

FDA BEGINS SECOND PHASE OF MARKET DURBAR FOR 2019



The Food and Drugs Authority (FDA) as part of its mandate to ensure public health and safety, organises monthly market durbars in various markets across the country to educate market women and consumers on how to minimise if not totally eradicate unhygienic handling of food.

Some of the markets visited in the Greater Accra Region by the educational team of the FDA for the first half of the year 2019 include Texpo, Nungua, Osu, Dodowa, Dansoman and the Galilea markets. The aim of the exercise is to bring to bear issues concerning public health and food safety.

On the 23rd of July 2019, which marks the beginning of the Second Phase of the market durbars, consumers and market women at the "Tuesday Market" at Mamprobi, in the Ablekuma South District had their turn of public education. This was done in collaboration with Officers from the Accra Metropolitan Assembly (AMA).

Three (3) officers from the Food Safety Management Department (FSMD) each took turns in educating the market women on issues including; food hygiene for food vendors, the dangers associated with food adulteration, proper ways to handle fresh fruits, vegetables and cooked foods.

Mr. Benjamin Osei Tutu from the FSMD cautioned the market women who expose their produce on the bare floor to refrain from the practice since it serves as a source of food contamination and that such practices are the major causes of cholera.



Mr. Francis Fiifi Essuman from the Agro Products and Biosafety Department of the FDA also took the market women through good storage practices in the markets as well as proper transportation of their produce, which will help maintain its freshness.

He advised that farm produce like yam and plantain should be packed on pallets to allow air to circulate properly around them in order to keep them from going bad.



A team from the AMA who accompanied the officers also pleaded with the market women and consumers to help keep the market clean to avert any outbreak of diseases.

The next market durbars in the Greater Accra Region will be held at Anyaa, Mallam, Kasoa, Tema Community 2 and the Harbour markets.