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## The Gazette of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

EXTRAORDINARY

අංක 1073/8 — 1999 මාර්තු 30 වැනි අඟහරුවාදා — 1999.03.30

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### PART I : SECTION (I) — GENERAL

#### Government Notifications

##### REGULATIONS FOR THE PREVENTION OF THE SPREAD OF COCONUT MITE (ACERIA GUERRERONIS) OUTSIDE THE DISTRICT OF PUTTALAM, UNDER THE PLANT PROTECTION ORDINANCE No. 10 OF 1924

I, Dissanayake Mudiyanse Jayaratne, Minister of Agriculture and Lands, by virtue of powers vested on me by Section 9 of the Plant Protection Ordinance No. 10 of 1924 (Legislative Enactment of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, 1980 Revision, Volume XI Chapter 276), as last amended by Act, No. 20 of 1986 do hereby effect the following regulations under the said Ordinance for the eradication of the outbreak of mite infestation of coconut cultivation in Sri Lanka Identified as "ACERIA GUERRERONIS".

1. These regulations are declared as "Regulation No. 1 of 1999 for the Eradication of an outbreak of mite (Aceria guerreronis) in coconut" under the Plant Protection Ordinance and shall be effective from the date of gazetting until further notice.

2. The mite infestation caused by the mite identified as (Aceria guerreronis) which colonizes and harbours beneath the perinath of nuts shall be henceforth considered as a declared pest under the Plant Protection Ordinance. This pest is known to cause serious damage to coconuts at all stages of development.

3. The aforesaid mite infestation is reported to have spread in the Divisional Secretariat areas of Kalpitiya, Vanathavillu, Madurankuliya, Mangala Eliya and Kottanthiv in the Puttalam District. Hence, coconut cultivation lands, estates or gardens situated within the Administrative District of Puttalam shall be considered and declared as areas infested by the said pest.

4. The owner or occupier of any cultivation lands, estates or gardens upon which the described mite infestation on coconuts is present, shall forthwith report in writing the presence of the infestation to the Director-General of Agriculture or to the Director, Coconut Research Institute, Divisional Secretary of the Area and failure to report so shall be an offence under the Plant Protection Ordinance, unless such persons shall prove that he or she had no reasonable ground for suspecting the presence of the said infestation on coconuts within his/her cultivation land, estate or garden.

5. No coconut plants, fresh coconuts with husks intact or raw coconut husks or part of coconut plants affected or infested by or liable to be affected or infested by the said mite infestation shall be removed from any infested area by any person for any purpose whatsoever, whether within the Administrative District of Puttalam or elsewhere. Any person who transports or distributes coconut plants, fresh coconuts or raw green coconut husks or parts of coconut plants or coconuts infested by the mite for any purpose and who uses such coconut planting materials infested by the pest for any purpose shall be guilty of an offence under the Plant Protection Ordinance.

