Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION

FDA ADVISORY

No. 2023-0232

07 FEB 2023

TO: **ALL HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC**

SUBJECT: **Public Health Warning Against the Purchase and Consumption of the Unregistered Food Product "TONTON Black Pepper Whole"**

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) warns all healthcare professionals and the general public **NOT TO PURCHASE AND CONSUME** the unregistered food product:

Figure 1. Unregistered TONTON Black Pepper Whole

The FDA verified through online monitoring or post-marketing surveillance that the abovementioned food product is not registered and no corresponding Certificate of Product Registration (CPR) has been issued. Pursuant to the Republic Act No. 9711, otherwise known as the "Food and Drug Administration Act of 2009", the manufacture, importation, exportation, sale, offering for sale, distribution, transfer, non-consumer use, promotion, advertising or sponsorship of health products without the proper authorization is prohibited.

Since this food product has not gone through evaluation process of the FDA, the agency cannot assure its quality and safety.

All concerned establishments are warned not to distribute, advertise, or sell the said violative food product until CPR is issued, otherwise, regulatory actions and sanctions shall be strictly pursued. Always check if a product is registered with the FDA by using the **FDA Verification Portal feature** accessible at **https://verification.fda.gov.ph.** You may also look for the FDA Registration number on the product label, if available or simply type the name of the product.

All Law Enforcement Agencies and Local Government Unit are requested to ensure that this product is not sold or made available in the market or areas of jurisdiction.

The Bureau of Customs is urged to restrain the entry of the unregistered imported products.

For more information and inquiries about this advisory, kindly contact the FDA Center for Food Regulation Office and Research through email **cfrr@fda.gov.ph** indicating on the subject, the concerned Advisory, or call **(02)8857-1900** local **8105** and **8112**.

To report any sale or distribution of unregistered food product, kindly email us at **ereport@fda.gov.ph.**

Dissemination of this advisory to all concerned is hereby requested.

DR. SAMUEL A. ZACATE
Director General

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