Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21

Reply Serial No.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

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(Question Serial No. 0234)

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:

Please advise on the number of Mainland farms or processing plants supplying live, chilled and frozen chicken to Hong Kong, the quantities of live, chilled and frozen chicken imported from the Mainland into Hong Kong, their respective share and average import price in each of the past 3 years (i.e. from 2017 to 2019). Besides, please advise on the number of inspections to these farms or processing plants, as well as the manpower and expenditure required, in each of these years.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy (LegCo internal reference no.: 28)

Reply:

There were 28, 29 and 25 Mainland registered poultry farms eligible for supplying live poultry to Hong Kong in 2017, 2018 and 2019 respectively. The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department inspected 25, 16 and 18 of them in the respective years.

There were 16, 16 and 17 Mainland processing plants eligible for supplying chilled chicken to Hong Kong in 2017, 2018 and 2019 respectively. CFS inspected 14, 17 and 16 of them in the respective years, including those then applying for CFS' approval.

There were 90, 92 and 87 Mainland processing plants eligible for supplying frozen chicken to Hong Kong in 2017, 2018 and 2019 respectively. CFS inspected 2, 1 and 4 of them in the respective years.

The quantities of live, chilled and frozen chicken imported from the Mainland into Hong Kong in 2017, 2018 and 2019 are as follows:

	Live chicken			Chilled chicken			Frozen chicken		
	Quantity (kg)*	%	Average import price (\$/kg)*#	Quantity (kg) [@]	%	Average import price (\$/kg)#	Quantity (kg) [@]	%	Average import price (\$/kg)#
2017		_		61 996 000	51.87	20.9	57 532 000	48.13	16.1
2018				61 174 000	53.22	20.5	53 770 000	46.78	17.3
2019				69 765 000	57.04	19.4	52 536 000	42.96	19.6

* The information is provided by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department.

The information is provided by the Census and Statistics Department and based on traders' import declarations to the Customs and Excise Department.

^(e) This is based on information from the Hong Kong Merchandise Trade Statistics.

Inspections of live poultry farms outside Hong Kong are undertaken by an inspection unit of CFS comprising 11 officers. The actual expenditure for conducting inspections of this type of farms was \$6.4 million in 2017-18 and \$6.3 million in 2018-19. The revised estimate of expenditure for 2019-20 was \$6.1 million.

Inspections of food processing plants outside Hong Kong are undertaken by the Food Import and Export Section of CFS. The actual expenditure for conducting inspections of this type of plants was \$2.11 million in 2017-18 and \$2.1 million in 2018-19. The revised estimate of expenditure for 2019-20 was \$2.16 million. There is no separate breakdown on the resources specifically for conducting inspections on Mainland chilled and frozen chicken processing plants.

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