

THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE



**TANZANIA PLANT HEALTH AND PESTICIDES
AUTHORITY (TPHPA)**



19th December, 2023

PUBLIC NOTICE

IMPORT BAN OF SOYBEANS FROM MALAWI TO TANZANIA

Tanzania Plant Health and Pesticide Authority (TPHPA) is the National Plant Protection Organization of the United Republic of Tanzania established under the Ministry of Agriculture under the Plant Health Act No.4 of 2020 responsible for the control of pesticides, phytosanitary measures, importation and use of plants and plant products, prevention of introduction and spread of pests.

TPHPA wishes to bring to your attention an important matter concerning the importation of soybeans from Malawi. Through a thorough Pest Risk Analysis which was conducted to update our phytosanitary import requirements of soybeans from Malawi, it was concluded that the presence of the Tobacco Ringspot Virus (TRSV) in Malawi poses a high risk for the production of soybeans in Tanzania.

The Tobacco Ringspot Virus is a highly contagious plant disease that affects soybean crops. It can cause significant damage to the plants, leading to yield reduction and economic losses ranging from 25% to 100% to farmers. An immediate suspension of all imports of soybeans and its products is necessary to ensure the protection of the fast-growing subsector and prevent the potential introduction and spread of the virus in Tanzania.

To safeguard and protect the interests of Tanzanian farmers as per Plant Health Act, TPHPA has decided to enforce an immediate import ban on soya beans and its products including that on transit originating from Malawi, until further notice.

Therefore, all importers, traders, and relevant stakeholders are advised to comply with this prohibition forthwith. We encourage all importers to explore alternative countries for soybeans.

Thank you for your attention.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Ndunguru'.

Prof. Joseph C. Ndunguru
DIRECTOR GENERAL