

## PH organic, healthy and natural food exports to be featured in Biofach 2020

- Nine PH food producers and manufacturers set to showcase their products at Biofach 2020 in Nuremberg, Germany.
- CITEM returns to Biofach as it strengthens its promotion of the “organic, healthy and natural” food segment.



The Philippines will feature coconut products in Germany.

The Philippines will showcase organic, healthy and natural selections from nine food producers and manufacturers through a country exhibit in the 31<sup>st</sup> edition of Biofach on February 12-15, 2020, at the Hall 3-A of the Exhibition Centre Nuremberg, Germany.

Nine Philippine companies that will showcase their products in Biofach are led by the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), through the Center for International Trade Expositions and Missions (CITEM), in coordination with the Philippine Trade and Investment Center (PTIC) in Berlin.

Local producers and manufacturers that will represent the Philippines in Germany are AG Pacific Nutraceuticals Corporation, Brandexports Philippines, Cardinal Agri Products, CJ Uniworld Corporation, Filipinas Organic Coconut Product Corp., Lao Integrated Farms Inc., See’s International, Raw Brown Sugar Milling Co., Inc. and Tongsan Industrial Development Corporation.

“We are kicking off our 2020 export promotion activities for the food industry with a comeback to the world’s leading platform for organic food in line with DTI’s renewed thrust in elevating the country’s globally competitive food products from the organic, healthy and natural segment,” said Abdulgani Macatoman, DTI Undersecretary for the Trade Promotion Group.



**PH presents its bounty of flavors**



Under the theme “A Bounty of Flavors,” the FoodPhilippines pavilion will feature a wide range of coconut selection such as virgin coconut oil (VCO), medium-chain triglycerides (MCT’s) oil, coconut water, coconut sap, vinegar and vinaigrette, coco syrup, sugar and flour, desiccated coconut, coconut cream and coco crisps. Also featured in the pavilion are banana chips, cacao chips and muscovado sugar.

The delegation will be led by the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), through the Center for International Trade Expositions and Missions (CITEM), in coordination with the Philippine Trade and Investment Center (PTIC) in Berlin.

“We are looking to showcase the wealth of food and ingredients from the agricultural provenance and natural resources in the Philippines that enhances the flavor of our products as we promote organic, healthy and natural selections for the global palate,” said Macatoman.

“For instance, our lakes and seas near Laguna and Quezon enhance the taste of our coconut water—making it more refreshing—while the apt tropical conditions in Cebu, Bukidnon and Davao help in nurturing sweeter and more sumptuous varieties of mango, pineapple and banana. It’s these conditions and provenance that make the Philippines a cut above the rest,” he elated.

CITEM Executive Director Pauline Suaco-Juan said the Philippines first participated in Biofach through CITEM in 1996 resulting in initial orders of coconut oil-based herbal soap and was succeeded in 1999, which garnered an initial order of US\$ 80,000.00 mostly for banana chips.

“As CITEM lead next year’s delegation, the FoodPhilippines pavilion will be located in a new area, Hall 3A, which is near to a main entrance and is clustered together with other exhibits from Southeast Asia,” Suaco-Juan said. “Majority of what we will showcase in our return to Biofach are coconut products with six out of our nine companies being coconut producers and manufacturers.”

### **PH is a global coconut producer**

The Philippines is known as the second largest coconut producing country in the world. In 2017, the total export amounted to 1.51 billion US dollars with Netherlands and US as the top importing countries, according to the International Trade Centre (ITC). Among the coconut products exported include coconut oil (CNO), desiccated coconut (DCN), copra meal and oleo chemicals.

The country is currently the number one supplier of coconut oil to Germany. Philippine exports to Germany generated 2.62 billion US dollars in 2017, more than half of which came from sales of coconut oil.

Suaco-Juan noted that all organic foods that will be exhibited are certified under the European Union (EU) Organic Regulation and passed the International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements (IFOAM) accreditation guidelines.

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