

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****FHB(FE)072****(Question Serial No. 1807)**

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:

With regard to the import of live pigs, please provide:

- I. the average, the highest and the lowest auction prices per picul of imported live pigs in each of the past 5 years;
- II. the manpower and expenditure involved in import control of live pigs in each of the past 5 years.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Hoi-yan (LegCo internal reference no.: 23)

Reply:

- I. All imported live pigs are sold through auctions. The auction prices of live pigs imported in the past 5 years are tabulated as follows:

Year	Auction prices per picul of imported live pigs (HK\$)		
	Average	Average Highest	Average Lowest
2015	1,361	1,545	1,252
2016	1,567	1,777	1,463
2017	1,302	1,534	1,166
2018	1,211	1,571	1,053
2019	2,387	2,897*	1,953

\* The auction prices of live pigs increased substantially in the second half of 2019 due to lower supply of imported live pigs following the outbreak of African Swine Fever. The maximum auction price of a pig consignment reached HK\$4,711 per picul on 20 August 2019.

II. The manpower and expenditure for the quarantine of imported live food animals in the past 5 years are as follows:

<b>Year</b>	<b>Manpower (No. of staff)</b>	<b>Expenditure (\$ million)</b>
2015-16	42	11.8
2016-17	42	13.4
2017-18	42	13.4
2018-19	42	15.0
2019-20	42	16.5 (revised estimate)

- End -