



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL MEAT INSPECTION SERVICE
Department of Health
FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION



November 17, 2013

JOINT NMIS- FDA ADVISORY
No. 2013-001

**SUBJECT: PUBLIC WARNING AGAINST EATING DEAD ANIMALS AND
UNWHOLESOME MEAT AND MEAT PRODUCTS THAT HAVE
BEEN SUBMERGED IN FLOOD WATER**

Super typhoon "Yolanda" left trails of destruction as well as scores of dead animals, including livestock and poultry animals. The super typhoon that hit food establishments in the worse hit areas have also left frozen meat and meat products exposed to elements, some actually buried in soil and rabbles of collapsed houses and buildings.

The public is warned against eating dead animals as well as consuming thawed frozen meat and meat products for a long period of time in submerged in flood water.

Floodwaters usually carry high loads of bacteria and filth. Industrial oil and chemical waste are common toxicants of flood water. Canned goods that have been submerged in water should be assessed for any contaminations.

Live animals should undergo proper slaughtering in abattoir or slaughterhouses to ensure safe meat for human consumption. Proper slaughtering in abattoir affords veterinary inspection to prevent meat-borne transmission of parasites, among other microorganisms, and prevents pollution of environment brought about by remnants like skin, bones, bloods and offal, which are good media for pathogenic microorganisms. Eating dead animals that had not been bled or eviscerated immediately after dying are good source of microbial infections and toxins. Bacteria in skin and intestines immediately eats up the tissues of the dead animals, including the muscle tissues (meat) causing putrefactions and production of toxic metabolic products. The ill effects of ingesting meat-borne parasites manifest in the later stage of infection.

All consumers are advised to throw out food away from the reach of other people and animals, when in doubt about its safety or its source. All consumers are also advised to consult a doctor when they feel ill after eating a meal.

For more information and clarification, please email the FDA via info@fda.gov.ph or the National Meat Inspection Service nmis@nmis.gov.ph at telephone number (02) 9247980.

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