

PRESS STATEMENT ON SUBSTANDARD GOODS IN THE MARKET

In the recent past, KEBS suspended a number of Standardization Mark Permits due to failure to comply with required standards. The purpose of this statement is to update the public through the media on the progress made towards restoring compliance and to announce the lifting of suspensions for those firms that have complied with the conditions.

Kenya Bureau of Standards (KEBS) is the National Standards Body mandated to provide Standardization and Conformity Assessment. KEBS' role involves, ensuring health and safety of consumers, protection of the environment and promotion of fair trade through development and implementation of standards. As a facilitator of trade, KEBS has developed 9800 Standards and participated in harmonization of 2000 Standards for East Africa Community.

KEBS, through its Market Surveillance Directorate, consistently monitors and tests products in the market to ensure that manufacturers continue to comply with Kenya Standards.

The decision to suspend the permit and order of withdrawal of the products from the market was informed by consideration that the products were contaminated with mycotoxins following market surveillance and testing. This measure was necessary to isolate contaminated product and prevent their consumption.

The affected brand owners have been implementing the directions of KEBS which have included, recalling of all batches, implementing corrective actions in order to avoid recurrence such as mandatory testing of every consignment of raw materials being received at the factory before milling, control measures during the in-process, post process storage measures and maintenance of appropriate records under supervision of KEBS.

Following implementation of the required corrective actions, I am glad to announce to you that the following companies have completed these process and therefore hereby lift the suspension of the permits for their brands.

Peanut butter

1. Nuteez Brand manufactured by Jetlak Industries
2. Zesta Brand manufactured by Tru Foods industries

Maize Flour

1. Dola Brand Manufactured by Kitui Flour Mills limited.
2. Kifaru Brand manufactured by Alpha Grain Millers limited.

This decision to reinstate the suspended Standardization Mark permits will enable the manufacturers to resume production. Let me commend these manufacturers for their cooperation.

other manufacturers are still undertaking the required corrective actions and the suspension of their permits will be lifted as soon as they have completed the process.

KEBS will notify the public once the concerned manufacturers have taken adequate corrective actions to warrant lifting of their respective permits to allow them to continue production and prevent future recurrence.

For more information;

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