

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)184

(Question Serial No. 2567)

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:

1. It is estimated that 450 vehicles carrying poultry and 34 000 vehicles carrying vegetables will be inspected at Man Kam To in 2017. Please advise on the benchmarks for these target figures.
2. Please advise on the respective percentages of inspections of vehicles carrying poultry and vegetables in 2017.
3. Please advise on the respective manpower involved in inspections of vehicles carrying poultry and vegetables in 2017.

Asked by: Hon WONG Pik-wan, Helena (Member Question No. 7)

Reply:

1&2. The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department inspects every consignment of live food poultry. In 2016, all of the 448 live poultry vehicles entering Hong Kong were inspected. We estimate that there will be 450 vehicles carrying live poultry entering Hong Kong in 2017 and we will inspect all of them (i.e. 100% inspection).

In 2016, the average daily number of vegetable vehicles passing through the Man Kam To Control Point and entering Hong Kong was 272 according to the Road Cargo System records of the Customs and Excise Department. CFS conducts food surveillance work under a risk-based approach, taking into account past food surveillance results, local and overseas food incidents as well as relevant risk analyses, etc. In 2016, CFS inspected about 92 vegetable vehicles on average every day at Man Kam To Food Control Office. The percentage of inspection for vegetable vehicles in 2016 was 34%. The estimated percentage of inspection for 2017 would remain the same.

3. The manpower establishment of CFS for inspecting vehicles carrying live food animal (including but not limited to live poultry) in 2017-18 is 42, whereas the manpower establishment for inspecting food other than live food (including but not limited to vegetables) imported by land at Man Kam To Food Control Office for 2017-18 is 84.

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