

## CHAPTER 154.

## SUGAR-CANE EXPERIMENTAL STATIONS.

[No. VII of 1929.]

[26th January, 1929.]

Short title

1. This Ordinance may be cited as the Sugar-cane Experimental Stations Ordinance.

Interpretation.

2. In this Ordinance, unless the context otherwise requires:—

“ the Committee ” means the committee constituted as provided by this Ordinance;

“ the chairman ” means the chairman of the Committee;

“ the Director ” means the Director of Agriculture;

“ the fund ” means the sugar-cane experimental station fund, created under the provisions of this Ordinance;

“ sugar-cane plantation ” means any plantation or land whereon sugar-cane is cultivated;

“ proprietor ” means the proprietor, whether jointly or severally, or the authorised agent of the proprietor, or the manager, or the person in charge, of any sugar-cane plantation;

“ secretary ” means the secretary appointed by the Committee.

Appointment of Committee.

3.—(1) The British Guiana Sugar Planters' Association shall elect six persons immediately connected with the sugar industry of the colony to form with the Director of Agriculture a committee for the purposes of this Ordinance for the period ending the thirty-first December, nineteen hundred and twenty-nine, and on or before the thirty-first December of each year thereafter shall elect three such persons for the ensuing year.

(2) The Director shall be ex officio the chairman of the Committee and a permanent member thereof; in his absence the Deputy Director of Agriculture shall be chairman, and in the absence of them both the members present

shall elect one of their number to be chairman of the meeting.

(3) The three members of the Committee first in order of election shall retire on the thirty-first day of December, nineteen hundred and twenty-nine, and the other three members on the thirty-first day of December, nineteen hundred and thirty, and so on from year to year, but shall be eligible for re-election.

(4) Any vacancy occurring on the Committee between the date of election as aforesaid shall be filled by the Committee, subject to the approval of the British Guiana Sugar-Planters' Association.

(5) The chairman together with three other members of the Committee shall form a quorum for the due and proper exercise of all the powers and duties of the Committee.

4. The Committee may from time to time establish, maintain and manage such and so many sugar-cane experimental stations as it deems necessary and provide the buildings and equipment necessary for conducting experiments with sugar-cane, and may do any acts and things it deems expedient for promoting the sugar industry or any thing incidental thereto.

Establishment of sugar-cane experimental stations.

5. The Committee may from time to time appoint a secretary and any other officers necessary for the effectual execution of the provision of this Ordinance and may out of the fund pay to the officers the salaries and allowances which it thinks fit.

Appointment of secretary and other officers of stations.

6.—(1) The Committee shall have the general direction and care and control of all sugar-cane experimental stations.

Care and control of stations.

(2) The Director as chairman of the Committee shall have immediate control of the staff of the Committee, and the scientific officers of the Department of Agriculture will co-operate under the direction of the Director in the work of the stations.

7.—(1) There shall be established a fund, to be called the Sugar-cane Experimental Station Fund, out of which shall be paid all expenses incurred by the Committee in carrying out the provisions of this Ordinance.

Establishment of fund.

(2) All rates or other moneys received under this Ordinance shall be paid by the secretary into a bank to the credit of the fund.

(3) All withdrawals from the fund shall be by cheque signed by the chairman and the secretary, or, in the absence of the chairman, by a member of the Committee and the secretary, or, in the absence of the secretary, by the chairman and a member of the Committee.

Rate to be levied on land under sugar-cane cultivation.

8.—(1) The Committee shall, on or before the thirty-first day of January in each year, charge, levy, and collect in respect of every sugar-cane plantation a rate of twenty-five cents for each acre of land cultivated in sugar-cane; but no rate shall be chargeable where the area so cultivated does not exceed twenty-five acres and is cultivated by one person.

(2) If it becomes necessary to undertake any research or investigation of an extraordinary nature for the doing of which neither the Department of Agriculture nor a sugar-cane experimental station is equipped, a rate in addition to the aforementioned rate of an amount agreed between the Governor in Council and the British Guiana Sugar-Planters' Association shall be charged, levied and collected in respect of all sugar-cane plantations.

(3) The amount of the rates payable in respect of each sugar-cane plantation shall be assessed on the area cultivated in sugar-cane during the twelve months ending the thirtieth day of September in each year, and for the purpose of computing that area the mean shall be taken of the area cultivated in sugar-cane as shown by the returns furnished to the Commissioner of Lands and Mines under the Acreage Tax Ordinance in respect of the two periods of six months comprising the period of twelve months aforesaid.

(4) The proprietor of every sugar-cane plantation shall pay the rates charged thereon to the secretary on or before the first day of February in each year.

(5) For the purposes of this section the Commissioner of Lands and Mines shall furnish to the secretary, on or before the thirty-first day of December in each year, a signed certificate setting out the area cultivated in sugar-cane on every sugar-cane plantation as shown by the returns mentioned in sub-section (3) of this section.

(6) The secretary may recover all rates and sums due under this Ordinance by the proprietor of any sugar-cane plantation by parate or summary execution against the proprietor without naming him, and a certificate purporting to be signed by the chairman stating the amount claimed shall, without further proof of the signature or of any other matter or thing, be held by all courts sufficient proof of the amount claimed being due.

9.—(1) The Committee may from time to time make regulations for the purpose of carrying into effect the provisions of this Ordinance. Power to make regulations.

(2) There may be annexed to the breach of any regulation a penalty not exceeding one hundred dollars, and any penalty may be recovered under the Summary Jurisdiction Ordinances by anyone authorised in writing by the chairman.

(3) The regulations shall be subject to the approval of the Governor in Council.

10.—(1) Power is hereby conferred on the chairman for the purpose of the Pounds Ordinance, to impound, or to authorise in writing the impounding of, strays on any sugar-cane experimental station. Power to impound strays.  
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(2) A prosecution for any felony or misdemeanour committed on or in respect of any property belonging to, or under the care or control of, the Committee shall be brought in the name of the chairman in that capacity, by himself or by an officer of the Committee whom he authorises in writing.

11. Nothing in this Ordinance shall be construed or held to authorise summary or parate execution against any Crown or colony land. No parate execution against Crown or colony land.

12. This Ordinance shall continue in force until the thirty-first of December nineteen hundred and thirty-two. Duration of Ordinance.