

## **ORGANIC AGRICULTURE INTEGRATION IN BASIC EDUCATION CURRICULUM (BEC)**

Frank Matildo,  
Limbaan National High School  
Limbaan, New Corella, Davao del Norte

GRADE LEVEL : Grade 7

SUBJECT : English 7

TOPIC: Organize information from the materials viewed

DURATION : 2-3 session

### **I. OBJECTIVE:**

Main: Determine the vivid information from the materials viewed/read.

OA: Understand how OA serves as a tool for ecologically sound management of agricultural resources

### **II. SUBJECT MATTER**

A. Lesson: Organize information from the materials viewed

B. OA : RA 10068 – (Organic Agriculture in 2010)

C. Reference: Learning material from Organic Agriculture

D. Main concept and Skills

### **ORGANIC AGRICULTURE**

- is developed based on a set of principles expressing ethical values and aims the reason why it is often referred to as holistic production system. A multitude of definition reflects the complexity and diversity of organic agriculture.
- is a production system that sustains the health of soils, ecosystem and people. It relies on ecological processes, biodiversity, and cycles adopted to local conditions, rather than the used of inputs with adverse effect.
- combines traditions, innovation, and science to benefit the shared environment and promote fair relationship and a good quality of life for all involved.
- It is important to acquire knowledge of the origin and the recent history as well as the current trends in organic agriculture to develop a common understanding and create a solid base for its adaptation and development in the country.
- is adopted under the Philippines and Organic Agriculture Act of 2010. This is based on existing norms ,principles, and standard wherein Organic farmers utilize crop rotation ,green manuring, cover crops , and natural-based product, among others, to maintain or enhance soil fertility and being back soil vitality and plant health, as opposed to the use of agro-chemicals.

*Reference: Organic Agriculture in the Philippines training manual page..6*

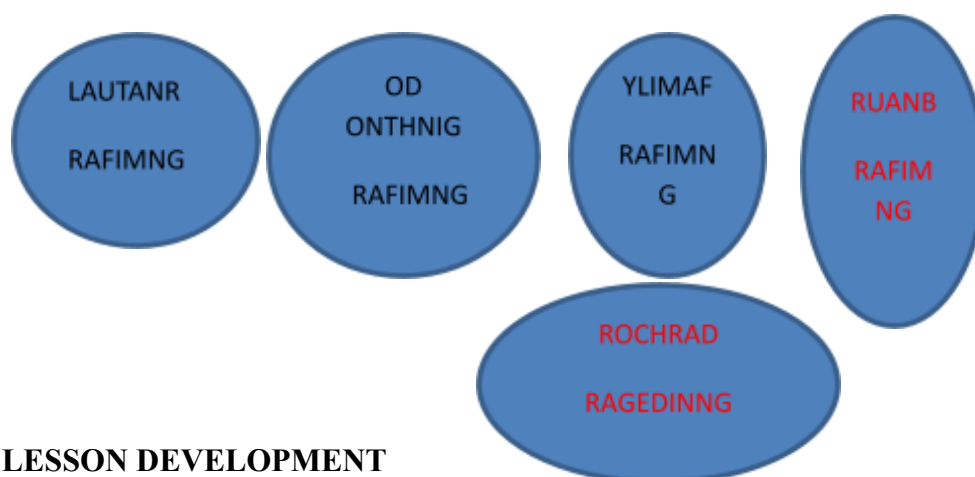
### III. Procedure:

A. preliminaries: (Provide two articles and enclose it in text box)

\*Review

\*Motivation

(Arrange jumble words inside the box)



### LESSON DEVELOPMENT

#### A. Activities

1. Grouping of students into five. Each group shall be provided Activity Sheet containing article on certain topic for discussion.
2. Completing the table for checking comprehension.
3. Reporting of Outputs.(Rubrics)

| Rubrics                        | 3 | 2 | 1 |
|--------------------------------|---|---|---|
| Completeness of the table/data |   |   |   |
| Is the time set be achieve     |   |   |   |
| Grammar/content                |   |   |   |
| Participation of the member    |   |   |   |

Act.1.a 1. Organic Farming

1.b 2.Natural Farming

1.c 3.Family Farming

| Teachers Questions                                                          | Students' response |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1.What is the Article About?                                                |                    |
| 2.What significant information found in the article. Give at least (2)      |                    |
| 3. What advantage can people get from the information. Give at least (3)    |                    |
| 4. What issues, policies, programs can you relate to the given information? |                    |
| 5.Give a sample slogan/song that relate to the article.                     |                    |

#### Activity 1.A 1 Organic Farming

#### Organic farming: The future of Philippine agriculture

Tuesday, 08 May 2012 09:00

**As the trend towards healthier lifestyle continues to grow, the interest in organic farming in the Philippines is also expeditiously gaining ground**

In fact, the government has mandated the Department of Agriculture to allot at least PHP1 billion (US\$23.70 million) this year to exclusively promote the organic agriculture programs in the country. President Benigno Aquino III believes that organic agriculture is the way of the future not only to address hunger but also to sustain health and environment.

According to the local organic group Organic Producers Trade Association (OPTA), the risk of consuming non-organic food is becoming more perilous to human health as high-yielding agri-produce or the so-called “green revolution crops” developed in the province of Los Banos—one of the country’s major agricultural research hubs—have been identified as one of the causes of brain damage particularly resulting to impaired intellect to people in poor or third world countries.

According to OPTA, these crops that are produced under modern agriculture techniques that use large doses of pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers are decreasing brain size, thus slowing down one’s intelligence capabilities. OPTA also tells that international studies have likewise shown that chemical-infused crops have resulted in cancer, hormone disruption, neurological disorders and other life-threatening illnesses.

As chemical farming destroys the environment, OPTA says beneficial micronutrients in the soil that are needed by a human body are also killed such as calcium, magnesium, iron, zinc, copper, selenium, manganese and many others. The absence of these essential health elements in the planting grounds may cause malnutrition as the soil can no longer produce foods that are adequately supplied with important nutrients.

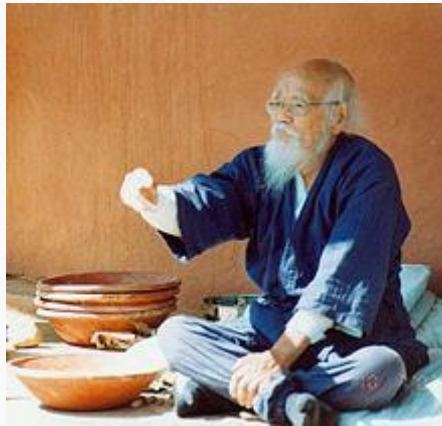
On the other hand, OPTA reveals that livestock and aquaculture grown in chemical-industrial animal farming systems are also huge health hazards. These animals are fed and injected with synthetic chemicals to force them to grow fast and survive the pathogenic microorganisms such as antibiotics, growth hormones, steroids, synthetic vitamins and minerals. The danger of these chemicals has been proven to be so grave that it compelled the European Union to ban the use of antibiotics and growth hormones in their livestock.

Although the Philippines has not resorted to completely ban the use of synthetic chemicals in animal farming, the country is set to go all natural in agriculture through Republic Act 10068 that aims to strengthen the state’s policy to promote, propagate, develop further and implement the practice of organic agriculture. Through the law, the farming community are hoped to ensure and cumulatively condition and enrich the fertility of the soil, increase farm productivity, reduce pollution and destruction of the environment, prevent depletion of natural resources and protect the health of the farmers and of the general public. Moreover, going organic agriculture is an opportunity for the country for the organically grown commodities in the world market which would cost US\$40 billion to US\$70 billion in 2012.

## Activity 1.b 2 Natural farming

### Natural farming

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia



Masanobu Fukuoka, originator of the natural farming method

**Natural farming** is an [ecological farming](#) approach established by [Masanobu Fukuoka](#) (1913–2008), a Japanese [farmer](#) and philosopher, introduced in his 1975 book [The One-Straw Revolution](#). Fukuoka described his way of farming as [自然農法](#) (*shizen nōhō*) in Japanese.<sup>[1]</sup> It is also referred to as "the Fukuoka Method", "the natural way of farming" or "do-nothing farming". The title refers not to lack of effort, but to the avoidance of manufactured inputs and equipment. Natural farming is related to fertility farming, [organic farming](#), [sustainable agriculture](#), [agroforestry](#), [ecoagriculture](#) and [permaculture](#) but should be distinguished from [biodynamic agriculture](#).

The system exploits the complexity of living organisms that shape each particular ecosystem. Fukuoka saw farming both as a means of producing food and as an aesthetic or spiritual approach to life,<sup>[2]</sup> the ultimate goal of which was, "the cultivation and perfection of human beings".<sup>[3]</sup> He suggested that farmers could benefit from closely observing local conditions.<sup>[4]</sup> Natural farming is a closed system, one that demands no human-supplied inputs and mimics nature.<sup>[5]</sup>

Fukuoka's ideas challenged conventions that are core to modern agro-industries, instead promoting an approach that takes advantage of the local environment.<sup>[6]</sup> Natural farming differs from conventional [organic farming](#),<sup>[7]</sup> which Fukuoka considered to be another modern technique that disturbs nature.<sup>[8]</sup>

## Activity 1.c 3 Family Farming

### Family farming

**Family farming is the most common operational farming model in Europe and thus of great importance in the EU.**

#### The concept of family farming

The concept of family farming covers various elements. From a sociological perspective, family farming is associated with family values, such as solidarity, continuity and commitment; in economic terms, family farming is identified with specific entrepreneurial skills, business ownership and management, choice and risk behavior, resilience and individual achievement.

Family farming is often more than a professional occupation because it reflects a lifestyle based on beliefs and traditions about living and work.

## **The importance of family farming in the EU**

Family farming is the most common operational farming model in Europe and thus of great importance in the EU.

The majority of the EU's 12 million farms are family farms, passed down from one generation to another, and contribute to the socio-economic and environmental sustainability of rural areas.

There is a high diversity of family farms in the EU, in terms of their size, activities they engage in, availability of resources, degree of market integration, competitiveness, etc. They operate in different economic, agro-ecological and social contexts, ensuring food security while meeting rising societal expectations for food safety, quality, value, origin and diversity of food, and thus contribute to smart, sustainable and inclusive growth.

### **2014: UN International Year for Family Farming (IYFF)**

2014 was designated the International Year of Family Farming at the 66th session of the United Nations General Assembly. Led by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), it has the objective of **raising the profile of family farming** by focusing world attention on its role in alleviating hunger and poverty, providing food security and improving livelihoods, while protecting the environment and biodiversity.

>> Go to the IYFF website (FAO)

## **WHY IS FAMILY FARMING IMPORTANT?**

- Family and small-scale farming are inextricably linked to world food security.
- Family farming preserves traditional food products, while contributing to a balanced diet and safeguarding the world's agro-biodiversity and the sustainable use of natural resources.
- Family farming represents an opportunity to boost local economies, especially when combined with specific policies aimed at social protection and well-being of communities.

### **What is family farming?**

Family farming includes all family-based agricultural activities, and it is linked to several areas of rural development. Family farming is a means of organizing agricultural, forestry, fisheries, pastoral and aquaculture production which is managed and operated by a family and predominantly reliant on family labor, including both women's and men's.

Both in developing and developed countries, family farming is the predominant form of agriculture in the food production sector.

At national level, there are a number of factors that are key for a successful development of family farming, such as: agro-ecological conditions and territorial characteristics; policy environment; access to markets; access to land and natural resources; access to technology and extension services; access to finance; demographic, economic and socio-cultural conditions; availability of specialized education among others.

## **Urban Gardening**

In the world's poorest nations, city dwellers have always farmed for subsistence. But more of them are farming now than ever before. In Africa, for example, it's estimated that 40 percent of the urban population is engaged in agriculture. Long-time residents and recent transplants alike farm because they're hungry, they know how to grow food, land values in marginal areas (under power lines and along highways) are low, and inputs like organic wastes — fertilizer — are cheap. Urban farming is common in Ghana and other sub-Saharan countries. Photo by Nana Kofi Acquah/IMWI. In the U.S., urban farming is likely to have its biggest impact on food security in places that, in some ways, resemble the global south — that is, in cities or neighborhoods where land is cheap, median incomes are low and the need for fresh food is high. No one expects city farms in the U.S. to replace peri-urban or rural vegetable farms: cities don't have the acreage or the trained farmers, and most can't produce food anything close to year-round. But can city farms take a bite from long-distance supply chains? NYU's Dimitri doesn't think so. Considering the size and global nature of the nation's food supply, she says, urban ag in our cities "isn't going to make a dent. And it's completely inefficient, economically. Urban farmers can't charge what they should, and they're too small to take advantage of economies of scale and use their resources more efficiently." That doesn't mean that community gardeners, who don't even try to be profitable, aren't making a big difference in their immediate communities. Camden's 31,000 pounds (14,000 kilograms) of produce might not seem like a lot, but it's a very big deal for those lucky enough to get their hands on it. "In poor communities where households earn very little income," says Domenic Vitiello, an associate professor of city and regional planning at the University of Pennsylvania, "a few thousand dollars' worth of vegetables and fruit grown in the garden makes a much bigger difference than for more affluent households." History tells us that community gardening — supported by individuals, government agencies and philanthropies — is here to stay. As Laura Lawson says, "City gardens are part of our ideal sense of what a community should be. And so their value is priceless



## ORCHARD GARDENING

An **orchard** is an intentional planting of trees or shrubs that is maintained for food production. Orchards comprise fruit, vegetable, and nut-producing trees which are grown for commercial production. Orchards are also sometimes a feature of large gardens, where they serve an aesthetic as well as a productive purpose.<sup>[1]</sup> A fruit garden is generally synonymous with an orchard, although it is set on a smaller non-commercial scale and may emphasize berry shrubs in preference to fruit trees. Most temperate-zone orchards are laid out in a regular grid, with a grazed or mown grass or bare soil base that makes maintenance and fruit gathering easy. Orchards are often concentrated near bodies of water, where climatic extremes are moderated and blossom time is retarded until frost danger is past. An orchard's layout is the technique of planting the crops in a proper system. There are different

methods of planting and thus different layouts. An orchard's layout is the technique of planting the crops in a proper system. There are different methods of planting and thus different layouts. Some of these layout types include:

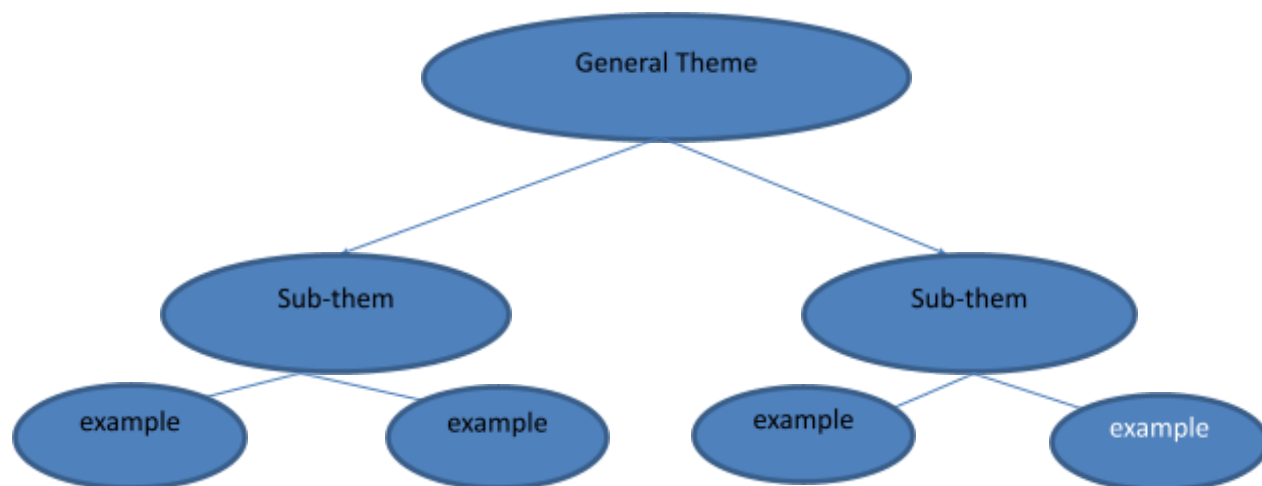
1. Square method
2. Rectangular method
3. Quincunx method
4. Triangular method
5. Hexagonal method
6. Contour (or Terracing )method

**quincunx** is a geometric pattern consisting of five points arranged in a cross, with four of them forming a square or rectangle and a fifth at its center.<sup>[1]</sup> It forms the arrangement of five units in the pattern corresponding to the five-spot on six-sided dice, playing cards, and dominoes.

## B. ANALYSIS:

1. What is the main theme of all the activities undertaken by the students?
2. How important are the concepts?
3. What are the advantages of knowing the concepts?

## C. ABSTRACTION: Mind Mapping Activity



## D. APPLICATION: Individual task

As a responsible individual, how would you promote RA 10068( Organic Agriculture). Present an action plan.

| Activities that promote RA 10068 | (Strategies) Enumerate steps to carry out for each activity | Person Involved | Location of the Activity | Time Frame | Cost/Budgetary Requirement | Means of Verification |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1.                               |                                                             |                 |                          |            |                            |                       |
| 2.                               |                                                             |                 |                          |            |                            |                       |
| 3.                               |                                                             |                 |                          |            |                            |                       |

|    |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|----|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 4. |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 5. |  |  |  |  |  |  |

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Name of Student/ Sig.      Name of Parent/Sig.      Name of Teacher/Sig.**

**IV. ASSESSMENT:**

Student shall exchange Action Plan then each shall evaluate the action plan using a checklist. Enhance the evaluated plan by providing suggestion.

| ACTIVITIES                                       | YES | NO |
|--------------------------------------------------|-----|----|
| Are all items required present                   |     |    |
| Are there strategies for every activities found. |     |    |
| Are the persons involved can be really tapped.   |     |    |
| Is time set be achieved,                         |     |    |
| Is the cost to be incurred minimal.              |     |    |
| Are the MOVs required can be produced.           |     |    |

**V: AGREEMENT:**

Implement you Action Plan in your homes/community. Let your purok/barangay officials attest that the action is carried in the community.