

Republic of the Philippines Department of Health FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION



27 August 2013

FDA Advisory No. 2013-030

SUBJECT: PUBLIC WARNING ON BUYING CITRANGE VITAMIN SYRUP BEING PEDDLED IN SCHOOL PREMISES

An online report sent through the Food and Drug Administration (FDA)'s eReport system was received from a concerned mother that a health product labeled as Citrange syrup, which is allegedly FDA approved-vitamin C, is being sold in school premises in Cagayan Valley. The product is being sold at 380 Php to children and their parents in cash or installment. The peddler claims that it will help cure children who are suffering from asthma or improve the memory of children. According to the report, the product contains vitamin C, honey bee and royal jelly, and there were parents who already complained that their children became sleepy or lazy to attend their classes after taking the product. Some parents were deceived not only because of the claimed benefits but because there is a letter, allegedly from the Department of Education, being shown by the peddler.

The report is still under FDA investigation. Initial findings of the FDA Inspectorate, however, showed that Citrange vitamin syrup is not registered with the FDA. The alleged manufacturer, Lindbergh Food Products Valley in Valenzuela City, has an expired FDA License to Operate (RDII-MM-F 2454) and has stopped operating since December 2008. As an FDA-licensed food manufacturer before, it manufactured flavored drink concentrates but not Citrange vitamin syrup.

This advisory is being issued to warn the public and consumers, especially the children and parents, not to fall prey to the marketing schemes of unscrupulous peddlers. This product is reportedly being sold in Cagayan Valley but might be present in other regions as well. The school administrators are also advised to be more vigilant and to ensure that the products being sold inside school premises is FDA registered and to be more cautious before entering into an agreement or receiving sponsorship from food and drug establishments.

For more information and inquiry, kindly email the FDA via info@fda.gov.ph. To report any unregistered health product, please email us via report@fda.gov.ph.

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