

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

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 1
Series of 1961

July 19, 1961

SUBJECT: Declaring the Plants known as the Canna, or Bandera Española (Canna indica) and Arrowroot (Maranta arundinacea) to be Noxious Plants and Prohibiting, except under Certain Conditions, their cultivation or propagation in the Philippine Islands wherever Abacá Plants are being raised or planted in Commercial Scale.

WHEREAS, it had been found by experiments that the canna, or Bandera Española (Canna indica) and the arrowroot (Maranta arundinacea) are alternate hosts of the virus disease causing abaca mosaic;

WHEREAS, cannas are actually growing wild or being propagated throughout the Philippines for ornamental purposes and Maranta for food, and for other purposes;

WHEREAS, if these plants are not destroyed and are allowed to multiply in places where abaca is grown in commercial scale, they will serve as one of the sources of inoculum of abaca mosaic which will be detrimental to the abaca industry of the Philippines; and

WHEREAS, adequate measures must be adopted to check their multiplication and/or prevent their cultivation and so effect the eradication of these intermediate host plants in the abaca region in the Philippines;

NOW, THEREFORE, under the authority conferred upon the Director of Plant Industry, by Section 1757 of Act No. 2711, otherwise known as the Revised Administrative Code, as amended, Section 24 of the Reorganization Plan No. 30-A, and Section 10 of Act No. 3027, entitled "An Act to Protect the Agricultural Industries of the Philippine Islands from Injurious Pests and Diseases, etc.", the canna or Bandera Española (Canna indica) and the arrowroot (Maranta arundinacea) are hereby declared dangerous plants and the following regulations are hereby promulgated to govern and regulate their cultivation, to check spread within the prohibited areas and to effect their elimination and destruction.

SECTION 1. For the purpose of this Administrative Order, the planting, cultivation, propagation and/or multiplication of the plants known as canna, or Bandera Española and arrowroot in all places in the province or provinces within a radius of at least fifty kilometers from the periphery where abaca is cultivated in commercial scale, are hereby strictly prohibited: Provided, That the cultivation of the said plants may be permitted in the prohibited area for experimental purposes, in accordance with Section 2 of Administrative Order No. 2 of the Bureau of Plant Industry and provided that such cultivation is made with the approval of the Director of the Bureau of Plant Industry.

SEC. 2. Whenever the Canna Indica and the Maranta arundinacea are known to exist in any locality in the Philippines where the abaca plants are in cultivation, or within the area mentioned in Section 1 hereof, the

Director of Plant Industry shall send a written report to the Governor of the province concerned, containing among other things, the names of the municipalities or barrios where these plants are grown and/or being cultivated, and the owners or persons in charge of the lot, yard, garden or farm where the plants exist.

SEC. 3. Upon being notified in accordance with the preceding section, the Provincial Governor shall immediately inform each Municipal Mayor concerned in writing of the contents of the notification of the Director of Plant Industry. The Municipal Mayor shall then issue a general written notification to the inhabitants of the municipality to the effect that the *Canna indica* and/or the *Maranta arundinacea* exist or exists in the municipality and at the same time declare the municipality infested with these noxious plants.

SEC. 4. Once a municipality has been declared infested with either one or both of the plants referred to herein, it shall be the duty of the person who owns or has under his charge, the lot, yard, garden, farm or plantation where either one or both of these plants exist to do the following:

- a. Destroy all the prohibited plants by digging or plowing the field to up-root the plants, collect, and file on heaps to dry for a few days and finally burn them;
- b. Visit periodically the places where the plants formerly grew for a year or two and dig up any new seedlings growing up from scattered seeds or tubers before they produce suckers or rhizomes.
- c. Cooperate with and aid the Plant Pest and Disease Control Officer and other officials of the Bureau of Plant Industry in their work of eradicating *Canna indica* and *Maranta arundinacea* and comply will all instructions, orders or requirements relative to the destruction or control of these plants.

SEC. 5. In order to carry out the provisions of this Administrative Order, the Secretary of Agriculture and Natural Resources and the Director of Plant Industry or their duly authorized representatives, the Provincial Governor or his duly authorized representatives, the Mayor of the municipality concerned or his duly authorized representatives, the City Mayor of the City concerned or his authorized representatives and all other officials concerned with or taking part in the campaign of controlling these plants, shall at all times have access to or upon any land, lot, yard, gardens or where these plants are known or suspected to exist.

SEC. 6. All DANREA (employees of different Bureaus under the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources in the province) officials shall cooperate with the Director of Plant Industry and his duly authorized representatives, the Plant Quarantine Officers and Plant Pest and Disease Inspectors, in the enforcement of this Administrative Order.

SEC. 7. Nothing in this Order shall be construed or interpreted as prohibiting the Secretary of Agriculture and Natural Resources, the Director of Plant Industry or their duly authorized representatives, from permitting the destruction or under such conditions as may be prescribed by them of said plants in all places or provinces referred to or in those which may be declared hereafter.

SEC. 8. Any person, who, without lawful authority to do so, contravenes or violates any of the provisions of this Administrative Order, or who obstructs or impedes or assists in obstructing or impeding the Secretary of Agriculture and Natural Resources, the Director of Plant Industry or their duly authorized representatives, the Provincial Governor or his duly authorized representatives, the City or Municipal Mayor or his duly authorized representatives or any other officials or employees connected with or taking part in the campaign of controlling these plants, in the execution of this Order, shall be liable to prosecution, and upon conviction shall suffer the penalty provided in Section 2746 of Act No. 2711 (Administrative Code), which is a fine of not exceeding two hundred pesos or imprisonment not exceeding thirty days or both in the discretion of the Court.

SEC. 9. This Administrative Order shall take effect upon approval.

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