

[PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1435, June 10, 1978]

"AUTHORIZING THE BUREAU OF SOILS TO SUPERVISE, REGULATE AND CONTROL THE ESTABLISHMENT AND OPERATIONS OF ALL SOIL LABORATORIES IN THE PHILIPPINES"

WHEREAS, the present thrust of government is centered on increasing food production for our growing population as well as commercial crops for dollar earnings, etc.;

WHEREAS, intensification of food production is premised on the proper identification of production inputs as fertilizers, soil amendments, and high-yielding varieties;

WHEREAS, the accurate and timely determination of soil fertility expressed in terms of fertilizer and soil amendment requirements can adequately be provided by soil testing laboratories;

WHEREAS, improper identification and utilization of the aforementioned production inputs will result in depressed yields and/or excessive costs thereby causing low farm productivity detrimental to small farmers as well as to the national economy;

WHEREAS, there is a need to standardize soil testing methodologies, integrate and coordinate soil laboratory activities for maximum efficient utilization of resources;

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Soils is by law, the agency responsible for the maintenance and operation of soil laboratories throughout the country and possesses the technical expertise and facilities to adequately execute such services;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, FERDINAND E. MARCOS, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers in me vested by the Constitution, do hereby order and decree the following:

SECTION 1. *Title.*—This decree shall hereinafter be referred to as P. D. No. 1435 "Authorizing the Bureau of Soils to Supervise, Regulate and Control the Establishment and Operations of all Soil Laboratories in the Philippines".

SEC. 2. *Additional Powers and Functions of the Bureau of Soils.*—The Bureau of Soils shall have the following additional powers and functions so as to be able to carry out the objectives of this Decree:

- a. Formulate and set comprehensive guidelines for the establishment of soil laboratories in the Philippines;
- b. Formulate and establish soil testing standards and methodologies;
- c. Supervise and coordinate the technical operations of all private and government soil laboratories;
- d. Assist and integrate the soil testing activities of the private sector with that of the government sector;
- e. Call on any department, bureau, office, agency and instrumentalities of the government in the form of personnel, facilities and other resources as the need arises in the performance of its functions;