

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**FHB(FE)139**

**(Question Serial No. 2336)**

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the inspections of registered vegetable farms on the Mainland supplying vegetables to Hong Kong, please provide information on the following:

- 1) the number of registered vegetable farms on the Mainland, with a breakdown by province, in each of the past four years (i.e. 2011-12, 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15);
- 2) the number of inspections conducted by the Department in each of the past four years (i.e. 2011-12, 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15); whether any targets have been set for the number of inspections; if not, the reason(s); and
- 3) whether there will be an increase in the manpower and expenditure in 2015-16, as well as the details of the post(s) to be created; if not, the reason(s).

Asked by: Hon HO Sau-lan, Cyd (Member Question No. 57)

Reply:

- 1) According to the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine (AQSIQ), the number of registered vegetable farms in the Mainland which may supply vegetables to Hong Kong in 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014 by location is tabulated as follows -

Province/City	No. of Registered Vegetable Farms			
	2011	2012	2013	2014
Guangdong	158	150	142	137
Shenzhen	6	6	6	2
Zhuhai	1	1	1	1
Beijing	4	3	3	3
Chongqing	1	1	1	1

Fujian	11	7	2	1
Gansu	9	9	9	9
Guangxi	2	2	2	2
Guizhou	3	3	3	3
Hainan	15	15	15	15
Hebei	22	14	8	10
Henan	14	14	16	12
Hubei	10	13	13	13
Hunan	50	50	50	32
Jiangsu	25	25	26	28
Jiangxi	15	15	8	8
Liaoning	5	5	5	5
Neimongol	1	1	2	2
Ningxia	17	21	22	23
Shandong	62	69	70	76
Shanxi	2	2	2	2
Shanghai	13	13	13	13
Sichuan	2	2	2	2
Tianjin	7	7	7	7
Xiamen	-	-	6	6
Yunnan	55	55	28	28
Zhejiang	18	18	18	18
<b>Total no. of registered vegetable farms</b>	<b>528</b>	<b>521</b>	<b>480</b>	<b>459</b>

- 2) The total number of inspections conducted to Mainland registered vegetable farms is kept on a calendar year basis. A total of 20, 13, 16 and 17 Mainland registered vegetable farms were inspected in 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014 respectively. The Centre for Food Safety plans to inspect 20 vegetable farms and orchards outside Hong Kong, including the Mainland and overseas in 2015.
- 3) The inspection of vegetable farms and orchards outside Hong Kong (including the Mainland and overseas) is carried out by a team led by an agricultural officer. These officers are also tasked with other duties. There is no plan to increase manpower establishment in 2015-16 as we have so far been able to handle the workload through redeployment. We do not keep separate breakdown on the resources used for inspection of vegetable farms and orchards in the Mainland.

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