

ITDI Scientists on ANC's Future Perfect with Tony Velasquez



Earlier this year, after making big waves as DOST's only finalists in the Asian Scientist 100 - 2019 Edition, Drs. Rosalinda C. Torres and Marissa A. Paglicawan are again creating a surge this time on TV over at ABS-CBN News Channel's program "ANC Future Perfect" with Mr. Tony Velasco as host.

Telecasted during the program's regular airtime on July 3, 2019, the two ITDI scientists, using local parlance, discussed the significance of their work and the technologies they developed for those who are not S&T inclined.

Dr. Torres discussed her Technology on the larvicidal ability of Philippine medicinal plants. She explained that her study targets the larvae of mosquitoes especially the dengue carrier *Aedes aegypti* mosquito. Further, she also discussed her hopes to continue her study in order to reproduce its output so that it can be made available in the market.



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On the other hand, Dr. Paglicawan discussed the technology of abaca or Manila Hemp as an engineering material. She expounded on the properties of abaca as a good raw material for its durability, strength, and its benefits to health of manufacturers since its counter material, fiberglass, has been labeled by the US' National Toxicology Program as "reasonably anticipated as a human carcinogen."

Dr. Paglicawan also mentioned that abaca-reinforced fiber as motorcycle roof has been tested in Bicutan, Taguig City, through partnership with a local tricycle operators and drivers association. Currently, another application of the material in boats and body of drones is being explored. (AMPallaya\TSD-ITDI)

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