

# TANZANIA FOOD AND DRUGS AUTHORITY



## PUBLIC NOTICE

### **ALERT NOTICE ON THE USE OF ACTELLIC INCLUDING ACTELLIC SUPER DUST IN PRESERVATION OF DRIED FISH**

The Tanzania Food and Drugs Authority (TFDA) would like to warn fish dealers and the general public on the use of **Actellic and Actellic Super Dust** in preservation of dried fish. The Authority has recently learnt that dried fish harvested from both lake Rukwa and Tanganyika are preserved using insecticides meant for the control of pests in stored grains and pulses.

TFDA carried out laboratory analysis of dried fish samples collected from Rukwa region where complaints over the use of such chemical was raised by consumers.

**The analytical result of the tested dried fish samples has indicated presence of the aforementioned chemicals in those samples.**

Actellic insecticides belong to the group of organophosphates compounds whose poisoning effect is through the inhibition of cholinesterase enzyme. When Actellic is used in preservation of dried fish it is deposited in adipose tissue. Fish containing Actellic if consumed without cooking at 100°C may cause health hazards characterised by nausea, vomiting, dizziness, confusion and at higher exposures respiratory paralysis and death.

In order to protect consumers against health hazards that may result from consumption of dried fish containing the poisonous chemical, TFDA would like to inform fish dealers that the use of **Actellic and Actellic Super Dust** in preserving dried fish is harmful and that legal measures will be taken against any one found doing such malpractices

TFDA would like to advise the use of acceptable alternative method (s) for preservation of dried fish that will minimize insect infestation such as salting of sliced fresh fish that are to be sun dried and smoking of unsalted fresh fish. It is also recommended to process fish in a clean environment and store dried fish in a clean dry place and adhere to Good Hygienic Practices (GHPs).

While TFDA is pursuing to legally ban the use of such chemicals for preserving dried fish, we urge the public to cooperate by providing information disclosing all those who are doing such unsafe practices.

For more information we invite you to visit or contact us using the following address:

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