

TANZANIA ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION



REASONS FOR RADIATION ANALYSIS IN THE PRODUCTS CHAIN INCLUDING FOOD, SEEDS, TOBACCO AND FERTILIZER

1. INTRODUCTION

Tanzania Atomic Energy Commission (TAEC) was established by the Atomic Energy Act. No. 7 of 2003 (Atomic Energy Act No.7 of 2003), that repealed Act No. 5 of 1983 (The Protection from Radiation, No. 5 of 1983) which established the National Radiation Commission. This law has given TAEC the authority to regulate the safe use of radiation in the country. To promote safe uses of nuclear technology in the country. Nuclear technology is used in various economic and social sectors such as Health, Agriculture, Livestock, Industry, Water and Research.

2. REASON FOR RADIATION ANALYSIS

Radiations has many benefits, but when are not use in a proper way and to the extent that it enters in the food chain, its becomes very dangerous, because radiation releases energy from the nucleus of an atom that cannot be destroyed in any form. Radioactive substances which can affect human and animal health. Thus, the main reason for measuring radiation in the food chain is to ensure that the food consumed by Tanzanians is not contaminated by radiation and thus it's safe for normal use. This is to ensure that the export markets of our products are protected.

3. FOLLOWING ARE THE MAIN REASONS FOR RADIATION ANALYSIS IN PRODUCTS CHAIN

1. Illicit trafficking of radioactive materials and sources can cause contamination of radiation in foodstuffs or in food chain
2. The presence of natural occurring radioactive material in our soil and environment such as uranium minerals in the country
3. The role of the government to protect its citizens against hazards and dangerous incidences including food chain contamination

4. To protect the market of our products outside the country including sabotage from competitors
5. To fulfill the requirements of the Atomic Energy Act No 7 (2003) and its regulations as well as International health laws such as the World Health Organization (WHO), the world's Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)