

ELEMENTS OF PHILIPPINE AGRICULTURE

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Elements of Philippine agriculture by Edwin Bingham Copeland

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EDWIN BINGHAM COPELAND

**ELEMENTS OF
PHILIPPINE
AGRICULTURE**

PHILIPPINE EDUCATION SERIES

ELEMENTS OF
PHILIPPINE
AGRICULTURE

BY

EDWIN BINGHAM COPELAND, Ph.D.

SUPERINTENDENT OF THE INSULAR AGRICULTURAL
SCHOOL OF THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS



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HONAN BANTUO

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PREFACE

1923
The general principles and a large part of the facts to be taught in most subjects in the elementary schools are the same in every land. Some subjects might be taught in the Philippine Islands from American texts, except as they gain in presentation by the use of local examples and illustrations. With agriculture the case is very different. The subjects to be studied are almost all different from those in the United States; the climate is different, the economic conditions are different. A useful text-book must be adapted to all of these differences.

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Our text-books are the products of evolution, those in use to-day having the good features but, as far as can be helped, not the weaknesses of their predecessors. The teaching of agriculture in any large number of schools is so recent that this selection has not yet gone far. Even in temperate countries, there has not yet been time for general experience to decide what material, from the almost unlimited amount available, should be chosen for school use; the methods of presenting it are as diverse as the limited number of books permits, and a logical relation of the material seems as yet to have been less considered by most authors than the exercise of the eyes and hands and the teaching of mere facts.

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In a subject in which texts are still so undeveloped, and in the first attempt in a tropical field,¹ it is inevitable that this book will be far from what many will think it should be. Under the circumstances, I trust that their criticisms will be constructive, and that they will be sent to the author.

There is nothing unreasonable in good agriculture, and the fact that a text on the subject must be practical does not involve its being disconnected or illogical. I believe that whatever success has rewarded my effort to present this subject logically increases, instead of detract-

¹ Lyon's interesting reader is not, and is not called, a text-book of agriculture.

ing from, its practical value; for every student is most certain to remember, and most likely to practice, the things he really understands. There are, of course, practical limits to explanations; I have had to use my own judgment as to where these limits are reached.

My work on this little book has covered more than two years. It was at first proposed that a set of leaflets on Philippine agriculture be written, and Mr. Edgar M. Ledyard was associated with me in their preparation. Later, when it was decided that a book, rather than a set of leaflets, was needed, a more homogeneous treatment became necessary, and being absent from the Philippines, I completed it alone, and am individually responsible. I wish to express here my obligation to Mr. Ledyard for his help on the preliminary work, and for helpful criticism of the completed manuscript. For helpful criticism and suggestions, thanks are also due Dr. David P. Barrows, Director of Education for the Philippine Islands; C. W. Burkett, joint author of *Agriculture for Beginners*; K. L. Hatch, joint author of *Elementary Agriculture*; W. J. Spillman, United States Department of Agriculture; John W. Ritchie, author of the *Physiology and Hygiene* used in the Philippines; E. N. Henderson, Adelphi College, Brooklyn, N.Y.; F. M. De Forest, St. Paul's School, Concord, N.H.; W. W. Rodwell, Division Superintendent, Laguna Province, P.I.; and H. H. Buck, Division Superintendent, Batangas Province, P.I.

For the use of photographs, many of which are copyrighted, acknowledgment is made to Hon. Dean C. Worcester, Secretary of the Department of the Interior, Philippine Islands; the United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C.; *La Hacienda*; *The World's Work*; Dr. Harold W. Fairbanks; Professor John W. Ritchie; and Caspar W. Hodgson.

Finally, my greatest obligation is to the publishers, who have been most generous of time, labor, and expense.

EDWIN BINGHAM COPELAND

MANILA, February 29, 1908

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