

CHAPTER 110**THE COTTON PLANTING (REGULATION) ACT**

Arrangement of Sections

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COTTON PLANTING (REGULATION)*(10th April, 1931.)*

1/1931.

1. This Act may be cited as the Cotton Planting (Regulation) Act. Short title.

2. In this Act—

Interpretation.

"close planting season" means the period in each year declared to be a close planting season either for Antigua and Barbuda or any area thereof under the provisions of section 3;

"cotton district" where a close planting season has been prescribed for Antigua and Barbuda under section 3, means Antigua and Barbuda, and where

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a close planting season has been so prescribed for any area of Antigua and Barbuda, means such area;

Cap. 111. "inspector" means a person appointed as an Inspector under the Cotton Protection Act.

Governor-General may prescribe close planting season.

3. The Governor-General may, by proclamation published in the *Gazette* and by public notice, declare any period of each year to be a close planting season within the meaning of this Act, either for Antigua and Barbuda or for such area or areas thereof as may be specified in such proclamation, and the Governor-General may by such proclamation prescribe different close planting seasons for different areas.

Planting of cotton prohibited during close planting season.

4. Any person who sows or plants or causes to be sown or planted any cotton or any land in a cotton district during the close planting season shall be guilty of an offence.

Powers of Inspector.

5. An Inspector may without notice and with or without assistants—

(a) at all reasonable times enter upon any land for the purpose of ascertaining whether any cotton is planted on any such land in contravention of the provisions of this Act.

(b) destroy any cotton plant, or cotton seed planted on any such land in contravention of the provisions of this Act, and the estimated value of the work done by any such Inspector and any of his assistants, and any expenditure incurred for doing such work shall be a civil debt recoverable summarily from the occupier of the land.

Obstruction.

6. Any person who shall in any manner obstruct or impede any person in the execution of any of the powers conferred by this Act, shall be guilty of an offence.

Burden of proof.

7. Where any question arises in any proceedings in any Court of Law whether the person be the occupier of any land, the onus of proving that such person is not the occupier of such land shall be upon the defendant.

8. Any person who is guilty of an offence against this Act shall be liable on summary conviction to a penalty not exceeding three thousand dollars. **Penalty.**
