

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources
BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY
M a n i l a

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER No. 52
(Revised) Series of 1927

SUBJECT: An Order Containing Regulations Governing the Removal and Disposal of Dead, Dying or Decaying Trunks of Coconuts, Buri and Other Palms, Trunks of Soft Woods and Heaps of Sawdust; Manure, Bagasse, Straw and Other Organic Matter or Rubbish, and Declaring the Black Beetle (Oryctes Rhinoceros) to be a Dangerous Plant Pest.

WHEREAS, dead, dying or decaying trunks of coconuts, buri and other palms, trunks or soft woods and heaps of sawdust, manure, bagasse, straw and other organic matter or rubbish are ideal breeding places for the black beetle (*Oryctes rhinoceros*), an insect locally known as "uang";

WHEREAS, effective measures should be adopted to check the increase, prevent the spread, and so effect the control of this dangerous insect;

NOW, THEREFORE, under authority conferred upon me by section 10 of Act No. 3027, entitled "An Act to Protect the Agricultural Industries of the Philippine Islands from injurious Plant Pests and Diseases, etc.," the Black Beetle (*Oryctes rhinoceros*), an insect locally known as "uang", is hereby declared to be a dangerous plant pest, and the following regulations are promulgated to govern the removal and disposal of dead, dying or decaying trunks of coconuts, buri and other palms, trunks of soft woods, heaps of sawdust, manure, bagasse, straw and other organic matter or rubbish that serve as a breeding place therefor;

SECTION 1. If upon investigation by the Director of Agriculture, or his authorized agent, or the president of the municipality concerned, dead, dying or decaying trunks of coconuts, buri and other palms, trunks of soft woods, heaps of sawdust, manure, bagasse, straw and other organic matter or rubbish or any of these organic substances are found to exist in the coconut grove, plantation, or premises of any person, firm or corporation and said organic substances are actually found to harbor or to be the breeding places of the black beetle (*Oryctes rhinoceros*) or if such organic substances, in the opinion of the Director of Agriculture or his authorized agent or the president of the municipality concerned, would serve as the breeding places of the black beetle (*Oryctes rhinoceros*) and thus endanger the neighboring coconut grove or plantation belonging to another, it shall be the duty of the owner lessee or person in charge of such coconut grove, plantation or premises after having been notified in writing by the Director of Agriculture or his authorized agent to remove and dispose of such organic substances in accordance with the respective methods prescribed in section 2 of this order. A copy of said written notice shall be sent to the president of the municipality concerned who shall, if so requested, cooperate with the Director of Agriculture in the enforcement of the provisions of this Order.

SEC. 2. Sawdust shall either be thrown into the sea or river or entirely burned up. Manure shall be spread to dry or buried at least two feet deep. Dead, dying or decaying trunks of coconuts, buri and other palms, trunks or soft wood, bagasse, straw and other organic matter or rubbish shall be thoroughly burned up or disposed of in any other manner appropriate to the circumstances in accordance with the recommendations of the Director of Agriculture or his authorized agent.

SEC. 3. In order to carry out the provisions of this Order, the Director of Agriculture, or his duly authorized agent, or the president of the municipality concerned, or the latter's authorized representative, will at all times, for the purpose of inspection, have access to or upon any coconut grove, plantation or premises where any of the organic substances mentioned in Section 1 hereof is known or suspected to exist.

SEC. 4. Failure or refusal to comply with the written notification of the Director of Agriculture or of his authorized agent within a period of three weeks or twenty-one days from the date of receipt of said written notification shall be considered as prima facie evidence of a determination to evade the obligation imposed by virtue of this Order and shall render the person so notified liable to prosecution, and upon conviction he shall suffer the penalty provided in Section 12 of Act No. 3027, which is a fine not exceeding one thousand pesos (P1,000) or imprisonment not exceeding six months, or both such fine and imprisonment, in the discretion of the court.

SEC. 5. Any violation of this Administrative Order shall be immediately reported to and be investigated by the Director of Agriculture or by his authorized agent, or by the president of the municipality concerned.

SEC. 6. The provisions of this Administrative Order shall take effect on approval.

A true copy:
SRM/neg/6/22/76