



COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND AGRO-INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY
UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES LOS BAÑOS

Roberto C. Bautista Hall, Pili Drive, UPLB, College, Laguna 4031
+63 49 253 4956 | +63 917 156 1059 | +63 921 400 7137
amtec.uplb@up.edu.ph | www.amtec.ceat.uplb.edu.ph



AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY TESTING AND EVALUATION CENTER

October 31, 2023

TO : **All AMTEC Clients and concerned individuals, institutions, and organizations.**

SUBJECT : **¹New Adjustments of Testing Fees, and ²Updated Rules on Random Sampling**

The Agricultural Machinery Testing and Evaluation Center of the University of the Philippines Los Baños (AMTEC-UPLB) is the premier and reference testing center of agricultural and fisheries machinery in the Philippines. Amid the ever-growing developments in research and commercialization of agricultural machinery, the demand for accurate machine testing has become more vital. Hence, AMTEC-UPLB constantly ensures that all machines reaching Filipino farmers are efficient and would positively provide agricultural productivity.

In line with this, the center will implement new changes to some existing rules in the conduct of testing and evaluation services. These changes aim to address the need to continuously improve the center's services among its clientele and the country's agricultural sector. These include:

1. New Adjustments of Testing Fees

- a. The proposed adjustments aim to rationalize the fee collection and the sustainability of AMTEC operations.
- b. In the recent adjustments implemented in the last quarter of 2019, some cost items were not carefully considered and accounted for. These cost items include:
 - i. travel days,
 - ii. number of test personnel,
 - iii. number of hours per testing and test report preparation, and
 - iv. type of machinery being tested.
- c. Meanwhile, the salary of ICS personnel, including Test Engineers, has increased since 2019 while additional tests were included in the updated national standards.

- d. Ultimately, the operational and maintenance costs of AMTEC facilities and equipment have increased dramatically in the past years which directly affected the budget allocations of the center, requiring the implementation of new testing fee collection adjustments.
- e. The newly approved Testing Fee adjustments will be presented to the different stakeholders and posted on a latter date.

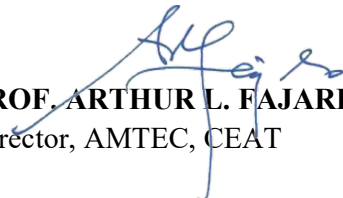
2. Updated Rules on Random Samples

In light of AMTEC's pursuit to conduct testing and evaluation of agricultural machinery with rational criteria, the center will implement a new rule on the selection of sample machines to undergo testing, in accordance with PAES 103:2000, Provision 3.1.1. The center will now employ a random sampling method. This measure will ensure a more fair and honest evaluation of the machines.

As clients apply for testing, they are required to submit all available serial numbers in the applicant's facility of machines with an identical model and brand. The submission will also include pictures of serial numbers (around 3 to 10) attached to the machine to be tested. After the Center receives the information, the serial number of the machine to be tested will be randomly selected. Any attempts of alterations, falsifications, and other violations concerning the accuracy of the submitted information will receive corresponding penalties.

All the aforementioned changes will be fully implemented **effective on January 01, 2024**.

For your guidance.


PROF. ARTHUR L. FAJARDO, PhD
Director, AMTEC, CEAT