

NIGERIA AGRICULTURAL QUARANTINE SERVICE OFFICE OF THE COORDINATING DIRECTOR

MEDIA AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS UNIT



Our attention has been drawn to several media reports purporting that yams exported from Nigeria to the UK were rejected. Following that, it has therefore become expedient that we debunk those misinformation as follows:

- 1. The yams were not rejected.
- 2. Yam Export to US had no issue.
- 3. Nigeria had exported yam before now to Europe and US
- 4. Nigeria export of Yam via a West Africa country has being going on, yet we never ran out of Yam for domestic use.
- 5. Now that Nigeria is taking charge of exporting Nigeria yam, it will not cause scarcity of yam for local consumption. Nigeria has continued to export Yam after the UK export news report, which was not a quality issue but a logistics challenge. The yam exporter Ades Food attested to this fact. The US export had no issue.
- 6. This yam export through another country is not called Nigerian Yam.
- 7. What the HMA is doing is to sensitize Nigeria farmers/exporters to look at the bigger picture, as Nigerians to take our destiny in our hands.
- 8. Remember, the FMARD is running an inter-ministerial Committee on Zero Reject of our non-oil exports.
 - Objectives: to advocate for GAP and acknowledge the role of standards and certification as a pre-requisite for good and profitable exports.
- 9. ABX World recently exported yams, sweet potatoes, okra to Europe this was completely under NAQS inspection and certification.

- 10. Any exporter/farmer that engages NAQS in its export process has always succeeded. Our processes are stringent but satisfying and rewarding.
- 10. No matter the logistic challenge experienced by the exporter of Yam to the UK, Nigeria is very determined and very committed.
- 12. Nigeria has developed Yam heap making machine to increase production and encourage the youth to explore yam cultivation and production.
- 13. Final word all farmers/exporter should endeavour to contact NAQS for avoidance of rejection.

Value added yam derivatives like frozen chips, yam flour (elubo and Poundo) have been processed and developed by the organized private sector.

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