



EXPERT'S PROFILE

Name of Grantee : **DR. MANUEL M. GARCIA**

Area of Expertise : Microbiology and Food Safety

Inclusive Date of Contract as BSP Awardee : 3 November 2008 – February 2009
(Short Term Category)

Host Institutions : Philippine Coconut Authority
Diliman, Quezon City

Food Development Center
National Food Authority
FTI Complex, Taguig

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EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

- Ph.D. Microbiology, University of Guelph, Ontario, Canada, 1967
- M.S. Soil Science, University of the Philippines, Los Banos, 1962
- B.S. Agriculture, University of the Philippines, Los Banos, 1959

WORK EXPERIENCE

- **1997 - present** - **International Consultant / Trainor**
Microbiology, Rapid Test, Food Safety Programs
Agri-Food R&D
- **1967 - 1997** - **Research Scientist, Animal Diseases Research Institute**
Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Napean, Ontario
- **1962 - 1965** - **Research Instructor**
Soils Department, College of Agriculture
University of the Philippines, Los Banos, Laguna

To be accomplished as BSP Awardee:

- Assess SME's needs in terms of food quality and safety improvement based on onsite visit/inspection of VCO and buko juice plants
- Assist the food industry, particularly those processing coconut-based products, through short course trainings/seminars on farm-to-table food safety programs
- Assist PCA in preparing a research project report on the validation of microbial hazards in VCO processing supported by PCIERD-DOST
- Collaborate with PCA staff to produce book on "Establishing a Coconut-based Enterprise" that will serve as a guide for SME's
- Discuss with scientist and laboratory technologists on the status of microbiological testing for pathogens to support HACCP programs
- Meet with technical personnel/suppliers to discuss more efficient technologies and cost-effective solutions for contamination control in fresh produce and processing plants and waste water