

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****FHB(FE)097****(Question Serial No. 0014)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not SpecifiedProgramme: (1) Food Safety and Public HealthControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

Please list the number of Mainland production farms exporting food (such as vegetables, fruits, live pigs, live cattle, live chickens, freshwater fish, etc.) to Hong Kong and the number of inspections to these production farms in each of the years from 2014 to 2016. Please also advise on the estimated number of inspections to be conducted in 2017, as well as the expenditure and manpower required for 2016-17 and 2017-18 respectively.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy (Member Question No. 13)Reply:

Information on the types and number of registered Mainland farms eligible for exporting foods to Hong Kong in 2014, 2015 and 2016 respectively is set out below –

Calendar year	Vegetable Farms	Orchards	Poultry Farms	Pig Farms	Cattle Farms	Goat Farms	Aquatic Food Animal Farms	Total
2014	459	3 622	36	216	34	1	181	4 549
2015	450	2 463	34	217	34	1	174	3 373
2016	442	2 978	34	213	36	1	191	3 895

Information on the types and number of Mainland farms inspected by the Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department in 2014, 2015 and 2016 respectively is set out below –

Calendar Year	Vegetable Farms	Orchards	Poultry Farms	Pig Farms	Cattle Farms	Goat Farms	Aquatic Food Animal Farms	Total
2014	17	3	29	8	5	0	7	69
2015	13	3	22	14	6	0	9	67
2016	9	3	25	19	3	1	5	65

In 2017, CFS plans to inspect around 70 farms in the Mainland and overseas, including 50 food animal and fish farms as well as 20 vegetable farms and orchards. The exact number of those types of Mainland farms to be inspected in 2017 will depend on actual needs.

An inspection unit in CFS comprising 3 veterinary officers, 8 field officers and 1 fisheries officer is responsible for the inspection of food animal and fish farms outside Hong Kong, including those types of farms in the Mainland and overseas. The revised estimate of expenditure for conducting inspections of those types of farms outside Hong Kong in 2016-17 was \$10.4 million, and the estimated expenditure in 2017-18 is about \$11.0 million. CFS does not have separate breakdown categorically on the resources used for conducting inspection of those types of farms in the Mainland.

The inspection of vegetable farms and orchards outside Hong Kong, including the Mainland and overseas, is carried out by another team in CFS led by an agricultural officer. The officers in the team are also tasked with other duties. CFS does not have separate breakdown categorically on the resources used for conducting inspection of those types of farms in the Mainland.

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