

Provided that if it is proved to the satisfaction of the High Commissioner that the destruction of any plants or vegetable products was rendered advisable or necessary by the wilful contravention by the owner of such plants or products of the provisions of this Law, he may forbid the payment of such compensation.

7. For the purpose of preventing the introduction into this Island or the spreading therein of any plant disease, and for the purpose of making better provision for preventing the importation of goods deemed likely to convey the germs of any plant disease, and coming directly or originally from countries or places believed to be infected with any plant disease, the High Commissioner may from time to time order that the importation of any goods or articles be prohibited, or be permitted only on such conditions as shall be determined by any such order; and he may from time to time vary or rescind any such order.

Power of High Commissioner to prohibit importation of articles.

8. Any person who shall import or bring into this Island any goods or articles or shall do any act or thing in contravention of any order made under the last preceding section shall be liable to a fine not exceeding five pounds, and all such goods or articles shall be forfeited together with the packages containing the same and everything packed therewith.

Penalties for contravention of order under preceding section.

9. Any contravention of any order made under section 3, or any obstruction to any officer or person appointed to execute any of the provisions of this Law, may be punished by fine, not exceeding, for the first offence, one pound, and for any subsequent offence, five pounds.

Penalties for contravention of orders and obstruction of officers,

10. The High Commissioner may order that the whole or any portion of any fine inflicted under this Law be paid to the person by whose means the conviction has been obtained.

Reward to informer:

11. This Law may be cited as the Diseases of Plants Prevention Law, 1893.

Short title.

## 16 OF 1897.

### TO PREVENT THE SPREADING OF THE WHEAT PEST KNOWN AS SIRIVIDHI.

WALTER J. SENDALL.]

[June 9, 1897.]

1. In this Law the term " Winter Cereals " means and includes wheat, barley, oats and rye.

Definition.

Application  
of the law.

2. The High Commissioner, upon the petition of the inhabitants of any village praying that the provisions of this Law may be applied to their village, and upon the certificate of the Mukhtar that the persons signing the petition form a majority of the owners and occupiers of the cultivated arable land in the village, may order that the provisions of this Law shall be applied to the village; and where the provisions of this Law have been applied to any village the High Commissioner, with the advice of the Agricultural Board, may declare any village or area adjacent thereto to be infected with the disease of Sirividhi, and thereupon the provisions of this Law shall apply to that village or area.

Certificate  
of Mukhtar.

3. Every certificate given by the Mukhtar under the last preceding section shall:—

- (1.) State the number of owners and occupiers of cultivated arable land in the village;
- (2.) Name four resident cultivators who shall form a committee to carry out the provisions of this Law.

Committee  
to divide  
lands into  
two sections.

4. As soon as may be practicable after the publication of an order under section 2, the Committee, under the supervision of the Commissioner, shall divide all the arable land in the village as nearly as may be into two equal sections and shall decide in which of the sections the planting of winter cereals shall first be prohibited.

The Committee shall prepare and transmit to the Commissioner a statement in writing showing the lands assigned to each section and specifying the section in which the planting of winter cereals shall first be prohibited, which section is referred to in this Law as “the first section.”

Three copies of the statement shall be posted in conspicuous places in the village.

Planting of  
winter  
cereals  
prohibited.

5. During a period of three years from the 1st of September next following the publication of the notice required by the last preceding section, it shall be unlawful to plant any winter cereals in the lands assigned to the first section; and after the expiration of the above-mentioned period and during a further period of three years, the prohibition to grow winter cereals shall cease to be in force as regards the first section, but shall be in force as regards the other section; and so that the prohibition shall apply in turn to the two sections for alternate periods of three years.

Penalty on  
planting in  
contraven-  
tion of Law.

6. Whoever plants winter cereals in contravention of this Law shall be liable to a fine not exceeding five pounds; and the Court may

