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Genetically modified (GM) corn in the Philippines : Ecological impacts on agroecosystems, effects on the economic status and farmers' experiences

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Miladis Bautista Mabutol-Afidchao, the youngest of the five children of Prof. Rogelio G. Mabutol Sr. and Dr. Concepcion B. Mabutol, was born on August 7th, 1975 in Santiago City, Isabela, Philippines. She took her Bachelor of Science in Biology degree at the Isabela State University in Echague, Isabela. She then completed her masters degree in Biology at the same University where she studied and screened plants with active compounds effective as biocontrol agents against the disease Fusarium wilt (*Fusarium moniliforme*) in corn. From 2007 to 2008, she took MSc coursework at the Conservation Biology Department of Leiden University as an integral part of the PhD course requirements. From 2008 to 2013 she did her PhD research at the same institution on a research project “Genetically Modified (GM) Corn in the Philippines: Ecological impacts on agroecosystems, effects on the economic status and farmers’ experiences”, under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Geert R. de Snoo and Dr. C.J.M. Musters as her promoters. She then started working as University Biologist II at the Isabela State University Research Office based at the Cagayan Valley Regional Resources Research Consortium complex, Echague, Isabela Philippines. During her stint as Biologist, she was in-charge of the Tissue Culture laboratory and Anthelmintics research projects of the Research Department of the University. In June 2004, she was transferred to assume teaching as Assistant Professor 1 of the Isabela State University in Cabagan, Isabela. To date, she is an Assistant Professor IV in the ISU Cabagan campus teaching various Biological science subjects. She is married to Dr. Pablo M. Afidchao Jr with whom she has two daughters, Cachleini Noemi and Nadezna Razel.

