



**Lao People's Democratic Republic
Peace Independence Democracy Unity Prosperity**

Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry

No. 1501/MAF
Vientiane, dated 23 March, 2011

**Ministerial Ordinance on
Tightly Monitoring and Preventing Cassava Mealy bug's Outbreak**

- To:** - Director General of Departments, Agencies and Institutions of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry
- Directors of Provincial and Vientiane Capital City Agricultural and Forestry offices;
 - Heads of Plant Protection Border check points
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- *Pursuant to the Plant Protection Law Not 06/NA Dated 9 December, 2008;*
 - *Pursuant to the Decree of Prime Minister No 1428/NA on the Role and Function of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry;*
 - *Pursuant to the report of the Department of Agriculture No 0661/DOA Dated 31 May 2011.*

Cassava cultivation is currently in the priority area of promotion in the Lao People's Democratic Republic (PDR) which is enhancing both quantity and quality of production throughout the country to meet the demand of National food security program, to build income of household in rural area and to supply raw material to agricultural processing factory. However, In early raining season of this year, there is an serous incidence report of outbreak of cassava mealy bug, which threatens the cassava by sucking plant nutrition translocation in stem as food source consequently the host plant will become weak and finally die, in many plantation areas of neighboring countries and number of infested areas are likely to be increased more than 1,000 hectares.

In the growing season of this year, the change of climate in Lao PDR may create favorable and suitable for the development and reproduction of cassava mealy bug's population suddenly reaching maximum amount and rapidly spreading out to other areas. Besides that, the exchange and import of improved variety of cassava (good variety) from neighboring country by deference practices in large quantity may create the high risk on spreading mealy bug. Therefore, in order to prevent and response to this immerging problem.

Minister of Agriculture and Forestry issues ordinance as follows:

1. Department of Agriculture, Provincial and Capital City Agriculture and Forestry Offices shall collaborate with the Local Administrative Authority in both provincial and district level, business sectors, producers and growers of cassava in conducting inspection of their own cassava farm as well as planning and defining appropriate measures to officially monitor and control the outbreak of cassava mealy bug.
2. Provincial and Capital City Agriculture and Forestry Offices (PAFOs) shall direct the inspection of import and export plant, plant part particularly cassava planting material and other hosts plant of

cassava mealy bug to be more strictly and comply with principle, Plant Protection Law and Agriculture Law;

3. When any incidence if the symptom and the outbreak of cassava mealy bug is found in farm, the owner must urgently contact with Local Administrative Authority in that area to apply the controlling measure and procedure as defined in Article 13 of Plant Protection Law;
4. Departments, agencies and institutions of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry shall elaborate technical document and guideline related to any aspects of mealy bug in cassava production's environment. This will be used as a tool for agriculture offices in the local area to officially disseminate specific and general information in early time of pest incidence.
1. 5. All sectors as mentioned above shall strictly evaluate among them and regularly report to the Permanent Secretary office of the Minister of Agriculture and Forestry regarding to the impact of pest incidence in cassava production, strengthen point and constrain in implementing this Ordinance.

Director General of Departments, Agencies and institutions, Provincial and Capital City Agriculture and Forestry offices shall strictly work out upon receiving this Ordinance.

**Minister of Agriculture and Forestry
Vilayvanh Phomkhe**

CC:

- Central Party office
- Prime minister office
- Permanent secretary office of Prime minister office
- Ministries, equivalence organizations
- Provincial and Capital city Administrative Authority
- International entry-exit border check point
- Department of Archives
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