



CLIMATIC FACTORS AND INCIDENCE OF FLOODING AT THE AKLAN RIVER PHILIPPINES

Jenita C. Prado¹

*¹Associate Professor V, College of Agriculture, Forestry & Environmental Sciences,
Aklan State University, Banga, Aklan, Philippines.*

ABSTRACT

The main objective of the study was to generate baseline information on climatic factors such as rainfall, temperature and relative humidity at different sites in Aklan for 2012- 2013 and its relation to some flooding condition of the Aklan River. A ten-year historical data was recorded for 2004-2013 to establish rainfall and temperature pattern, for farmers to establish planting calendar in their specific farms. Rainfall for 2012-2013 was erratic since more rain and cooler temperature was noted in summer (March) while least relative humidity, higher temperature and least rainfall was recorded in august (habagat season). Sunshine duration ranged from 2.5 to 7.9 hours and temperature ranged from 24.3 to 31.9 0C. Longer photoperiod occurred on summer. A 24-hour rainfall of 202.80 to 246.80 mm resulted to flooding in the municipality of Kalibo and a 305.30 mm rain caused severe damage to the low lying areas of the region. But rainfall of only 124.6 mm had inundated some areas of the province due to high tide preventing the river from emptying into the sea. There is a weak positive correlation existing between rainfall and height of water at Aklan River as indicated by r²-value of 0.47. . A ten-year rainfall data showed that June, September to December had abundant rainfall. It started to decline from January to May and even August. Madalag (Type 1 climate) had registered more annual rainfall of 3494.4 mm while Banga (Type 3) had 3156.7 mm. Forecast of rainfall for 2013 based on the ten-year data showed that near normal rainfall were experienced by the province of Aklan but below normal to way below normal rainfall conditions were observed for 2014 which indicates that province of Aklan experienced drought. This means that rain fed farmers started planting rice later than July 2014 due to rainfall deficit.

KEYWORDS: Amihan, Climatic Factors, Extreme Weather, Flooding, Habagat.