

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

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER)

June 13, 1969

No. 2  
Series of 1969 (Internal)

SUBJECT: Declaring the "Leaf Mottling Virus" diseases a dangerous disease of citrus: Providing its control and placing under quarantine all the provinces where the disease already exists.

WHEREAS, it has been established that there exists in the Provinces of Batangas, Laguna, Quezon, Rizal, Cavite, Greater Manila, Tarlac, Bulacan, Bataan, Zambales, Pampanga, Nueva Ecija, Pangasinan and Nueva Vizcaya; a serious virus disease of citrus which is known as the "Leaf mottling virus disease" and is presently causing serious destructions to citrus plants in these said provinces;

WHEREAS, the citrus plant is one of the most important permanent commercial crop that is being grown by an increasing number of fruit growers as well as in nearly all small homelots and farmlands throughout the country and consequently gaining importance as a secondary and/or primary source of income of our people;

WHEREAS, if no adequate measures are to be adopted immediately to check the spread and effect the control of this dangerous disease, the citrus industry of this country will be under great peril as the constant threat and destructions of this said virus disease will continue to spread with increasing severity.

NOW THEREFORE, under the authority conferred upon me by Section 1757 of Act 2711, known as the Revised Administrative Code, and under Section 10 of Act 3027 entitled "An Act to Protect the Agricultural Industries of the Philippine Islands from Injurious Plant Pests and Diseases, etc", the "Leaf Mottling virus disease" of citrus is hereby declared a dangerous disease of citrus in the Philippines; and, in order to prevent the further spread of the disease to other parts of the country, the following regulations are hereby promulgated:

SECTION 1. For the purpose of this Administrative Order, the Provinces of Batangas, Laguna, Quezon, Rizal, Cavite, Greater Manila, Tarlac, Bulacan, Bataan, Zambales, Pampanga, Nueva Ecija, Pangasinan and Nueva Vizcaya, are hereby formally declared infested by said "mottling disease".

SECTION 2. The movement, transfer, or carrying of any citrus living plants like growing seedlings, growing marcotted, budded,

in orchard, layered and rooted plants as well as any part of the plants capable of asexual propagation like budsticks, roots, etc. to any part of the Philippines outside the Provinces mentioned under Section 1 of this Administrative Order is prohibited: Provided, that, the movement, transfer, or carrying of any of those citrus living plants may be permitted only when such plant materials are to be used for experimental purposes by any of the Experiment Stations of the Bureau of Plant Industry with the approval of the Director of Plant Industry.

**SECTION 3.** Wherever the "Leaf mottling virus disease" is known to exist in any locality and/or any province in the Philippines aside from the provinces mentioned in this Order, the Director of Plant Industry shall, upon thorough investigation, automatically declare, such locality and/or province under quarantine and immediately inform in writing the Municipal Mayor and/or Provincial Governor concerned. And once a locality and/or Province is declared infested by the "Leaf mottling virus disease", it shall be the duty of the person who owns or has under his charge citrus trees within the infected areas to do the following:

a. Treat the apparently healthy trees without any visual symptoms of the disease exposed to infection or the entire plantation with suitable insecticide to kill the insect vector. (*Diaphorina citri*); dispose of diseased looking and dying trees that may serve as sources of infection in the manner and way which may be prescribed by the Director of Plant Industry or his duly authorized representative and/or authorities of the Bureau of Plant Industry.

b) He shall cooperate with and help the field personnel and all other officials of the Bureau of Plant Industry in their work of controlling the "Leaf mottling virus disease" of citrus and comply with all the instructions, orders or requirements regarding the control and destruction of this disease.

**SECTION 4.** To carry on further the provisions of this Administrative Order, the Director of Plant Industry or his duly authorized representatives, the Provincial Governor and/or City/Municipal Mayor or his authorized representative shall at all times have a free access to or upon any premises, land, lot, backyard or plantation of citrus plants where the "leaf mottling virus disease" is known to exist and/or suspected to have such disease.

**SECTION 5.** All transportation companies, land, air and water; government and private, shall cooperate with the Director of Plant Industry and/or his representatives, the plant Quarantine officers, field pest and disease control personnel of the Bureau of Plant Industry, and with all other government agencies that may hereinafter be authorized to help in the strict enforcement of the provisions of this Administrative Order by not accepting or allowing the shipments of any citrus living plants from the quarantined area or localities or provinces infested with the "leaf mottling virus disease" as mentioned in this Order destined to any place outside those specified.

prohibited areas unless the shipper or owner of the shipment could present and have such shipment be covered by a certificate of inspection and verification issued by either the Bureau of Plant Industry Provincial Officer, the BPI Superintendent of Experiment Stations and/or Plant Quarantine Officer whose station or headquarter is found nearest to the place from where such citrus plant shipments are obtained.

There is no inspection and verification fees that will be charged in the issuance of such certificates.

SECTION 6. Any person who violates or contravenes any of the provisions of this Administrative Order or who obstructs, impedes or assists in obstructing or impeding the Director of Plant Industry, or his duly authorized representatives, the Provincial Governor and/or City/Municipal Mayors or any of their duly authorized representatives in the execution and/or enforcing the provisions of this Order shall be liable to prosecution and upon conviction shall suffer the penalty of One Thousand Pesos (P1,000.00) or imprisonment of not more than six (6) months, or both, in the discretion of the Court, in accordance with Section 13, of Act 3027.