



Republic of the Philippines  
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
*Office of the Secretary*  
Elliptical Road, Diliman, Quezon City, 1100 Philippines  
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11 November 2014

**DA ADMINISTRATIVE CIRCULAR**

No. 06

Series of 2014

**SUBJECT:       DECLARING THE WHOLE PHILIPPINES AS AREA FREE FROM MANGO SEED WEEVIL (MSW) *Sternochetus mangiferae* Fabr. and EXCEPT FOR PALAWAN, AREA FREE FROM MANGO PULP WEEVIL (MPW) *Sternochetus frigidus* Fabr. and PROHIBITING IMPORTATION FROM COUNTRIES WHERE THE PESTS EXIST**

**WHEREAS**, the MPW *S. frigidus* and MSW *S. mangiferae* are injurious pests of mango fruits and detrimental to the export of the commodity;

**WHEREAS**, based on the detection surveys conducted in Luzon from September, 2006 to June, 2007, in the Visayas from October, 2007 to July, 2008 and in Mindanao from November, 2008 to August, 2009 under the project component "*National Survey of the Mango Seed Weevil and Mango Pulp Weevil in the Philippines*" (Abstract listed as "Appendix A" made as an integral part of this Circular) of the BPI-USDA Project "*Enhancing the Export Competitiveness of the Philippine Super Mango*" Program, it was found out that Philippines is free from MPW, except for the Island of Palawan, and that the whole Philippines is absolutely free from MSW;

**WHEREAS**, the absence of both pests (except MPW in Palawan) can result to the expansion of mango export markets to countries which require area freedom from these weevils;

**WHEREAS**, the improvement of the socio-economic status of mango stakeholders can be achieved through income derived from the domestic and export sales of quality mango fruits;

**WHEREAS**, Palawan Islands are still under quarantine and the quarantine measures around the island should be strengthened (BPI Special Quarantine Administrative Order No. 20, s. of 1987);

**WHEREAS**, MPW is present in Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore, Thailand and Papua New Guinea;

**WHEREAS,** MSW is present in Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Oman, Sri Lanka, Thailand, United Arab Emirates, Vietnam, Yemen, Africa, British Indian Ocean Territory, Central African Republic, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, Kenya, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Nigeria, Réunion, Seychelles, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, Barbados, British Virgin Islands, Dominica, Grenada, Guadeloupe, Martinique, Montserrat, Puerto Rico, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, United States Virgin Islands, North America (restricted distribution), Hawaii, French Guiana, Australia (restricted distribution) Australian Northern Territory, New South Wales, Queensland, Fiji, French Polynesia, Guam, New Caledonia, Northern Mariana Islands, Tonga; and,

**WHEREAS,** the introduction of these pests from these countries into the Philippines will be injurious and a threat to the mango industry.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, PROCESO J. ALCALA,** Secretary of Agriculture, pursuant to the provisions of Executive Order No. 292, PD No. 1433 also known as the Plant Quarantine Decree of 1978, as amended, other pertinent laws, rules and regulations and relevant international agreements to which the Philippines is a signatory, this Circular is hereby promulgated as follows:

**SECTION 1.** The whole Philippines is hereby officially declared as area free from and clear of MSW *S. mangiferae*.

**SEC. 2.** The whole Philippines, except for Palawan Islands, is declared free from the MPW *S. frigidus*, and as such, the Bureau of Plant Industry (BPI) is directed to strengthen and strictly implement phytosanitary measures in areas where MPW is present.

**SEC. 3.** The movement, transfer and carrying of mango planting materials, fruits or parts thereof from Palawan is hereby prohibited, except for limited quantities and for experimental purposes only, subject to the condition that a permit for such purpose is first secured from the BPI Director or his/her duly authorized representative.

**SEC. 4.** The importation/entry of mango fruits/ mango plants and parts thereof / planting materials from areas, places or countries where MPW and MSW exist is likewise prohibited.

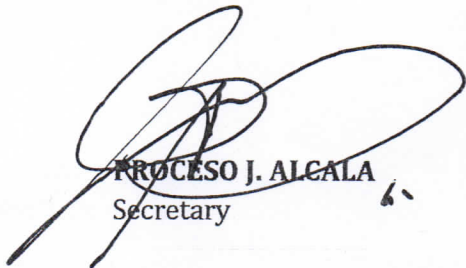
**SEC. 5.** All transportation companies, either land, water or air shall cooperate with the BPI Director or his duly authorized representatives in the strict enforcement of the provisions of this Circular by not allowing or accepting shipments of mango planting materials, fruits or parts thereof which are capable of spreading MPW from Palawan and MSW to other parts of the country where the pests are not yet known to exist.

**SEC. 6.** In order to carry out effective plant quarantine measures, the Secretary of Agriculture, in accordance with Section 40 of Executive Order No. 292 Book IV, Title IV, Chapter 5, may request national, provincial, municipal and barangay officials and members of the Armed Forces in Palawan to assist in the implementation/enforcement of such measures to maintain the area freedom status of the whole Philippines from both MPW and MSW.

**SEC. 7.** Any person who violates the provisions in this Circular or forges counterfeits, alters, defaces and destroys any documents issued by virtue hereof shall suffer the penalties provided for under Section 23 of PD 1433 consisting, *inter alia*, of a fine of not more than PhP 20,000.00 or imprisonment from *prision correccional* to *prision mayor*, or both, at the discretion of the Court.

**SEC. 8.** BPI Special Quarantine AO NO. 20, s. of 1987 and other orders or circulars inconsistent with the provisions here are hereby modified or repealed accordingly.

**SEC. 9.** This Circular shall take effect fifteen (15) days after the publication as required by the law.



**PROCESO J. ALCALA**  
Secretary

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
  
in replying pls cite this code :  
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# ANNEX A

## National Survey of the Mango Seed Weevil and Mango Pulp Weevil in the Philippines

**Dr. Hernani G. Golez<sup>1</sup> (2006-2009), George Paul S. Karganilla<sup>2</sup>,  
Nestor E. Rivera<sup>2</sup>, Ardy L. Cucio<sup>3</sup>, Luis M. Montevirgen<sup>3</sup>  
and Merle Palacpac<sup>4</sup> (2009 to present)**

### ABSTRACT

A detection survey under the “Enhancing the Export Competitiveness of the Philippine Super Mango” Program funded by USDA Food for Progress was undertaken in 7 regions of Luzon, 3 regions in Visayas and 6 regions in Mindanao to determine the presence/absence of the Mango Pulp Weevil (MPW), *Sternochetus frigidus* and Mango Seed Weevil (MSW), *Sternochetus mangiferae*. MPW and MSW are mango pests of quarantine significance. Strong scientific evidence that will prove absence of these pests in the Philippines (except for Palawan) will lead to area freedom certification which will allow sourcing of mangoes for export from different areas of the country. This will also allow access to potential markets which have restrictions on mango importation from countries where these weevils are present.

The project covered a 10-month survey which included the “off” and “on” season production of mangoes from September 2006 to June 2007 (Luzon, excluding southern Palawan), October 2007 to June 2008 (Visayas) and November 2008 to August 2009 (Mindanao). The Bureau of Plant Industry was the lead-implementing agency.

About 234,306 bearing mango trees were examined by canopy beating and bark examination from 79 provinces and their fruits (2,688,975) were dissected for the presence of the weevils. Results of the survey showed not a single specimen (egg, larva, pupa, adult) of MPW and MSW was recovered which indicated that both MPW and MSW are absent in the Philippines.

This survey provided strong scientific evidence for the non-existence of mango pulp weevil (except in southern Palawan) and mango seed weevil in the country thus, this information will support the claim for area freedom from these weevils.

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1 Program Manager, BPI-USDA “Enhancing the Export Competitiveness of the Philippine Super Mango.” (Deceased, 2009)

2 Chief, Insect Pest Management Section, and Chief, Weed Management Section respectively. Crop Protection Division, Bureau of Plant Industry & Technical Monitoring Staff, BPI-USDA “Enhancing the Export Competitiveness of Philippine Super Mango”

3 Agriculturist II, Research Division and Senior Agriculturist, PQS-BPI Manila respectively, Bureau of Plant Industry & Technical Monitoring Staff, BPI-USDA “Enhancing Export Competitiveness of Philippine Super Mango”

<sup>4</sup>OIC Program Management Office, BPI-USDA “Enhancing the Export Competitiveness of the Philippine Super Mango”