



FOOD AND DRUGS AUTHORITY

GUIDELINE FOR THE EXPORT OF PALM OIL

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1. INTRODUCTION

In exercise of the powers conferred on the Food and Drugs Authority (FDA) by Public Health Act, 2012, Act 851, Part Seven, Sections 99 & 148, this guideline applies to palm oil (crude and refined) that is to be exported from Ghana and it is for the adherence by all exporters of this commodity.

Notwithstanding the above, producers shall comply with existing National Food Safety and Quality Standards for palm oil.

The purpose of this guideline is to regulate and monitor the production, processing, packaging and export of palm oil so as to assure its safety and quality. In addition, it is to ensure that all consignments of palm oil are physically inspected and sampled for chemical evaluation and/or screening for Sudan dyes (I-IV) and other adulterants.

This guideline is hereby promulgated for information, guidance and strict compliance by all concerned.

2. GLOSSARY

For the purpose of these guidelines, unless the context otherwise requires, the following definitions shall apply:

“Adulterant” means any material; edible or non- edible, added to a food (palm oil) to mask the quality (colour, taste etc.) or increase bulk

“Export” means to ship the goods and services out of the port of a country to a foreign country.

“Permit” means a legal document that is necessary for the export of food (palm oil)

“Inspection” is the examination of palm oil or systems for control of palm oil, raw materials, processing, and distribution including in-process and finished product testing, in order to verify that they conform to requirements.

“Sudan Dye” means red dyes that are used for colouring solvents, oils, waxes, petrol, and shoe and floor polish.

“Contamination” means food contains anything that will make it unfit for human consumption

“Requirements” are the criteria set down relating to trade in palm oil covering the protection of public health, the protection of consumers and conditions of fair trade

3. REQUIREMENT

3.1 GENERAL REQUIREMENT

A person shall not export palm oil from Ghana unless it is screened for Sudan-dyes

3.2 SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

The following are the procedures for acquiring the FDA's clearance for the export of palm oil:

- 3.2.1 An application shall be made to the Food and Drugs Authority in writing for clearance (PERMIT) to export palm oil.

The application letter should be addressed to:

**The Chief Executive
Food and Drugs Authority
P.O. Box CT 2783
Cantonments- Accra.**

- 3.2.2 The applicant shall attach the following documents:

1. A business registration certificate issued by the Registrar General's Department
2. Certificate of export issued by Ghana Export Promotion Authority
3. A short write up on the company indicating the location of the facility and source of the palm oil.

- 3.2.3 The applicant shall provide batch numbers, quantities per batch, pack sizes and total quantity.

- 3.2.4 A non-refundable fee of Five Hundred Ghana Cedis (GH ¢ 500.00) shall be charged per every consignment analyzed by the FDA.

- 3.2.5 The FDA shall not issue more than three copies of a Certificate of Analysis for the export of any remainder of a tested consignment of a particular batch.

- 3.2.6 The FDA shall prior to screening and clearance, conduct inspections at the processing and/or packing facility, with emphasis on, but not limited to, Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) and Good Hygiene Practices (GHP).

- 3.2.7 Consignments deemed to have no traces of Sudan dyes (I-IV) or other adulterants shall be given clearance for export. (Permit)
- 3.2.8 Notwithstanding the above, the applicant shall be held responsible for any consignment of palm oil found to be adulterated or non-compliant after the consignment has been inspected, passed and an export permit issued by the FDA, or if the consignment or part thereof, has been concealed.
- 3.2.9 Any consignment/batch/lot of products found to be adulterated shall be quarantined and disposed of under the supervision of the FDA.
- 3.2.10 The supervision of the disposal of adulterated consignment(s) shall attract a non-refundable fee (as stated in the FDA's services fee schedule).

4. SANCTIONS

Failure to adhere to requirements of this guideline will result in the non-issuance of permit to export consignment of palm oil from Ghana.

5. PENALTIES

Where non-adherence to this guideline results in exposure of consumers to a food safety hazard, the FDA will impose an administrative fine and/or prosecute offender in accordance with Public Health Act, 2012, Act 851, Section 142 & Section 148, Sub-sections 4 & 5.