

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

FHB(FE)135

Question Serial No.

2616

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

- (a) How many food production farms and food processing plants outside Hong Kong were inspected by the Department in 2011? What were the major regions / places for inspections?
- (b) What are the estimated staff establishment and expenditure to be involved in the inspection of food production farms and food processing plants outside Hong Kong in 2012-13?

Asked by: Hon. WONG Yung-kan

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows -

- (a) In 2011, a total of 90 registered food production farms (including farms which export live food animals, live aquatic products, fish, vegetables and fruits to Hong Kong) and 41 food processing plants in the Mainland were inspected. Another 11 farms and 10 processing plants in Mexico, Germany and Sweden were also inspected.
- (b) An inspection team comprising three veterinary officers, eight field officers and one research officer is responsible for the inspection of food animal farms and fish farms outside Hong Kong. \$7.1 million has been earmarked for the work in 2012-13.

The inspection of vegetable farms and orchards outside Hong Kong is carried out by a research officer while an inspection team comprising five health inspectorate officers is responsible for inspecting food processing plants outside Hong Kong. As these officers are also tasked with other duties, the resources for inspection of vegetable farms, orchards and food processing plants cannot be separately identified.

In 2012, we plan to inspect 50 food animal farms, 18 fish farms, 20 vegetable farms and 41 processing plants outside Hong Kong.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Clement LEUNG

Post Title _____ Director of
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date _____ 29.2.2012

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