

Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources  
BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY  
Manila

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 15  
Series of 1954 (Revised)

September 11, 1954

SUBJECT: An Order Prohibiting the Culture and Propagation of the Rice Varieties Buenketan Strain 19-A-3, Maraqakat, Dalongdong, Kinandang Puti, Kho Luang Bin Thong or Celery Stick, Buluhan, Magsanaya, Sipot, Inintiw, Matungsay Bangphra, Seraup Kechil 36, Pinursigui, Elon-elon, Kiring-Kiring, Mestiza, Thailand, Kalibo, Milagrosa, Binagong tao, Maguinsalay and Macan-bino which are Susceptible to the Attack of a Deadly Rice Disease, Neck-rot, and Other Minor Diseases in Certain Places Where Conditions are Favorable for Its Development; Providing Measures for Its Control; and Placing under Quarantine the Places where said Disease Already Exists.

WHEREAS, the rice varieties Buenketan Strain 91-A-3, Maragaket, Dalongdong, Kinandang Puti, Kho Luang Bin Thong or Celery Stick, Puluhan, Magsanaya, Sipot, Inintiw, Matungsay, Bangphra, Seraup Kechil 36, Pinursigui, Elon-elon, Kiring-Kiring, Mestiza, Thailand, Kalibo, Milagrosa, Binagong tao, Maguinsalay and Macan-bino are definitely known to be affected by a serious disease commonly known as the neck-rot caused by the fungus, Piricularia oryzae, in certain parts of the Philippines;

WHEREAS, this rice disease is not yet known to be widespread in the Philippines, its occurrence being still localized; and

WHEREAS, adequate measures must be immediately adopted to check the spread and effect the control of this dangerous rice disease;

NOW, THEREFORE, under authority conferred upon me by Section 1757 of Act No. 2711, known as the Revised Administrative Code, and under Section 10 of Act No. 3027, entitled "An Act to Protect the Agricultural Industries of the Philippine Islands from Injurious Plant Pest and Diseases, etc.,," Plant Industry Administrative Order No. 15, Series of 1949, declaring the neck-rot disease of rice caused by the fungus, Piricularia oryzae, a contagious and dangerous disease of rice, is hereby revised and promulgated to govern the removal or treatment of the affected rice plants and thus check the spread and effect the control of the disease:

SECTION 1. For the purpose of this Administrative Order, the East Visayan Irrigation District, comprising among others, the municipalities of Palo, Dagami, Pastrana, Dulag and Tolosa, Leyte;

the Provincial Nursery and its environs at Pantar, Lanao; the Sabani Estate in Laur, Talavera, Munoz, Sto. Domingo, Nueva Ecija; Calapan, Mindoro; Calabanga, Nabua, Libmanan, Bula, Naga City, Cabusao, Buhi, Pili, Siruma, Ocampo, Sipocot, Iriga, Tigaon, Minalaba, Pamplona, Bato, Tinambac, Canaman, Camarines Sur; in Cabadbaran, Butuan City, Agusan; Molo and Palanas, Masbate, Arayat, Pampanga, Abra, Davao and Rizal or any other place where the neckrot disease of rice has been found and determined to exist, shall be considered as formally declared areas infected with the disease.

SEC. 2. The movement, transfer or carrying from provinces or municipalities or cities declared area or areas infected, of the rice Buenketan Strain 91-A-3, Maragaket, Dalongdong, Kinandang Puti, Kho Luang Bin Thong or Celery Stick, Buluhan, Magsanaya, Sipot, Inintiw, Matungsay, Bangphra, Seraup-Kechil 36, Pinursigui, Elon-elon, Kiring-kiring, Mestiza, Thailand, Kalibo, Milagrosa, Binagong tao, Maguinsalay and Macan-bino, etc. palay seeds, or of any other parts of the plant of said varieties capable of transmitting the disease to another province, municipality or city, is hereby prohibited except when the transfer is made by order of the Director of Plant Industry or by his duly authorized representatives for study or for other scientific purposes or by private persons for similar purpose but under permit previously issued by the said Bureau.

SEC. 3. Whenever the neck-rot disease of rice is found or determined to exist in any locality in the Philippines, aside from the provinces referred to in this Order, the Director of Plant Industry shall send a written notification to the Governor of the province concerned, either directly or through one of his authorized representatives, containing, among other things, the names of the municipalities or cities or barrios infected by the disease, and the names of the owners or tenants or persons in charge of the affected fields.

SEC. 4. Upon being notified in accordance with the preceding paragraph, the Provincial Governor shall immediately inform, in writing, each Municipal or City Mayor concerned of the contents of the notification of the Director of Plant Industry. The Municipal Mayor or City Mayor shall forthwith issue a general written notification to the inhabitants of the municipality or city concerned to the effect that the neck-rot disease exists in the municipality or city and at the same time declare the municipality or city as infected with this rice disease. Copies of the general notification in English and/or local dialects shall forthwith be posted in six conspicuous places in the municipality or city and a certified copy of the same sent to the Director of Plant Industry. Notice to this effect shall also be broadcast in local dialects by means of public criers or "Bandilllos".

SEC. 5. Once a municipality or city or portion thereof has been declared infected area with this plant disease, it shall be the duty of the person who owns or has under his charge ricefields within the infected areas:

(1) To destroy all affected plants and parts thereof including weed hosts, and, if necessary, the whole fields affected by the disease in accordance with the instructions given by the Director of Plant Industry, or any of his duly authorized representatives.

(2) To burn all infected stubbles and plant trashes, including the rice hay and palay hull after harvesting, threshing and milling, to remove all sources of infection and, if necessary, fallow the field or to plant crops other than rice or cereal not attacked by said disease.

(3) To cooperate with and help the Plant Inspectors and other officials of the Bureau of Plant Industry in their work of controlling the disease and to comply with all the instructions, orders or requirements relative to the destruction or control of the disease.

(4) To disinfect the seeds before planting according to instructions of the Director of the Bureau of Plant Industry or his duly authorized representatives.

SEC. 6. To prevent the spread of neck-rot disease of rice, the planting of rice varieties Buenketan Strain 91-A-3, Maragaket, Dalong-dong, Kinandang Puti, Kho Luang Bin Thong or Celery Stick, Buluhan, Magsanaya, Sipot, Inintiw, Matungsay, Bangphira, Seraup Kechil 36, Pinursigui, Elon-elon, Kiring-kiring, Mestiza, Thailand, Kalibo, Milagrosa, Binagong tao, Maguinsalay and Macan-bino, etc. which are definitely known to be attacked by this disease especially in regions or places where high humidity or prevalence of intermittent periods of wetness may prevail, shall be prohibited.

SEC. 7. 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, Provincial Governor of the province, the Mayor of the municipality or city where such plant disease are known to exist shall at all times have access to, and may enter into, any rice plantation where the neck-rot disease of rice is known or suspected to exist.

SEC. 8. 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, taking away or removing in exceptional cases, in such manner or by such conditions as may be prescribed by them, such infected rice plants from any or all the provinces mentioned above, or from those which may thereafter be declared as infected areas.

SEC. 9. Whenever a municipality or city or province has been officially declared infected with this rice disease in accordance with paragraphs 1 and 3 of this Order, and in order to promptly effect the control and prevent the spread of this plant disease, the Chief of Constabulary, the Provincial and Municipal or City officials concerned

are hereby requested to assist and cooperate, pursuant to Section 12 of Act No. 3027, with the Director of Plant Industry or his duly authorized representative in the strict enforcement of all Administrative Orders or instructions of the Director of Plant Industry relative to the control of this malady.

SEC. 10. Failure of the owner or caretaker of the infected land to completely destroy all affected plants or to comply with the instructions relative to the control of the disease within a period fourteen days from the date of receipt of written notification, shall be considered *prima facie* evidence of an endeavor to evade the duty imposed by virtue of this Order and shall render the planter or person in charge of the rice plantations, liable to the full penalties of the law as herein provided.

SEC. 11. 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 or the Municipal or City Mayor or his duly authorized representatives 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 13 of Act No. 3027, which is a fine of not exceeding one thousand pesos (P1,000.00) or imprisonment not exceeding six months, or both, in the discretion of the court.

SEC. 12. The provisions of this Administrative Order shall take effect upon approval of the Honorable, the Secretary of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

SEC. 13. Repealing Provision. - All previous orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Order, are hereby repealed.