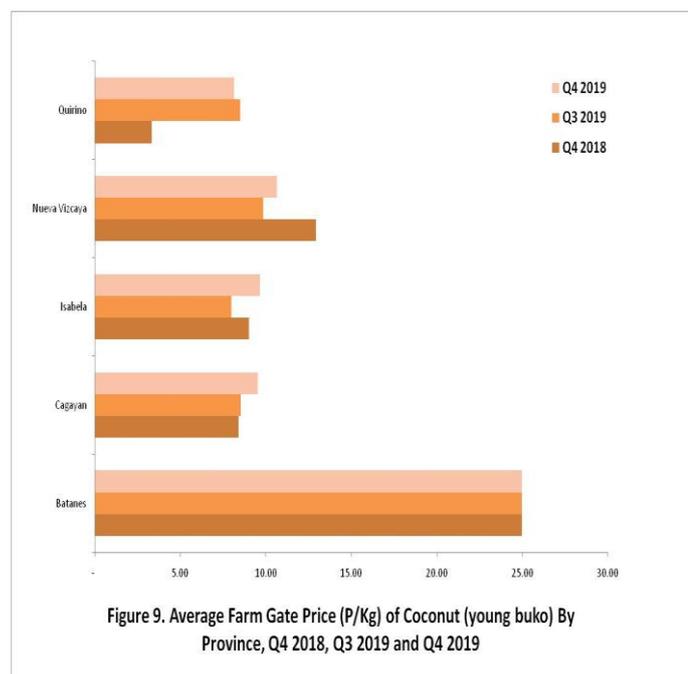
Farm gate prices of coconut showed diverse trend

Coconut is the only commodity in the Non-Food, Industrial and Commercial Crops (NFICCs) that is included in the market basket of the region, hence, farm gate price is being monitored and reported. Farm gate prices were collected based on the commodity form, either in matured nut or in green nut, the latter is commonly and locally known as young buko. Withal, all provinces in the region produced and traded the commodity.

During Q4 2019, price of coconut showed contrasting trend as per form of disposition of the commodity. Coconut (young buko) was traded from 8.85 pesos per kilogram in Q4 2018 to 9.61 pesos per kilogram in Q4 2019 or an additional of P0.76 per kilogram while coconut (matured) decreased by P0.55 per kilogram. Same trend was observed when compared to Q3 2019 valuation.

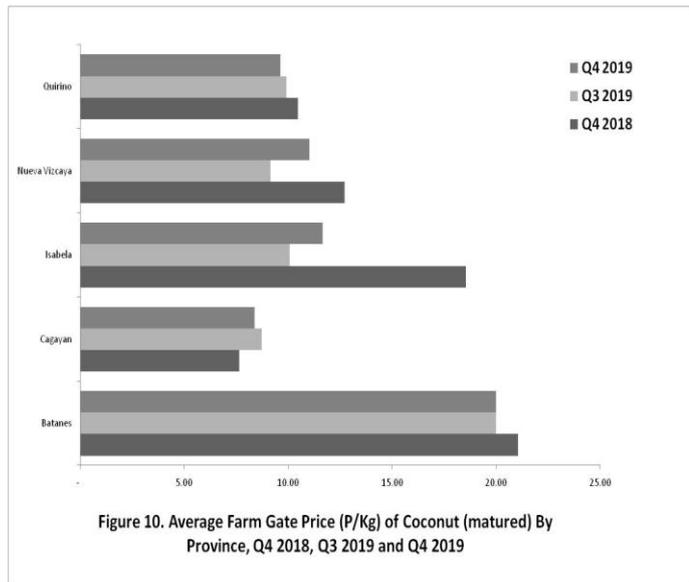


On a per province valuation, current price (Q4 2019) of coconut (young) compared to Q4 2018, there was no movement of the farm gate price in Batanes while price declined by P2.28 per kilogram in Nueva Vizcaya. Gainer provinces are Cagayan, Isabela and Quirino with an additional 1.13, 0.63 and 4.81 pesos per kilogram, respectively. Viz-a-viz last quarter, Cagayan, Isabela and Nueva Vizcaya farmers received higher prices with an additional P0.99, P1.65 and 0.80 per kilogram during the current quarter. Nueva Vizcaya’s



price was slashed by about 0.38 centavos per kilogram.

For coconut (matured), only Cagayan province gained by as much as 0.75 pesos per kilogram during the quarter compared to 2018. All other provinces showed a downward trend ranging from about 0.75 to 6.87 pesos per kilogram of the commodity traded. Compared to last quarter's price, the provinces of Isabela and Nueva Vizcaya posted price increase of 1.58 and 1.88 pesos per kilogram while Cagayan and Quirino were down to more than 0.30 centavos each. No movement of price was noted in Batanes.




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TECHNICAL NOTES

The Farm Prices Survey (FPS) is a nationwide household-based survey designed to generate estimates of farm gate or producers' prices. It contains information on prices received by producers at the first point of sale.

The outputs of the Farm Prices Survey are used in the periodic valuation of the outputs produced by the agricultural sector. Similarly, these are inputs to the development of price indices to measure the purchasing power of growers of selected agricultural products. Maintenance of farm gate prices will likewise provide needed inputs a) to analyze trends and variations in prices; b) forecasting future supply, demand and prices of agricultural commodities; c) to assist policy makers in the formulation, implementation and administration of economic programs, and d) to guide farmers/raisers in their decision making relative to their agricultural activities geared towards improvement of their profitability.

The survey is conducted during the last 10 days of the month in all the provinces of the country covering days 1 to 30 of the reporting month. Each province has a basket of FPS commodities.

The following activities are undertaken to monitor and sustain quality of data collected for Farm Prices Survey (FPS):

- consistency check through review of entries relative to the provincial FPS basket and trading matrix; and
- non-sampling errors are monitored and minimized by reviewing PO forms/questionnaires.

Source: <https://psa.gov.ph>