

No. 47072. Is sold without a registration number, although its guaranteed value appears on a tag. It shows 10 per cent deficiency in phosphoric acid, and is adulterated under the Act.

No. 47073. Is not registered, and is amenable to penalties imposed by Section 15.

No. 47089. This sample is adulterated as being 6 per cent below its guarantee in phosphoric acid.

No. 47093. This sample is adulterated as being 3.5 per cent below guarantee value in potash, and 0.75 below in ammonia.

37433. Is not a manufactured fertilizer and said to be sold by mistake.

No. 37437. Is slightly below strength in ammonia. The total value of the fertilizer is however fully equal to its guarantee, there being compensating excess of phosphoric acid.

No. 49407. Is more than one per cent below guarantee in nitrogen, but value is compensated by excess of phosphoric acid.

No. 48255. Samples said to be from old stock, not offered for sale.

No. 44179. Is not registered, and therefore amenable to penalty fixed by Section 15 of the Act.

No. 38348. Sold without registration, therefore subject to penalties fixed by Section 15.

As already stated, this Act has been three years in existence and there should be no difficulty, in securing its strict enforcement. Nevertheless, I am convinced the present machinery is inadequate to this end.

Fertilizers are largely sold to consumers without coming into the possession of agents, or being held in stock by these last. This fact makes it difficult to obtain samples of the goods which actually come into the hands of the consumers.

In order to get these, it would be necessary for our inspectors to visit the consumers, a condition manifestly impossible of fulfilment. Provision is made in Section 10 of the Act, for the user of the fertilizer himself to secure analysis of the goods supplied him, on payment of a nominal sum. As a matter of fact comparatively few purchasers of fertilizers avail themselves of this privilege, less on account of the cost than because of the difficulty of securing a legally representative sample of goods.

The 323 samples again reported represent 234 different brands, of which 108, or nearly one-half, are new. It would appear to be easily possible to secure samples of these by dealing with officials of the Customs Department who could sample the goods at the point of entry; or notify our own inspectors to do this. I shall endeavour to have the suggested plan carried out during the coming year. There appears to be a very sincere desire on the part of manufacturers to live up to the requirements of the Act; and the few instances of failure to meet its demands are seemingly due to carelessness, rather than to any purposed fraud.

In many cases where the dealer has been guilty of selling without a registered number, it has been found by correspondence that the article sold was actually registered by the manufacturer but sold without production of the registration number. In such case the dealer alone is to be blamed. Where through carelessness in handling or storage the registration number is obliterated or lost, the vendor is guilty of violating the terms of the Act, although such violation may be quite unintentional.

I beg to recommend the publication of this report as Bulletin No. 242.

I have, the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

A. MCGILL,

*Chief Analyst.*