

# INDUSTRY NEWS

Philippines Livestock | Animal Health | Animal Nutrition

## Philippines's PhP 85.2 million chicken layer program aims to drive domestic egg production

The Philippines' Department of Agriculture (DA) will roll out a PhP 85.2 million chicken layer program in 2025 that seeks to boost egg production.

The identified beneficiaries would receive a module worth PhP 79,500 that shall contain 48 heads of ready-to-lay chickens, a three-tier battery cage with feeder and nipple drinker, two bags of pre-lay and six bags of layer feeds good for two-and-a-half months, a set of vitamins, medications, and a shed-type house for the chickens.

There would be 11 beneficiaries in 82 provinces across nationwide. The allocated budget for the distribution of the interventions to the beneficiaries is PhP 71.72 million. The DA allocated PhP 6.52 million for the Bureau of Animal Industry, which would manage the project, and PhP 6.96 million to the Agricultural Training Institute for training and extension support. (Source: The Philippine Star, January 20<sup>th</sup> 2025)

## PhP 1.25 billion allotted for pig industry's recovery from ASF



The Department of Agriculture (DA) has allocated PhP 1.25 billion to help the pig industry recover from African swine fever (ASF) as retail prices of pork remain high due to supply shortage.

Agriculture Secretary Francisco Tiu Laurel issued Memorandum Circular No. 2, implementing the swine industry recovery project (SIRP) to modernize the country's swine industry.

"The SIRP aims to restore and revive the swine industry in the Philippines, which has been severely hit by ASF and other difficulties," Tiu Laurel said in the circular.

He said the SIRP aims to fortify the industry by enhancing biosecurity, modernizing farm infrastructure, improving genetic quality and expanding market access.

"This effort aims to engage various stakeholders, including small farmers, cooperatives, commercial breeders and at-





## Agriculture output dwindles to 8-year low in 2024

The value of the country's agriculture and fisheries output fell by 2.2 percent to PhP 1.725 trillion in 2024 according to the Philippine Statistics Authority.

The value of the production of the livestock sector declined by 4.25 percent year-on-year while fisheries output value fell by 1.1 percent, according to the PSA.

Poultry production last year expanded by 6.6 percent to PhP 279.41 billion from PhP 262.03 billion in 2023.

Meanwhile, volume of livestock output declined by four percent to 2.17 million tonnes from 2.26 million tonnes. Likewise, volume of fisheries produced last year contracted by five percent YoY to 4.05 million tonnes from 4.26 million tonnes.

Poultry production last year reached 2.94 million tonnes, 6.6 percent higher than the 2.76 million tonnes recorded in 2023, according to the PSA.

(Source: The Philippine Star, January 29<sup>th</sup> 2025)

risk agricultural communities offering customized assistance to restore, modernize and maintain the swine production nationwide," Tiu Laurel said.

The ASF virus has caused significant losses to the swine industry and undermined a crucial sector of the nation's agricultural and food security since 2019.

"The outbreak also compelled small farmers to slaughter their herds, resulting in significant financial hardships for a majority of families. The reduction in pork output has resulted in elevated prices and shortage, affecting consumers and the entire food supply chain," Tiu Laurel said.

The ASF problem has revealed several weaknesses of the Philippine swine industry, especially in biosecurity and disease control.

A majority of small and backyard farmers who are integral to the local pig supply lack finances and expertise to establish appropriate biosecurity measures. This made them vulnerable to viral transmission.

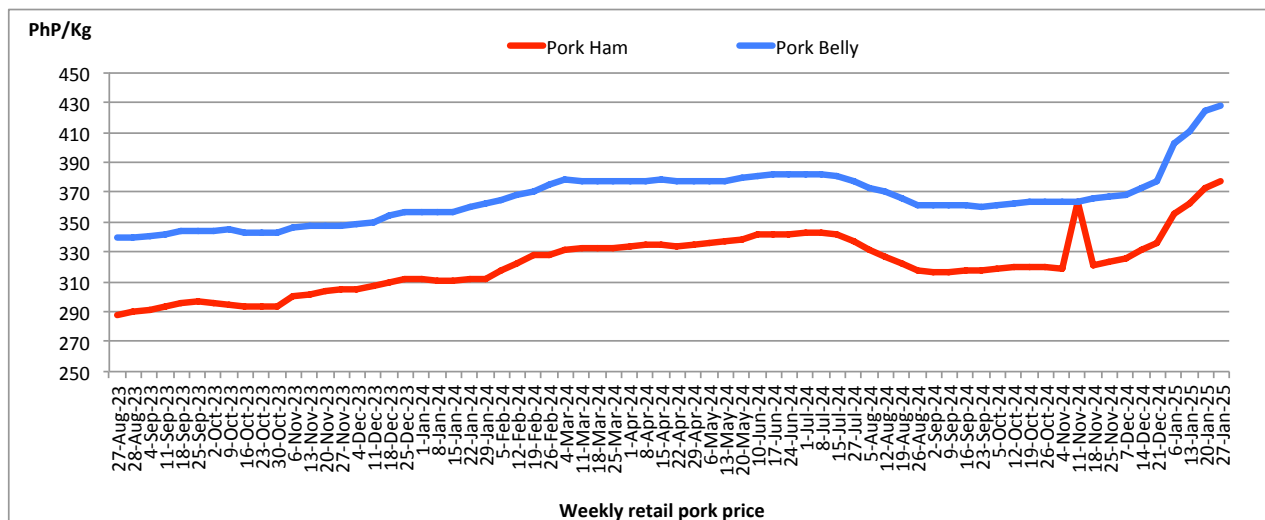
Tiu Laurel said efforts exerted by the government and the private sector to contain the outbreak through quarantines, movement restrictions and surveillance did not stop the spread of ASF. A more comprehensive and coordinated strategy is required to control the disease and recover the industry.

SIRP seeks to mitigate the effects of ASF, avert future outbreaks and assist farmers in reconstructing and modernizing their operations. (Source: The Philippine Star, January 18<sup>th</sup> 2025)



## Pork price in January 2025

The average pork ham and pork belly price in January 2025 was 367 PhP/Kg and 416 PhP/Kg, respectively, show an increase of 10.8% and 11.7% than the previous month, and 17.8% and 16.2% higher compared to the same period of 2024, respectively. (Source: Philippines Department of Agriculture, January 2025)



## Whole chicken price in January 2025

The average price of whole chicken in January 2025 is 200 PhP/kg, which was 2% lower than last month. Year-on-year increase of 12%. (Source: Philippines Department of Agriculture, January 2025)

