

CHAPTER 25. No. 3.

BEEKEEPING AND BEE PRODUCTS.

Ordinance
No. 28—1935.

"7-1949"

AN ORDINANCE TO REGULATE AND CONTROL BEEKEEPING, THE IMPORTATION OR EXPORTATION OF BEES, BEE PRODUCTS AND BEE SUPPLIES, AND TO PREVENT THE INTRODUCTION AND SPREAD OF BEE DISEASES.

Commencement.

[14th November, 1938.]

Short title.

1. This Ordinance may be cited as the Beekeeping and Bee Products Ordinance.

Interpretation.

2. In this Ordinance—

“apiary” means a colony or a collection of two or more colonies of bees in hives;

“bee” or “honey bee” means the honey producing bee imported from Europe and the continent of America (known scientifically as *Apis mellifica*) and its varieties and any other honey producing bee kept for the extraction of honey;

“bee products” include honey, wax and any other product of beekeeping, and any preparation made from a combination of honey or wax or both or any other substance derived from honey bees;

“bee supplies” include bees honey comb, foundation, hives, frames and anything needed or used in beekeeping and in the production and preparation of honey, bees-wax and any other product or thing necessary for beekeeping;

“colony” means a hive containing bees or a queen bee with the necessary number of drones and worker bees;

“disease” includes the diseases of bees known as “Foul Brood” and “Isle of Wight disease of bees” and any other disease of bees which the Governor by proclamation may declare to be a disease of bees for the purposes of this Ordinance;

“hive” means the receptacle in which bees are kept;

“honey” means the sweet viscous fluid produced and stored by honey bees;

“pest” includes any bee moth, ant, bird, or other living creature which is or may become injurious to the honey bee and declared by the Governor by proclamation to be a pest.

3. The Governor may by proclamation include under the description of “disease” for the purposes of this Ordinance any other disease of bees, and declare what living creatures shall be considered “pests” under this Ordinance.

Power to apply Ordinance to other diseases of bees, and to declare pests.

4. The Governor may appoint a fit and proper person to be Inspector of Apiaries in this Colony (hereinafter referred to as the Inspector). ~~Such Inspector shall be under the control of the committee of management of the Agricultural Society of Trinidad and Tobago.~~

Appointment of Inspector of Apiaries.

Amended by order 7/1949 (2)

5. (1) It shall be lawful for the Inspector, with such assistance as may be necessary, to enter from time to time on any land whether open or enclosed, including any plantation, nursery, orchard, garden, pleasure ground, yard, house, building or other place where bees are kept, between the hours of eight o'clock in the morning and six o'clock in the evening of any day for the purpose of inspecting the hives, making enquiries as to disease and discharging such duties as may be imposed upon him by this Ordinance or any regulations made thereunder.

Power of entry of Inspector.

(2) Every person who—

(a) obstructs or resists the Inspector in the performance of his duties, or

(b) wilfully refuses to furnish any information which such person may be required to furnish by the regulations,

shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine of ten dollars.

Decision of
Inspector as
to disease to
be final.

6. For the purposes of this Ordinance the decision of the Inspector as to the presence of any disease shall be final.

Apiaries to be
registered.

7. Every owner or person having the charge or management of any apiary shall cause such apiary to be registered with the Inspector. Any person who shall make default in registering such apiary shall be guilty of an offence under this Ordinance.

Notification
of disease.

8. (1) Every owner or person having the charge or management of an apiary who knows or suspects the existence of any disease in such apiary shall as soon as practicable give notice in writing to the Inspector of the fact of the apiary being so infected or suspected and shall in such notice give all information in his power as to the extent and nature of such disease. The said notice shall be served personally on the Inspector or shall be addressed to him by registered post.

(2) Every person who contravenes the provisions of this section shall be guilty of an offence against this Ordinance.

(3) Where the owner or person having the charge or management of an apiary is charged with an offence under this Ordinance he shall be presumed to have known of the existence of the disease, unless and until he shows to the satisfaction of the court that he had no knowledge thereof, and could not with reasonable diligence have obtained that knowledge.

Regulations.

9. (1) The Governor in Council may make regulations for—

(a) preventing the introduction and spread of diseases and pests among bees in the Colony, including the measures to be taken for the treatment of any disease by the owner or person having the charge or management of any apiary and the destruction of any pest or hive or apiary;

(b) restricting and regulating the importation or exportation of bees, bee products and bee supplies into or out of the Colony;

(c) fixing a standard of honey to be exported from the Colony and grading Trinidad honey, bees-wax and bee products;

(d) prohibiting the adulteration of honey, bees-wax and other bee products;

(e) determining the duties of the Inspector; and
(f) generally regulating, controlling, protecting and developing the beekeeping industry of the Colony.

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(2) Regulations made under this section shall have no force or effect until they have been approved by the Legislative Council.

10. Any person who contravenes any of the provisions of this Ordinance or any regulations made thereunder for which no specific penalty is provided shall be liable, on summary conviction, to a fine of forty-eight dollars.

General penalty.