

DOST-FNRI eUPDATES

The Official Publication of the
Department of Science and Technology
Food and Nutrition Research Institute



DOST-FNRI

Vol. 12

No. 1

January 2025



DOST-FNRI presents findings on Folic Acid Fortification at Wheat Flour Industry Consultation Workshop

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The DOST-FNRI presented its data on folic acid fortification of wheat flour and its stability in various food products in the recently conducted Wheat Flour Industry Consultation Workshop held on January 17, 2025, at the Wynwood Hotel Manila.

This consultation workshop was organized by the National Nutrition Council (NNC), Nutrition International, and Food Fortification Initiative (FFI) for the members of the Wheat Flour Industry in preparation for the review of the Flour Fortification Program under Republic Act No. 8976.

Key attendees included DOH Assistant Secretary and NNC Executive Director Dr. Azucena M. Dayanghirang represented by Nutrition Officer Ellen Ruth Abella, Nutrition International Country Representative Erwin O. Nacuray, FFI Director Mr. Scott Montgomery, and DOST-FNRI Senior Science Research Specialist Abbie L. Padrones. Representatives from the wheat flour industry, fortificant importers and distributors, the food manufacturing sector, bakery associations, national government agencies, and non-government organizations also attended the activity.

The invited participants were identified as key contributors to ensure the efficient roll-out, implementation, and sustainability of the program.

The workshop provided a platform to inform industry stakeholders about the proposed amendments to the Flour Fortification Program and to solicit their feedback, comments, and concerns regarding the potential changes. ■



PHOTO NEWS:



The DOST-FNRI conducted a three-day DNA extraction training on January 8-10, 2025, at the DOST-FNRI Building, Bicutan, Taguig City, as part of its DNA metabarcoding initiative. The activity was spearheaded by DOST Balik Scientist Dr. Lawrence David, Associate Professor of Molecular Genetics & Microbiology at Duke University.



The DOST-FNRI met the Philippine Army's (PA) Office of the Army Chief Surgeon on January 17, 2025, at the DOST-FNRI Building, Bicutan, Taguig City, to explore services related to the Meal Ready-to-Eat (MRE) products that the Army needs in field operations.



NET25 *Radyo Agila*'s KAPITBAHAY featured interview on DOST-FNRI's Philippine Food Composition Tables, with Ms. Elyss G. Billedo, Senior Science Research Specialist of DOST-FNRI, on January 20, 2025, streamed live via *Radyo Agila* Facebook Page.



Usapang Bayan Episode 324 featured interview on the findings of the 2023 National Nutrition Survey (NNS) on overweight and obesity in the Philippines, with Ms. Josie P. Desnacio, Senior Science Research Specialist of DOST-FNRI, on January 20, 2025, streamed live via BSC Multimedia Services Facebook Page.



1st Organizational Meeting of the Technical Working Group on Overweight and Obesity Management and Prevention (TWG-OOMP) on January 21, 2025, at the National Nutrition Council, Taguig City



The Microbiological Laboratory of the DOST-FNRI assisted by the Food and Nutrition Training Unit (FNTU) conducted the first batch of Training on Microbiological Analysis of Food Pathogens on January 21-24, 2025, at the DOST-FNRI Building, Bicutan, Taguig City.



United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) Philippines met with DOST-FNRI on January 24, 2025, at the DOST-FNRI Building, Bicutan, Taguig City, to discuss collaboration on addressing National Nutrition Survey (NNS) data gaps and improving data dissemination for policy and program use.



The Proficiency Testing Laboratory (PTL) of the DOST-FNRI has successfully concluded its first surveillance visit with special assessment based on ISO 17043:2023 on January 27-28, 2025 at the DOST-FNRI Building, Bicutan, Taguig City.