

**[NFA LETTER CIRCULAR NO. AO-99-09-001,
September 09, 1999]**

**RULE ON REQUIREMENT FOR NFA SHIPPING PERMIT TO
TRANSPORT RICE AND/OR CORN AND/OR THEIR BY-PRODUCTS
BY WATER FOR PURPOSES OF MONITORING THE STOCK
POSITION AND MOVEMENTS OF TRADE AND TO FORESTALL
ILLEGAL TRADING ACTIVITIES**

Pursuant to the powers granted to the National Food Authority under Presidential Decree No. 4 as amended, to devise and maintain a system for regularly obtaining information on current stock positions of rice and/or corn and/or their by-products, their prices, and movements, and to forestall illegal trading activities, this Circular is hereby issued for the information and compliance of all concerned:

1. All shippers of rice and/or corn and/or their by-products by means of water transport, whether for commercial or for domestic consumption whose volume is fifteen (15) metric tons (i.e. 300 bags @50 kg net) and above, shall be required to apply to the nearest NFA office, for a NFA Shipping Permit prior to loading. Provided, however, that if the rice/corn to be shipped are of foreign origin, a volume of five (5) metric tons or quantity of one hundred (100) bags @ 50 kg net and above shall be covered by a NFA Shipping Permit. The application shall be accomplished in triplicate copies using the prescribed form stating among others the quantity, commodity (rice/corn), value, names of shipper and consignee.

For the purpose of this Circular, the term "water transport" shall mean and include, but not limited to vessel, boat, barge and other water crafts. Rice and/or corn commodities, could either be a full container load (FCL) and/or a less container load (LCL), which includes stocks loaded on trucks on board ferry boats.

2. Both shipper and consignee should be duly licensed by NFA as wholesaler/transporter. In case the rice/corn to be shipped are imported, the shipper/transporter should likewise be a licensed NFA importer and duly granted NFA Import Permit.

If the shipper/transporter is not the direct, importer and have just acquired/bought the commodities from wholesaler or importer, the shipper/transporter documentary evidences such as invoices issued by the seller/importer and the corresponding NFA licenses/permits of the same.

3. Consignees of all rice/corn shipments whether required a NFA Shipping Permit or not should be able to present for their protection, Sales Invoices and NFA licenses and/or other enforcement agencies. Absence of these documents or possession of spurious documents shall be a ground for seizure and detention and eventual confiscation of the stocks by NFA and/or by other enforcement agencies.

4. To ensure adherence and compliance to quality, packaging and labelling standards under L/C No. AO-97-08-001 known as Phil. Grains Standards for Rice