

## The scientific literature services of PCARRD

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**The Scientific Literature Services Of PCARRD**

**By**

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## The Scientific Literature Services of PCARRD\*

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The Philippine Council for Agriculture, Forestry and Natural Resources Research and Development (PCARRD) is a sectoral planning council which coordinates and monitors national research and development (R & D) for agriculture, forestry and natural resources. Among others, PCARRD is tasked to establish a repository of research information in agriculture, forestry and natural resources as part of its development mandate. To carry out this task, the Scientific Literature Services (SLS) was established in 1973 to serve the information needs of various clientele in the national research system.

Coordinated by PCARRD's Applied Communication Division (ACD), SLS has a total collection of 28,291 volumes of library materials, maintains a computerized bibliographic databank of all completed researches in agriculture, forestry and natural resources, and coordinates and implements eight ongoing information management activities. These activities include:

### 1. Current Awareness Program (Scientific Literature Service in the region)

Members of the PCARRD network within the national research system are provided with

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selected copies of articles. Requested articles though, is limited to the research thrusts assigned them.

## 2. Selective Dissemination of Information (SDI).

While the Current Awareness Program is for the regional members of the PCARRD Network, the Selective Dissemination of Information (SDI) caters to the information needs of the PCARRD secretariat. Technical staff within PCARRD are furnished with documents relevant to their field of specialization. Also, all PCARRD divisions receive copies of press releases (news clippings) where PCARRD are being cited.

## 3. Research Information Storage and Retrieval System (RETRES)

This project being implemented by SLS is a computerized bibliographic databank of all completed researches in agriculture, forestry and natural resources. RETRES complements the Research Management Information System (RMIS) being implemented and maintained by the Management Information System Division (MISD) of PCARRD.

RMIS is a computerized databank system of ongoing researches; it provides information about <sup>the researches</sup> using any of the following parameters: commodity, discipline, research worker, implementing agency, funding agency,

expected output and priority areas. Meanwhile, RETRES uses the following parameters for searching: authors both corporate and personal, category, descriptor, document type, year of publication, acquisition mode, date acquired and language.

#### 4. Documentation

The SLS facilitates scientific information services through abstracting, indexing, classifying and cataloging of documents.

#### 5. Library and Archives

Textual records produced by PCARRD and documents that reflect PCARRD's history and policies are being kept at the archive.

The library, being the central repository of all research information generated by the national R & D system, provides: a) readers service through circulation and loan; b) technical inquiry service through phone and correspondence; and c) document delivery service.

#### 6. Linkages to local and foreign information systems

PCARRD maintains affiliations with both local and international organizations to develop information transfer. Among the local institutions, the SLS has established a strong linkage with the Department of

Science and Technology Library Consortium and the Regional Applied Communication Office (RACO) Consortium.

Among its foreign linkages, SLS has been identified as the national center for the Current Agricultural Research Information System (CARIS) and a cooperating center for the International Information System for Agricultural Science and Technology (AGRIS) of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO-UN). It is also a cooperating center for the Information Network on New and Renewable Energy Resources and Technologies for Asia and the Pacific (INNERTAP).

Through SLS linkages with approximately 175 local and foreign agencies, exchange of publication is enhanced/strengthened. This in turn augments the existing collection of the library.

## 7. Publications

To assist librarians, researchers and other clienteles, the SLS has published reference tools such as: the RETRES Abstracting Manual; Abstract Bibliography of Completed Researches in Agriculture, Forestry and Natural Resources; Acquisition Lists; Indexes of different publications; Directory of Local and Foreign Organizations; and Dictionary of acronyms and initialisms.

## 8. Training

The SLS provides trainings on library and information management and services to members of the National Agriculture and Research and Development Resources Network (NARRDN).