

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

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(Question Serial No. 3697)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational Expenses

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:

What was the number of locations with ovitraps set by the Department last year? How many of them were newly selected locations?

Does the Department primarily use the ovitrap indices and the number of residents' complaints as the criteria for assessing mosquito problems?

Asked by: Hon WONG Yuk-man (Member Question No. 73)

Reply:

Ovitraps are set in areas with high human concentrations such as clusters of residential areas, schools and hospitals as recommended by the World Health Organization (WHO) for monitoring the breeding of *Aedes albopictus*, the disease vector of dengue fever. In 2014, while ovitraps were set in the same 44 areas in the community and six groups of port areas as in 2013, one of the areas had been extended to cover the North Lantau Hospital and one of the port groups had been extended to cover the extended portion of the Cathay Pacific Cargo Terminal at the Hong Kong International Airport.

Apart from making reference to the relevant ovitrap index for *Aedes albopictus* and the number of public complaints, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department takes into account other factors such as reports from frontline staff and the views of the relevant District Councils and the local community when planning and implementing mosquito control work.