

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

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 4
Series of 1937

March 25, 1937

SUBJECT: An Order Declaring the Toy-Beetle, Leucopholis Irrorata Chev., and Other Allied Species Thereof, Namely, Anomala Spp., Lepidiota Spp., Holotrichia Spp., Adoretus Spp., and Allissonotum Spp., Dangerous Plant Pests, and Providing for Their Control.

WHEREAS, there exists in alarming numbers in the province of Occidental Negros an insect commonly known as the "toy-beetle" namely, Anemala spp., Lepidiota spp., Holotrichia spp., Adoretus spp., and Allissonotum spp., which disastrously attack the sugar cane plants;

WHEREAS, sugar cane is one of the main economic plants of the Philippine Islands, the exports of the products thereof amounting to millions of pesos annually;

WHEREAS, adequate measures must be adopted to check the increase, prevent the spread, and thus effect the control of these dangerous insects;

NOW, THEREFORE, under authority conferred by Section 1757 of Act No. 2711, known as the Administrative Code, and 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., which authority is now vested in the Director of Plant Industry and the Secretary of Agriculture and Natural Resources by virtue of Act No. 3639, it is hereby declared that the "toy-beetle *Leucopholis irrorata* Chev., and other allied species thereof, namely *Anomala* spp., *Lepidiota* spp., *Holotrichia* spp., *Adoretus* spp., *Allissonotum* spp., etc. be considered and dealt with as dangerous plant pests, and for this purpose the following rules and regulations governing and prescribing the methods of combating and controlling them, are hereby promulgated for the information and guidance of all concerned.

1. For the purpose of this Administrative Order, all the municipalities in the Province of Occidental Negros where toy-beetles and other allied species thereof herein named, and their grubs, locally named "buc-an", are or have been recently known to exist in alarming numbers, shall be considered as formally declared infested with these plant pests.

2. Whenever the toy-beetles or their grubs or any of the allied species thereof herein named or their grubs, are known to exist in alarming numbers in any locality in the Philippine Islands, the Director of Plant Industry shall send a written report to the Governor of the province concerned, either direct or through a plant inspector or other representative or agent of the Bureau of Plant Industry, containing among other things, the names of the

municipalities or barrios infested by the Plant pests, and the owners or persons in charge of the affected sugar cane fields or plantations, yards, gardens, nurseries, or orchards.

3. Upon being notified in accordance with the preceding paragraph, it shall be the duty of the Provincial Governor to immediately inform each Municipal President concerned in writing of the contents of such notification, and the latter shall in turn issue a general written notification to the inhabitants of the municipality to the effect that the toy-beetles or their grubs, exist in alarming numbers in the Municipality, and at the same time declare the municipality infested with these plant pests. Copies of the general written notification shall be posted in at least six conspicuous places in the municipality and a certified copy of same sent to the Director of Plant Industry.

4. If upon investigation by the Director of Plant Industry or his duly authorized representatives, or by the president of the municipality concerned or his authorized representatives, the toy-beetles or their grubs or any of the allied species thereof herein named or their grubs, are found to exist in alarming numbers in the yard, field, pasture, fallowed land, garden, nursery, or orchard or sugar cane plantation of any person and thus endangering the neighboring sugar cane fields or plantations belonging to another, it shall be obligatory for fallowed land, garden, nursery, or orchard or sugar cane plantation, after having been notified in writing by the Director of Plant Industry or his authorized representatives, or the president of the municipality concerned to do so as follows:

(a) He shall collect or catch or cause to be collected or caught, any toy beetle or "labub-labug" or the adults of any of the species herein named, by hand, with nets or with any other effective device. These caught or collected are to be killed. The trees or branches thereof or any other plants on which the beetles are feeding shall be shaken regularly at least once a day, and the beetles that fall on the ground collected and destroyed, or such plants may be treated by any other effective means, such as spraying, if necessary, in order to kill the beetles.

(b) He shall dig up or plow or caused to be dug or plowed the yard, field, pasture, fallowed land, garden, nursery, orchard or plantations or portions thereof, and collect and destroy the grubs found therein, or treat such yard, field pasture, garden, nursery, orchard or plantations by any chemicals, such as paradichlorobenzene, carbenzene, carbon bisulfide, calcium cyanide, etc. if found advisable, or by any other methods that may be recommended by the Director of Plant Industry or his duly authorized inspectors or agents in order to effect the destruction of the grubs.

5. Every person who owns or has under his charge a sugar cane field or plantation, yard, garden, nursery or orchard in a municipality or declared infested with these plant pests, shall cooperate with and aid the plant inspectors and other officials of the Bureau of Plant Industry in their work of controlling the

toy-beetles or their grubs, or any of the allied species thereof herein named or their grubs, and comply with all the instructions, orders, or requirements relative to the destruction and control of these plant pests.

6. Whenever the toy-beetles or their grubs, or any of the allied species thereof herein named or their grubs, exists in any sugar cane field or plantations, fallowed land, yard, garden, nursery or orchard in a municipality, whether officially declared infested or not, it shall be the duty of the owner or person in charge of such affected premises to report to the Municipal President, who shall immediately make, or cause to be made by a competent person designated by him, the necessary investigation and at the same time advise the nearest plant inspector of the Bureau of Plant Industry of such fact. If after investigation, the Municipal President or plant inspector finds that the report is true, the Director of Plant Industry shall be notified at once and at the same time proper steps shall be taken to prevent the spread of the infestation.

7. In order to carry out the purpose of this Administrative Order, the Secretary of Agriculture and Natural Resources and the Director of Plant Industry or their duly authorized representatives, the president of the municipality concerned or his duly authorized representatives, the provincial governor or his duly authorized representatives, and all other officials connected with or taking part in the campaign of controlling these plant pests, shall at all times have access to or upon any land, yard, fallowed land, garden, nursery, orchard, sugar cane field or plantation where the toy beetles or their grubs, or any of the allied species thereof herein named or their grubs in alarming numbers, are known or suspected to exist.

8. Whenever a municipality or province has been officially declared infested with these plant pests in accordance with paragraphs 2 and 3 of this Order, and in order to promptly effect the control of these plant pests, the Chief of Constabulary or his subordinates and the provincial and municipal officials, shall upon request made pursuant to Section 12 of Act No. 3027, assist, and cooperate with the Director of Plant Industry or his duly authorized representatives in the strict enforcement of all administrative orders or instructions of the Director of Plant Industry relative to these plant pests.

9. The word "person" as used in this Order shall be construed as either singular or plural as the case demands and shall apply to and include corporations, firms, associations, companies, societies and other legal entities.

10. Any person who 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 Municipal President or his duly authorized representatives, or any other official or employee connected with or taking part in the campaign of controlling these plant pests, in the execution of any of the provisions 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 not exceeding two hundred hundred pesos, or imprisonment not exceeding thirty days, or both in the discretion of the court.

11. This Administrative Order shall take effect on January 1, 1931.

A true copy:
SRM/nes/6/24/76