

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)116****(Question Serial No. 0036)**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:

How many non-local food production farms and food processing plants (apart from those on the Mainland) were inspected in each of the years from 2016 to 2018? What are the staff establishment required and expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy (LegCo internal reference no.: 13)Reply:

Information on the numbers of food production farms and food processing plants outside Hong Kong, other than those in the Mainland, inspected by the Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department in 2016, 2017 and 2018 respectively is set out as follows –

Calendar year	Food production farms	Food processing plants	Total
2016	8	11	19
2017	11	23	34
2018	13	9	22

Inspections of food animal and fish farms outside Hong Kong are undertaken by an inspection unit in CFS comprising 3 veterinary officers, 8 field officers and 1 fisheries officer. The actual expenditure for conducting inspections of those types of farms was \$10.5 million in 2016-17 and \$10.8 million in 2017-2018. The revised estimate of expenditure in 2018-19 was \$12.7 million. CFS does not have breakdown on the resources used for conducting inspections of farms by geographical locations.

Inspections of vegetable farms, orchards and food processing plants outside Hong Kong are undertaken by 2 other units in CFS comprising 1 agricultural officer, 5 health inspectors and some other supporting staff. As these units are also tasked with other duties, CFS does not

have breakdown on the resources used specifically for conducting inspections of those types of farms and food processing plants.

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