## TRENDS AND PROSPECTS FOR SOURSOP PRODUCTION IN CAVITE

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## ABSTRACT

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A study was conducted to analyze the trends and prospects for soursop production in Cavite. Specifically, it aimed to describe the status of soursop industry not only in Cavite but also in the Philippines as a whole; identify/ascertain the factors that affect and contribute to it; and forecast soursop production in Cavite.

Data were analyzed using the trend analysis, multiple regression and the correlation matrix with the aid of microstat software.

Results of the trend analysis showed that throughout the whole period, soursop production and area planted in the Philippines had increased at average growth rates of 24.9 percent and 15.74 percent, respectively. However, in Cavite, soursop production exhibited a negative relationship with time. The decrease in production can be expected since the land devoted to soursop in the province continued to decrease through the years.

It was found that the area planted and the number of bearing trees were the only factors that were highly correlated to soursop production. Thus, these variables contributed high in predicting the extent of soursop production in Cavite.

Using the full model regression, it was found that the area planted, the demand of fruit processing industry and the number of farmers were significantly related (P<10) to soursop production. The R<sup>2</sup> value of 0.99 implies that 99 percent of

the total variation in soursop production can be explained by the identified determinants.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	PAGE
BIOGRAPHICAL DATA	i
ACKNOWLEDGMENT	ii
ABSTRACT	v
LIST OF TABLES	X
LIST OF FIGURES	xi
LIST OF APPENDIX TABLES	xii
INTRODUCTION	1
Statement of the Problem	2
Objectives of the Study	3
Operational Definition of Terms	4
Importance of the Study	5
REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE	6
CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK	9
The model	12
METHODOLOGY	13
Collection of Data	13
Method of Analysis	13
Level of significance	16
Hypothesis	16
Scope and Limitations	16

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS	22
Soursop Production in the Philippines	22
Area Planted to Soursop	23
Average Productivity	28
Domestic Consumption of Soursop	31
Export Performance of Processed Soursop	31
SOURSOP PRODUCTION IN CAVITE	43
Area Planted	43
Average Productivity	50
Farmgate prices	50
PROJECTED SOURSOP PRODUCTION IN CAVITE	50
PROSPECTS FOR SOURSOP INDUSTRY	56
FACTORS AFFECTING SOURSOP PRODUCTION IN CAVITE	60
Area Planted to Soursop	61
Farmgate Price of Soursop	61
Number of Bearing Trees	62
Demand of Fruit Processing Industry	62
Number of Farmers	65
SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS	68
BIBLIOGRAPHY	71
APPENDICES	73