



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
FERTILIZER AND PESTICIDE AUTHORITY

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MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR

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TO : ALL FERTILIZER STAKEHOLDERS
FERTILIZER HANDLERS
FERTILIZER PRODUCT REGISTRANTS
FERTILIZER REGULATIONS DIVISION
THIS OFFICE

SUBJECT : TESTING OF HEAVY METALS AS REQUIRED IN THE FERTILIZER
REGULATORY POLICIES AND IMPLEMENTING GUIDELINES OF
2013

The Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority (FPA) is one of the regulatory agencies implementing the provisions of *Republic Act No. 10611 otherwise known as the "Food Safety Act of 2013*. Likewise, FPA is working towards *ISO 9001:2015-Quality Management System (QMS) certification*.

In view hereof and in fulfilment of the provisions of Food Safety Act of protecting consumer's health and in compliance of FPA on the recently concluded ISO 9001:2015 certification audit findings, **the requirement for test for heavy metals as stipulated in the existing Fertilizer Regulatory Policies and Implementing Guidelines as of 2013 (Bluebook) Table 2.1 page 17 shall be required for all types of fertilizers except for Biofertilizer/Microbial Inoculants and Plant Growth Promoter.** The test for heavy metals shall be conducted by FPA recognized laboratories. Since, FPA has no existing standard limits for heavy metals for specific fertilizer product, FPA will adopt the standard limits gathered from Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), Bureau of Agriculture and Fishery Standards (BAFS) and from Tanzania, Uganda and East African countries herein attached.

This circular shall take effect upon signing and shall supersede all other issuances inconsistent herewith.


WILFREDO C. ROLDAN
Executive Director

HEAVY METALS LIMITS ON FERTILIZERS

Fertilizer	Heavy metal limits (ppm)						Reference
	Arsenic (As)	Cadmium (Cd)	Mercury (Hg)	Lead (Pb)	Chromium (Cr)	Selenium (Se)	
Urea	20	7	0.1	30	500	-	Draft Uganda Standard
Ammonium Sulphate Nitrate	50	20	5	30	150	-	
Calcium Ammonium Nitrate	20	7	0.1	30	500	-	
Monoammonium Phosphate	20	15	0.1	30	500	-	
Diammonium Phosphate	20	15	0.1	30	500	-	
Potassium Chloride/Muriate of Potash (0-0-60)	20	7	0.1	30	500	-	
Magnesium sulphate	20	20	0.1	30	-	-	
Inorganic foliar fertilizer	20	7	0.1	30	-	-	
Zinc Sulfate	100	25	-	30	-	-	Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
Chelated Zn, as Zn-EDTA	-	-	-	30	-	-	
Manganese Sulphate	-	-	-	30	-	-	
Borax (Sodium Tetraborate)	-	-	-	30	-	-	
Copper sulphate	-	-	-	30	-	-	
Ferrous sulphate	-	-	-	30	-	-	
Chelated Iron, as Fe-EDTA	-	-	-	30	-	-	
Ammonium Molybdate	-	-	-	30	-	-	Draft East African Standard
Ammonium sulphate/Ammosul (21-0-0)	20	7	0.1	30	500	-	
NPK Compound Fertilizers	20	60	0.1	30	500	-	
Sulphate of Potash (SOP)	20	7	0.1	30	500	-	
Granulated phosphate rock	20	60	0.1	30	500	-	
Phosphate rock powder	20	60	0.1	30	500	-	
Triple Superphosphate fertilizer	20	60	0.1	30	500	-	PNS/BAFPS Standard
Plant Growth Regulator/Compost/Soil Conditioners	5	5	2	250	150	-	
Lime and Dolomite	20	15	0.1	30	-	1.0	Draft Tanzania Standard