

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)403****(Question Serial No. 5606)**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 ask the Centre for Food Safety to set out in tabular form the following information on taking fish samples for testing in the past 5 years: (1) the frequency of sampling and testing; (2) the types of fish sampled and tested; (3) the places of purchase; (4) the substances/bacteria tested; (5) the test results/exceedances found; (6) the food sources; (7) whether recalls or cessation of sales of products were arranged; and (8) whether prosecutions were instituted.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 204)Reply:

From 2014 to 2018, the Centre for Food Safety of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department took a total of 11 784 samples of locally produced and imported fish, including freshwater fish, brackish water fish, seawater fish, and fish products at the import, wholesale and retail levels for comprehensive chemical analysis and microbiological testing along a risk-based approach under its Food Surveillance Programme. Breakdown of the numbers of samples taken by year is as follows -

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Total
Number of samples tested	2 793	2 286	2 322	2 258	2 125	11 784
Number of unsatisfactory samples	6	14	18	9	11	58

The aforementioned 58 unsatisfactory samples were mostly detected to have veterinary drug residues, pesticide residues or metallic contamination exceeding the relevant food safety standards. 26 prosecutions were taken against the food traders and 12 food recall exercises were conducted.

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