

[PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 936, May 19, 1976]

ESTABLISHING THE NATIONAL CROP PROTECTION CENTER WITHIN THE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES AT LOS BAÑOS, AND SEVEN REGIONAL CROP PROTECTION CENTERS WITHIN THE BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY.

WHEREAS, the government is pursuing an intensified food production program to ensure an adequate food supply and higher standards of living for our people and to sustain the socio-economic growth of the country;

WHEREAS, crop protection is vital to the success of the government's intensified food production programs;

WHEREAS, food and commercial crop losses due to pests amount to hundreds of millions of pesos annually;

WHEREAS, the country has many tropical crops with potential for expanded production and export if proper crop protection is practiced to meet the stringent quarantine and pesticide residue requirements of importing countries;

WHEREAS, the country's pest control research efforts are largely uncoordinated and not made readily available to our farmers;

WHEREAS, there is no systematic effort exerted toward meeting the total pest control needs of the country, and there is therefore need to institutionalize, the research and field extension forces in pest control work into an integrated, nationwide crop protection network;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, FERDINAND E. MARCOS, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Constitution, do hereby decree and order the following:

SECTION 1. There is hereby established a National Crop Protection Center, hereinafter referred to as the Center, in the College of Agriculture, University of the Philippines at Los Baños, with the following specific functions:

- a. To undertake problem analyses, development research and planning required to develop crop protection systems against pest of major economic crops.
- b. To develop and implement manpower training programs designed to upgrade the pool of manpower required to meet the complex pest control needs of the country.
- c. To undertake information exchange and extension to provide farmers and the public with coordinated information about the varied facets of pest control and to emphasize the urgent need for safe and effective pest control practices.
- d. To establish adequate linkage between research and operational phase at the farm level in order to ensure that the changing research needs of operational activities are met and that operational activities are based on the most recent and applicable research findings.
- e. To provide scientific advice to government planners for the formulation of policies and regulatory programs necessary for dealing with the complex pest control technologies essential for the protection of crops.