



Food & Drugs Authority

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CHIEF EXECUTIVE: **HUDU MOGTARI**

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The News Editor

Dear Sir/ Madam,

FDA CAUTIONS THE PUBLIC ON PALM OIL ADULTERATION WITH SUDAN IV DYE

The Food and Drugs Authority (FDA) wishes to bring to the attention of the general public, the sale and distribution of palm oil, adulterated with Sudan IV ("Sudee") dye .

Analysis conducted by the FDA from 50 randomly sampled palm oil from ten (10) major markets in the Greater Accra Region namely: Mallam market, MallamAtta market, Dome market, Dansoman market, Agbogbloshie market, Kaneshie market, Tema community 1 market, Ashaiman market, Madina market and Makola No.2 market, revealed that the sampled palm oil have been adulterated with "sudee". **The results showed that 98% of the palm oil tested positive to Sudan IV dye.**

Following up, the FDA on Tuesday, 20th October, 2015 in collaboration with the Narcotics Division of the Ghana Police Service apprehended some dealers suspected to be involved in this practice and confiscated the products, which were also analysed and found to contain Sudan III and Sudan IV dyes, leading to the arrest of 22 market women and a driver.

It is important to indicate that Sudan IV dye has potentially carcinogenic effects (category 2) according to the International Agency for Research on Cancer. Category 2 carcinogenic substances have no tolerable daily intake values. Thus, no level of the consumption of the dye can be said to be safe. Risk analysis of the health effects of the consumption of the dye indicates that, continuous exposure and high levels of Sudan IV dye increases the risk of cancer.

The FDA will continue to collaborate with the Ghana Police Service to clamp down on the perpetrators of this prohibited act across the country.

The FDA therefore wishes to caution all Processors, Wholesalers, Distributors and Retailers that adulteration is a prohibited act as spelt out in Section 100 of the Public Health Act, 2012, Act 851.

It also wishes to advise the general public to contact the FDA with useful information that will help the FDA carry out its mandate in protecting public health and safety on **0302233200, 0302235100, 0244337243, 0244337235, 0544341221, 0206973065** or email fda@fdaghana.gov.gh.

END

NB: Adulteration is prohibited as stated in the Public Health Act 2012 Act 851 section 100 below:

100(3) A person commits an offence if that person sells or offers for sale a food that

- (a) has in or on it a poisonous or harmful substance;
- (b) is unwholesome or unfit for human or animal consumption;
- (d) is adulterated;
- (e) is injurious to health; or
- (f) is not of the nature, substance, quality or prescribed standards.

(4) For the purposes of subsection (3) food is adulterated if

(d) a substance has been added to, or mixed or packed with, the food to increase its bulk or weight or reduce its quality or strength or to make it appear better or of greater value than it is;

(e) it contains an additive not expressly permitted by the national standards, the Codex or the Regulations; or is in excess of the quantity permitted;

(7) A person shall not

(a) sell, or offer or expose for sale, or have in possession for sale,

Or

(b) deposit with or consign to a person for the purpose of sale, a food intended for but unfit for human or animal consumption.

(8) Where an offence is committed by a person under subsection 7

(a) that person as well as a person who instructed that person commit an offence.



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