



**FOOD
RESERVE
AGENCY**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PRESS STATEMENT


**OVER ONE MILLION FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND 50 KG BAGS OF MAIZE
RELEASED TO DMMU IN 2019**

The Food Reserve Agency (FRA) during the year 2019 released a total of Seventy-nine thousand, eight hundred and fifty seven metric tonnes (79,857Mt) of white maize equivalent to one million, five hundred and ninety seven thousand, one hundred and forty by fifty kilogramme bags (1,597,140 x 50kg) to the Disaster Management and Mitigation Unit (DMMU) for food relief purposes. The stocks were valued at one hundred and fifty six million, five hundred and nineteen thousand, seven hundred and twenty kwacha only (K156,519,720).

The Agency (FRA) noted that DMMU during the year 2019 recorded a drastic increase in the annual quantities of white maize drawn from its national strategic food reserves compared to the six year annual average of around 9,000Mt (nine thousand metric tonnes). The Agency released the maize stocks from its national strategic food reserves to DMMU in response to the food insecurity situation in affected parts of the country that experienced drought during the 2018/2019 farming season.

The maize was collected from Lusaka, Copperbelt, Central and Southern Provinces and distributed after milling to identified vulnerable communities in various parts of the country including severely affected provinces namely; Southern, Western, Eastern and Central.

During the year 2020, the Agency will endeavor to continue performing its role as a critical partner to DMMU's efforts in meeting such food emergencies caused by drought or floods, or by such other natural disaster.



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