

PERFORMANCE OF THE FOOD STORAGE AND PREVENTION OF INFESTATION DIVISION (FSPID) FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 2004/2005 AND FOCUS FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 2005/2006

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 2004/05 Financial Year and the main focus for the 2005/06 Financial Year.

2.0 Mission, Role and Functions

2.1 Mission

The mission of the Food Storage and Prevention of Infestation Division is to ensure the safety and wholesomeness of food/feed entering commerce, through the application of sound scientific principles in a timely and professional manner.

2.2 Role and Functions

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 conducts: inspection, sampling, disinfestations, laboratory tests, training and research into problems of post harvest/crops/stored-products management, pesticides and biological toxin management.

3.0 Highlights of Achievements for 2004/2005 Financial Year.

3.1 Training and Information

- Training was provided to the following organizations as summarized below:

<u>Organization/Programme</u>	<u>Persons Trained</u>
(a) Heart Academy	35
(b) NEPA Exhibition	40
(c) Mico/ICWI	130
(d) West Indies School of Public Health	16
(e) Portmore Community College/Old Harbour Campus	13

- Technical bulletins were prepared and distributed.
- A feature on the FSPID was aired on TVJ, CVM and Love TV
- Information on pest management and food storage was disseminated
- Work on the FSPID website and logo continued

Participated in inter-agency meetings/seminars regarding pest control, food safety and Ozone Depleting Substances.

3.2 Entomology

In addition to routine sample testing, research into stored products and entomological problems was undertaken. Areas of research included:

- (a) Insect monitoring and trapping in warehouses
- (b) Competence/assessment for testing laboratory accreditation
- (c) Production and distribution of a technical paper on split ginger processing and storage
- (d) Two hundred and thirty eight (238) samples submitted for testing

<u>Test Services Performed</u>	<u>Total</u>
Moisture content determination	142
Insect count and identification	98
Fragment analyses and extraneous matter	<u>32</u>
	Total 272

Number of sample reports - 60

Approximately ninety-five percent (95%) of the tests conducted were on rice, ginger, black pepper, cotton, pimento and quassia chips for moisture content determination, insect count and identification.

The amount of revenue earned from these services was ninety-four thousand four hundred dollars (\$94,400).

3.3 Rodent Biology and Control

The effort to mitigate or prevent 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 ECO₂FUME™ for use in Jamaica.

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

Achievements are as follows:

- Twenty-one (21) rodent control programmes implemented representing thirty five percent (35%) of annual target
- Fifty-seven (57) inspections or thirty six percent (36%) of annual target
- Four thousand three hundred and ninety-six (4,396) bait stations set, representing seventy percent (70%) of annual target
- Forty-two (42) laboratory projects which included breeding programmes and rodenticide evaluations
- Fifteen (15) lectures were conducted with two hundred and twenty-five (225) persons trained
- Six hundred and five (605) individual and company consultations

These activities generated income of three hundred and seven thousand seven hundred and twenty dollars. (\$307,720).

3.4 Microbiology

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

- Five hundred and thirty-six (536) samples were received and three hundred and forty-three (343) tests carried out for bacteria and fungi.
- Four (4) factories, three (3) produce dealers, three (3) farms and one (1) warehouse were visited. There were also nine (9) field visits and nine (9) consultations.

3.5 Inspectorate and Disinfestations

Surveillance and regulatory activities continued to ensure that only safe and wholesome food reaches the consumer. This was done through inspections, sampling and disinfestations.

The following is a summary of activities in this area:

- Inspections 8,897
- Samples submitted 152
- Disinfestation Operations 747
- Food condemned 496 MT.
- Export certificates provided 79
- A total of \$4,417,992 earned from services rendered in this area.

Details are provided in Tables 1 and 2.

Table 1: Indicators of Performance (2004/05)

ACTIVITIES	TOTAL
No. of inspections (Table 2 for details)	8,897
No. of samples taken	152
Quantities of commodities inspected	646817 MT
Quantity fumigated	6464 MT
Quantity condemned	496 MT
No. of Condemnation Notices	20
No. of Detention Notices	68
No. of Other Notices	176
No. of export fumigations	89
No. of tyre fumigations	12
No. of local fumigations	582
No. of mistings	13
No. of spraying operations	48
No. of disinfestation operations	747
No. of rodent treatments	13

Table 2: Details of Locations Inspected (2004/05)

LOCATION	Inspections
Government Food Store	4
Statutory Bodies	33
Bonded Warehouses	77
Wharves	51
Airports	40
Ships	40
Containers	6812
Break bulk consignments	637
Hospitals/Health Centres	12
Schools	20
Correctional Centres	9
Distributors	56
Supermarkets and wholesalers	508
Bakeries	114
Grain and Farm Stores	20
Produce Dealers	3
Mills	38
Factories	58
Spice Dealers	5
Restaurants	275
Hotels	30
Pest Control Operators	3
Others	42
TOTAL	8,897

3.6 Pesticide Residues

Below are highlights of the Pesticide Laboratory work conducted.

Test	Output No. of Samples	Income Earned (\$)
Pesticide Residue	6	17,500
Mycotoxin	39	31,000
Rancidity	4	3,800
Other chemical analysis	9	5,000
Total	68	57,300

3.7 Summary of Performance

In relation to the Laboratory Accreditation, a comprehensive manual has been developed along with subfolders for each laboratory/unit which is currently being used

for internal auditing. The accreditation process is approximately fifty percent (50%) complete and is awaiting approval from the consultants overseeing the exercise.

Table 3: Summary of Key Performance

Performance Indicator	Number
Samples submitted	989
Samples analyzed	622
Food inspected	646,817 metric tones
Statutory notices issued	264
Rodent treatment	34
Food storage factories inspected	64
Persons trained/consultations provided	459
Fumigations conducted	683
Spraying/misting operations	61

4.0 Strategic Focus

The primary objective for 2005/2006 will be to continue modernization initiatives for the Division's operations and to move towards updating the Food Storage and Prevention of Infestation Division Act and Regulation to reflect present day realities.

Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) is the internationally recognized and recommended approach for 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. The Division's role and function will be adjusted as necessary to be in synchrony with this new approach.

The Division will be focusing on having all its laboratories gaining International Accreditation under the SWEDAC Project.

Planning is underway in collaboration with NEPA for the introduction of an initiative to convert from methyl bromide as the main fumigant to alternative methods/chemicals. The Division will be the focal point for the transfer of this technology to the wider public.

A study was recently completed on the establishment of a single food agency as the functions are now distributed among three ministries. The Ministry, in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture and Health, are now preparing a submission to Cabinet with a view to harmonize food safety matters.

5.0 Summary of the Main Programmes for the Financial Year 2005/2006

The following are the key targets for the 2005/06 Financial Year:

Indicator of Performance	Target
No. of inspections	10,160
No. of samples taken	600
Quantities of commodities inspected	876363.90 MT
No. of Notices served	200
No. of Fumigations	330
No. of Disinfestation operations	600
Quantity Fumigated	16224.45 MT
Quantity condemned	100 MT
Spraying/Misting operations	100
No. of rodent treatment	6,770
No. of persons trained/consultations provided	182
No. of Lecture Events	20
Pest control records auditing	80
No. of samples analysed	1,720
No. of field visits	38

Expenditure for 2004/2005 was \$64,629,932.58

6.0 Budgetary Allocation for the 2005/2006 Financial Year

The budgetary allocation for the Financial Year 2005/2006 is \$61.329 M for recurrent expenditure. Expenditure for 2004/05 was \$64,629,933.

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