

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)314****(Question Serial No. 4570)**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:

In 2018, the Government relaxed import control on all vegetables, fruits, milk, milk beverages and dried milk from 4 Japanese prefectures, namely Ibaraki, Tochigi, Chiba and Gunma. What are the types and quantities of food products imported into Hong Kong from each of the 4 prefectures? How many samples of these food products are taken for testing and how many of them are detected with irregularities?

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 151)Reply:

The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department has allowed the import of vegetables, fruits, milk, milk beverages and dried milk from 4 prefectures of Japan, namely Ibaraki, Tochigi, Chiba and Gunma, into Hong Kong with conditions with effect from noon on 24 July 2018. As at 31 March 2020, 65 consignments or 17 888 kilograms (kg) of the aforesaid food products were imported from the 4 prefectures. Information on these food products, with a breakdown by food type and import quantity, is set out as follows:

Food type	Import quantities (kg)				Total import quantities (kg)
	Chiba	Tochigi	Gunma	Ibaraki	
Fruits	860	4 573	219	3 375	9 027
Vegetables	310	0	185	7 984	8 479
Dried milk	0	0	382	0	382
					17 888

The aforesaid food products from these 4 prefectures must be accompanied with a radiation certificate and a valid exporter certificate issued by the competent authority of Japan. CFS

has made use of hand-held survey meters to check the radiation levels of each of these consignments and collected 99 food samples under a risk-based approach for laboratory testing. No radiation was detected.

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