

## SPECIAL RELEASE

### FISHERIES SITUATIONER in COTABATO PROVINCE, January-March 2021

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#### Cotabato Province: Fisheries Production grew by 18.37 percent in First Quarter 2021

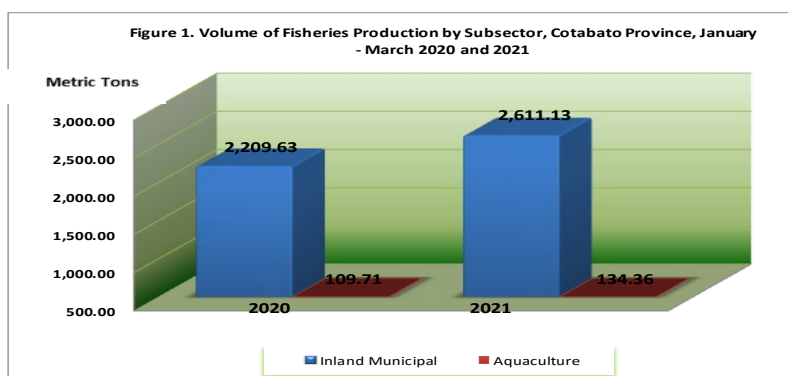
The total volume of fisheries production (combined Inland Municipal and Aquaculture) in Cotabato Province posted a double digit increased by 18.37 percent during the first quarter of 2021 compared to the same quarter in 2020 (Table 1).

**Table 1. Volume of Fisheries Production by Subsector, Cotabato Province, January - March 2020 and 2021**  
(Metric Tons)

| Fisheries Subsectors                          | Q1 2020         | Q1 2021         | % Change (Q1 2021/<br>Q1 2020) |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|
| <b>TOTAL FISHERIES,<br/>Cotabato Province</b> | <b>2,319.34</b> | <b>2,745.49</b> | <b>18.37</b>                   |
| Inland Municipal                              | 2,209.63        | 2,611.13        | 18.17                          |
| Aquaculture                                   | 109.71          | 134.36          | 22.47                          |

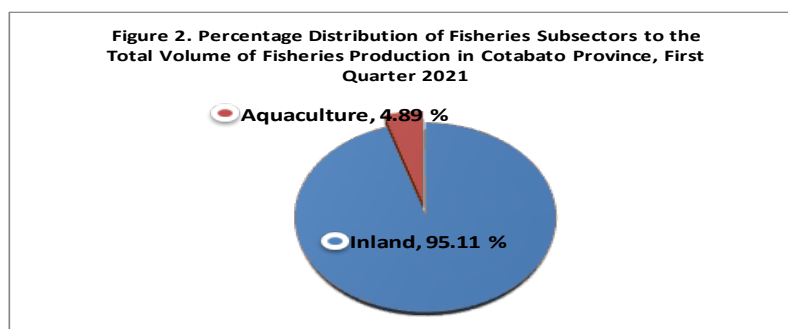
*Source: Philippine Statistics Authority*

Inland Municipal produced 2,611.13 metric tons which indicated an 18.17 percent production increment while aquaculture production produced 134.36 metric tons or 22.47 percent increase compared to last year same quarter's production (Figure 1).



*Source: Philippine Statistics Authority*

The Inland Municipal subsector contributed 95.11 percent share while the Aquaculture subsector posted 4.89 percent share to the total fisheries production of Cotabato Province in First Quarter of 2021 (Figure 2).



*Source: Philippine Statistics Authority*

## INLAND MUNICIPAL

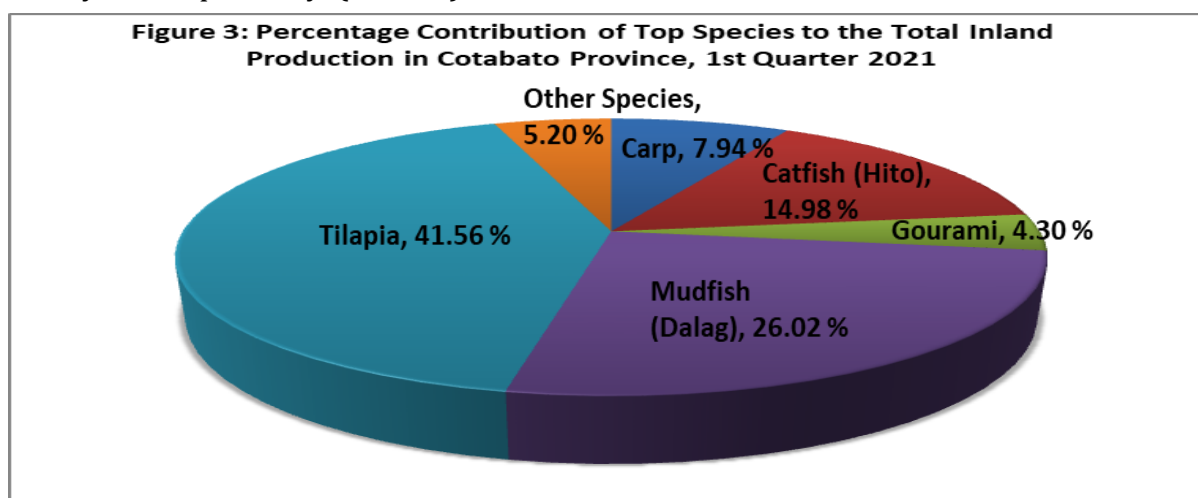
**Table 2. Inland Municipal: Volume of Fish Production, by Species, Cotabato Province, January - March 2021  
(Metric Tons)**

| Species  | Q1 2020  | Q1 2021  | % Change (Q1 2021/<br>Q1 2020) |
|--|----------|----------|--------------------------------|
| <b>TOTAL INLAND FISHERIES, Cotabato Province</b> | 2,209.63 | 2,611.13 | 18.17                          |
| 1. Carp  | 216.07   | 207.24   | -4.09                          |
| 2. Catfish (Hito)                                | 181.56   | 391.27   | 115.50                         |
| 3. Gourami                                       | 173.16   | 112.37   | -35.11                         |
| 4. Mudfish (Dalag)                               | 654.15   | 679.39   | 3.86                           |
| 5. Tilapia                                       | 857.46   | 1,085.11 | 26.55                          |
| 6. Other Species                                 | 127.23   | 135.75   | 6.70                           |

Source: *Philippine Statistics Authority*

### Cotabato Province: Inland Municipal posted increment by 18.17 percent in 1st Quarter 2021

For the first quarter of 2021, inland fisheries production totaled 2,611.13 metric tons or 18.17 percent increase compared to the same period last year. An output decrease of 4.09 percent (207.24 metric tons) and 35.11 percent (112.37 metric tons) were posted by the carp and gourami compared to the same period last year, respectively. Mudfish, tilapia, Catfish (Hito) and other species fishes grew by 3.86 percent (679.39 metric tons) , 26.55 percent (1,085.11 metric tons), 115.50 percent (391.27 metric tons) and 6.70 percent (135.75 metric tons) compared to the same period last year, respectively, (Table 2).



Source: *Philippine Statistics Authority*

Some of the major inland municipal species which contributed a double digit share on the total production of Inland Municipal Fisheries in the First Quarter of 2021 include tilapia with 41.56 percent, mudfish with 26.02 percent and catfish (hito) with 14.98 percent. Other major inland municipal species include carp with 7.94 percent and gourami with 4.30 percent also contributed to the total production of inland municipal fisheries and other species with 5.20 percent significantly contributed to the total production of inland municipal fisheries this first quarter of 2021 (Figure 3).

# AQUACULTURE

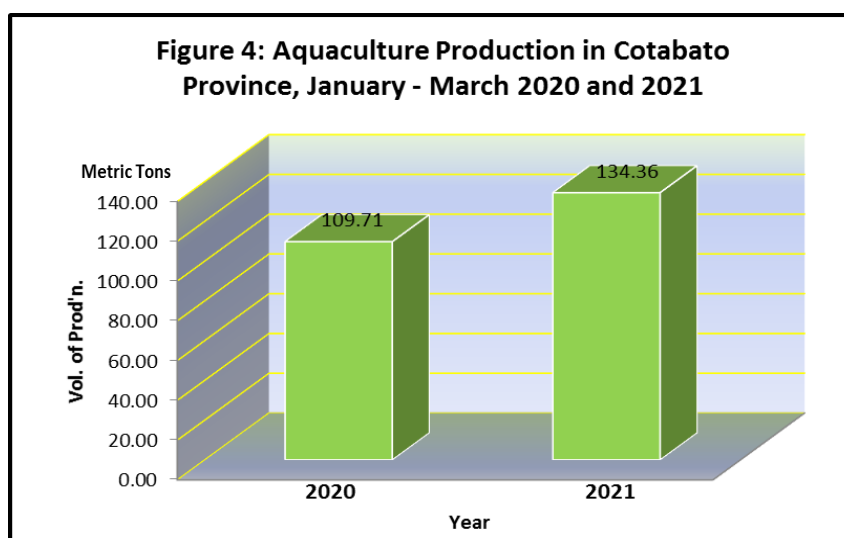
**Table 3: Percentage change in production, by aquafarm from January-March 2020 and 2021 (Metric Tons)**

| Culture Environment/<br>Type of Aquafarm | Q1 2020       | Q1 2021       | % Change (Q1 2021/Q1 2020) |
|--|---------------|---------------|----------------------------|
| <b>Aquaculture</b>                       | <b>109.71</b> | <b>134.36</b> | <b>22.47</b>               |
| Freshwater Fishpond (FF)                 | 99.77         | 116.98        | 17.25                      |
| Freshwater Fish pen (FP)                 | -             | 8.80          | -                          |
| Freshwater Cage (FC)                     | -             | 0.03          | -                          |
| Rice Fish (RF)                           | 0.02          | 0.06          | 200.00                     |
| Small Farm Reservoir (SFR)               | 9.92          | 8.50          | -14.31                     |

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

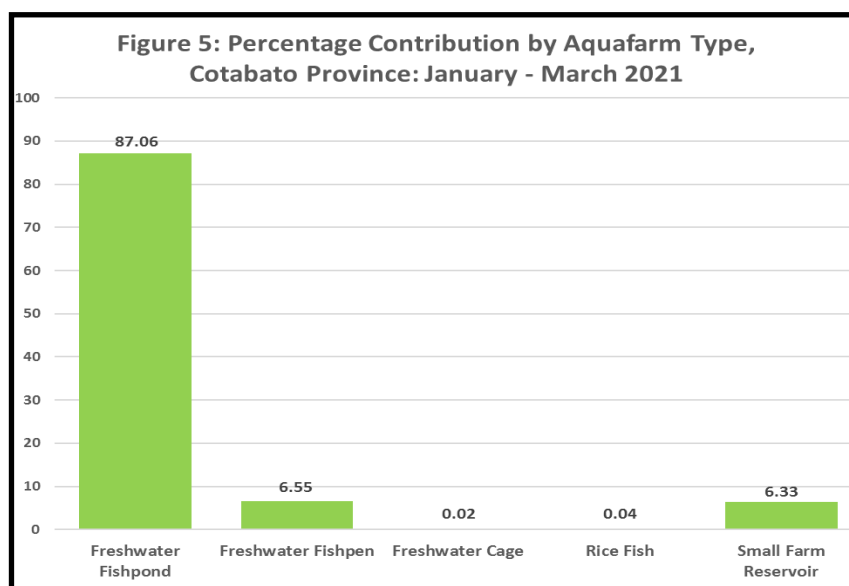
## Cotabato Province: Aquaculture higher by 22.47 percent in 1st Quarter 2021

In January-March 2021, aquaculture production was estimated at 134.36 metric tons. This was 22.47 percent higher than last year’s production over the same period (Figure 4). Freshwater fishpond indicated the highest production among the aquafarm type in the province with 116.98 metric tons or 17.25 percent increment (Table 3).



Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

The Freshwater Fishpond contributed highest production share with 87.06 percent. It was followed by freshwater fish pen with 6.55 percent and small farm reservoir with 6.33 percent share. Freshwater fish cage and rice fish contributed lowest share to the total aquaculture fisheries production of Cotabato Province in the First Quarter of 2021 with 0.02 percent and 0.04 percent, respectively (Figure 5).



Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

## TECHNICAL NOTES

### Overview

The Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) through the Fisheries Statistics Division (FSD) under the Economic Sector Statistics Service (ESSS) is responsible for the conduct of periodic surveys related to fisheries. The fisheries sector is composed of three (3) subsectors, namely; commercial, municipal fisheries and aquaculture. There are four (4) quarterly surveys that generate volume and value of production by species at the national, regional and provincial level. The statistics primarily serve as input to the compilation of performance of agriculture and national accounts. The data sets are also used for policy making and program implementation on fisheries.

Inland Fisheries is one of the fisheries subsectors. Inland Fisheries covers fishing operations performed in inland bodies of water using fishing vessels of three (3) gross tons or less, or fishing not requiring the use of fishing vessels. The Quarterly Inland Fisheries Survey (QIFS) serves as the activity that gathers information on volume and price of species caught by inland fishing household.

Aquaculture is one of the fisheries subsectors. It involves propagation and culturing of fish and other fishery species in farming facility such as fishpond, fish pen and fish cage. It also includes oyster, mussel and seaweed culture. The Quarterly Aquaculture Survey (QAqS) serves as the activity that gathers information on volume and price of species harvested in the aquafarms.

During its quarterly conduct, data collection, supervision, field editing and data processing are done at the field offices. Three levels of data review are undertaken which are the provincial, regional and national. As a final point, the FSD is responsible for the release of the estimates and preparation of reports.

### Concepts and Definition

**Aquaculture** is a fishery operation involving all forms of raising and culturing of fish and other fishery species in fresh, brackish and marine water areas. (RA 8550)

**Aquafarm** is a farming facility used in the culture or propagation of aquatic species including fish, mollusk, crustaceans and aquatic plants for purposes of rearing and culturing to enhance production.

**Fishpond** refers to a land-based type of aquafarm; a body of water (artificial or natural) where fish and other aquatic products are cultured, raised or cultivated under controlled conditions.

**Fish pen** refers to an artificial enclosure constructed within a body of water for culturing fish, fishery/aquatic resources made up of bamboo poles closely arranged in an enclosure with wooden material, screen or nylon netting to prevent escape of fish.

**Fish cage** refers to a stationary or floating fish enclosure made of synthetic net wire/bamboo screen or other materials set in the form of inverted mosquito net ("hapa" type) with or without cover with all sides either tied to poles staked to the water bottom or with anchored floats for aquaculture purposes.

**Rice Fish** refers to an integrated farming system involving raising of fish in rice paddies.

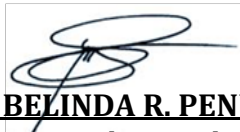
**Small Farm Reservoir** (small water body) includes reservoirs and lakes with an area of less than 10 m<sup>2</sup>, small ponds, canals, irrigation canals, swamps and small, seasonal, inland floodplains. They may be permanent or temporary and can be separated into natural waters or constructed ones.

**Freshwater environment** refers to water without salt or marine origin. It is pure fresh water. Examples of no mixture of seawater (Laguna de Bay, Taal Lake, Candaba Swamps, Liguasan Marsh and rivers, canals, dams and paddy fields and rice fields.

**Inland fisheries** is the catching of fish, crustaceans, molluscs and other aquatic animals and plants in inland water like lakes, rivers, dams, marshes, etc. using fishing vessels of three (3) gross tons or less, or fishing not requiring the use of fishing vessels.

**Fishing Grounds** are areas in any body of water where fish and other aquatic resources congregate and become target of capture.

**Inland fishing household** – is a household with at least one member engaged in inland fishing.



**ENGR. BELINDA R. PENUELA**

Chief Statistical Specialist

Philippine Statistics Authority—Cotabato