

**MINISTRY PAPER NO.:** \_\_\_\_\_

## **PERFORMANCE OF THE FOOD STORAGE AND PREVENTION OF INFESTATION DIVISION FOR 2003/2004 FINANCIAL YEAR AND FOCUS FOR 2004/2005**

### **1.0 Purpose of Ministry Paper**

This Ministry Paper is intended to provide highlights of the performance of the Food Storage and Prevention of Infestation Division during the 2003/04 Financial Year and the main focus for the 2004/05 Financial Year.

### **2.0 Role and Functions**

**Mission:** To ensure the safety and wholesomeness of food/feed entering commerce through sound scientific principles in a timely and professional manner so limiting consumption of potentially harmful food.

The role of the Division is to carry out the Government's programme of surveillance and regulation of the food industry to ensure the safety and wholesomeness of food/feed entering commerce. The Division carries out the functions of: inspection, sampling, disinfestations, laboratory tests, training and research into problems of post harvest crops, stored-product management, pesticide and biological toxin management.

### **3.0 Highlights of Achievements for 2003/2004 Financial Year.**

#### **3.1 Training and Information**

<b><u>Organization/Programme</u></b>	<b><u>Persons Trained</u></b>
(a) Pesticide Control Authority	30
(b) St. Ann Peanut Factory	11
(c) Peanut Farmers, St. Ann	70
(d) West Indies School of Public Health	20
(e) FSPID/NFNCCJ Seminar	90
(f) In-house Training FSPID	17
(g) CARINET insect taxonomy workshop	2

- The preparation/distribution of technical bulletins
- Training of farmers and produce dealers in proper drying techniques and storage of commodities in order to ensure a higher quality finished product
- Dissemination of information on the mode of attack of the main insect pests and preventative measures, to farmers, produce dealers and the general public.

### 3.2 Entomology

In addition to routine sample testing, research into stored products and entomological problems were undertaken. Research included:

- (a) Insect monitoring and trapping in warehouses
- (b) Competence/assessment for testing laboratory accreditation
- (c) Produce and distributed technical paper on split ginger processing and storage
- (d) Tests on curcumin levels in turmeric for export
- (e) Five hundred and fourteen (514) samples submitted for testing

<b><u>Test Services Performed</u></b>	<b><u>Total</u></b>
Moisture content determination	324
Insect count and identification	262
Fragment analyses and extraneous matter	84
<b>Total</b>	<b>670</b>
 <b>Number of sample reports</b>	 <b>92</b>

Approximately ninety-one percent (91%) of the tests conducted were on rice, ginger, tumeric, black pepper, cotton, pimento and quassia chips for moisture content determination, insect count and identification.

The amount of revenue earned from these services was one hundred and seventy-five thousand two hundred dollars (\$175,200).

### 3.3 Rodent Biology and Control

The effort to prevent and mitigate rodent infestation in food/feed stores, post offices, prisons and hospitals continued island wide. Assistance was also provided to other institutions upon request.

During the review period, stakeholders in the food industry were empowered through various training programmes and consultations, to take responsibility for rodent control through proper environmental management.

There was close collaboration with the National Environment and Planning Agency (NEPA) in phasing out the use of Methyl Bromide in Jamaica and preventing the use of environmentally unfriendly substances, mainly ozone depleters, which are used in pest control. There was also a joint effort with NEPA in spearheading the testing of ECO<sub>2</sub>FUME™ for use in Jamaica.

The Division also Participated in SWEDAC Lavet Lab Accreditation for rodent species identification test and projects for continuous pulse baiting were undertaken for several organisations.

**Achievements to date are as follows:**

- 55 rodent control programmes representing 34% of annual target
- 123 inspections or 53% of annual target
- 6,795 bait stations set, representing 109% of annual target
- 42 laboratory projects which included breeding programmes and rodenticide evaluations
- 7 lectures were conducted with 128 persons trained
- 1,290 individual consultations and company consultations

These activities generated income of \$475,650.

**3.4 Microbiology**

Analyses of food samples submitted by inspectors were carried out in an effort to identify contaminating stored-product microorganisms.

- 863 samples were received and 1,621 tests carried out for bacteria and fungi.
- Four factories, three (3) produce dealers, three (3) farms and one (1) warehouse were visited. There were also nine (9) field visits.
- The standards for Bottled Coconut Water have been completed. The final draft is to be submitted to the Standards Review Committee at the Bureau of Standards.
- Efforts are being made to identify/label natural coconut water differently from coconut drinks with additives.

**3.5 Inspectorate and Disinfestations**

Surveillance and regulatory activities were continued to ensure that only safe and wholesome food reaches the consumer. This is done through inspections, sampling and disinfestations. The following represents a summary of activity in this area:

- Inspections 10,195
- Samples submitted 527
- Disinfestation Operations 570
- Food condemned 34.92 MT.
- Export certificates 171

The amount of revenue earned from these services was \$4,258,173.

### 3.6 Details of Performance for 2003/04

**Table 1: Indicators of Performance**

<b>ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
No. of inspections (Table 2 for details)	10,195
No. of samples taken	527
Quantities of commodities inspected	530850.17 MT
Quantity fumigated	4343.24 MT
Quantity condemned	34.92 MT
No. of Condemnation Notices	19
No. of Detention Notices	36
No. of Other Notices	217
No. of export fumigations	171
No. of tyre fumigations	9
No. of local fumigations	283
No. of mistings	12
No. of spraying operations	56
No. of disinfestation operations	570
No. of rodent treatments	39

**Table 2: Inspections (2003/2004)**

<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
Government Food Store	16
Statutory Bodies	30
Bonded Warehouses	719
Wharves	352
Airports	17
Ships	73
Containers	6444
Break bulk consignments	583
Hospitals/Health Centres	42
Schools	99
Correctional Centres	19
Distributors	117
Supermarkets and wholesalers	864
Bakeries	139
Grain and Farm Stores	66
Produce Dealers	14
Mills	48
Factories	82
Spice Dealers	24
Restaurants	328
Hotels	75
Pest Control Operators	4
Others	73
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10,195</b>

### 3.7 Pesticide Residues

Below are highlights of the Pesticide Laboratory work conducted.

Test	Output No. of samples	Income Earned (\$)
Pesticide Residue	4	8,000
Mycotoxin	68	151,000
Rancidity	1	800
Other chemical analysis	1	4,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>163,800</b>

### 4.0 Strategic Focus

The primary objective for 2004/2005 will be to continue modernization initiatives of the Division's operations and move towards the more scientific Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) based inspection system.

HACCP is the internationally recognized and recommended approach to ensuring food safety. This methodology will shift the focus of the management of chemical, physical and biological hazards that affect food products, away from costly end-product inspection and testing to the more rigorous management of food processing activities.

### 5.0 Summary of the Main Programmes for the Financial Year 2004/2005

#### 5.1 Inspection and Disinfestations

- (a) Inspections for food safety and wholesomeness and compliance with the Food Storage Act
- (b) Sampling for laboratory evaluation, the results of which are used for certain decision-making
- (c) Disinfestations of food and food storage structures
- (d) Rodent baiting

#### 5.2 Training, Information and Public Relations

- (a) Educating the public on the requirements of the Food Storage Act for compliance
- (b) Stored product management
- (b) Pesticide management in food
- (c) Rodent Biology and Control
- (d) HACCP- based programmes

### **5.3 Rodent Biology and Control**

Plans are in place to increase the number of rodent control programmes island-wide, the number of consultations with private businesses, individuals, community organizations.

The rodent breeding programme for research purposes will be improved. Emphasis will be placed on the evaluation of rodenticides to support regulation activities.

### **5.4 Entomology**

- (a) Laboratory is in the process of obtaining international accreditation
- (b) Routine sample testing will continue
- (c) Research initiatives will be increased to provide scientific support to the regulatory activities

### **5.5 Contaminant Analysis**

- (a) Routine testing for levels of pesticides on/in foods destined for the export and local markets
- (b) Routine testing for additives above acceptable levels
- (c) Routine testing for mycotoxins on legumes, especially peanuts and animal feeds

### **5.6 Microbiology**

- (a) Routine monitoring of imported processed food
- (b) Routine monitoring of bulk grains and raw materials
- (c) Establishment of standards and code of practice for bottled coconut water and coconut drinks
- (d) Monitoring coliform contamination of cured spices such as ginger

## **6.0 Budgetary Allocation for 2004/05 Financial Year**

The budgetary allocation for the Financial Year 2004/05 is \$61.3 M for recurrent expenditure.

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