

November's monthly gravidtrap index for Aedes albopictus mosquitoes drops from October level

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) today (December 11) announced that the monthly gravidtrap index for *Aedes albopictus* mosquitoes in November dropped to 0.6 per cent from 2 per cent in October, which remained at the lowest Level 1, indicating that the distribution of *Aedes albopictus* mosquitoes in the areas surveyed was not extensive.

In November, all the 64 survey areas were recorded with a gravidtrap index lower than the alert level of 20 per cent. Moreover, the monthly density index for *Aedes albopictus* in November was 1.1, which represented that an average of 1.1 *Aedes albopictus* adults were found in the *Aedes*-positive gravidtraps, indicating that the number of adult *Aedes albopictus* was not abundant in the survey areas. The gravidtrap and density indices for *Aedes albopictus* in different survey areas as well as information on mosquito prevention and control measures are available on the department website at www.fehd.gov.hk.

A spokesman for the FEHD said, "In response to the latest recorded local case of dengue fever (DF), the FEHD and relevant government departments have intensified mosquito prevention and control work in the residence, workplace and locations visited by a patient during the incubation period and after illness onset, including eliminating mosquito breeding places, applying larvicides, conducting fogging operations to eradicate adult mosquitoes, and placing mosquito trapping devices at suitable locations. The FEHD has also provided government departments with professional advice and technical support to assist them in swiftly formulating and implementing effective anti-mosquito measures while strengthening publicity and education at the same time, in order to reduce the risk of DF transmission. Under the concerted efforts and collaboration of various parties, the index in November remained at the lowest level. The FEHD will continue to monitor the mosquito infestation in all districts, and will conduct prompt and effective mosquito prevention and control work."

The FEHD has conducted a three-phase Anti-mosquito Campaign this year. The third phase of the territory-wide campaign, lasting 12 weeks, was conducted from August 5 to October 27. During the period, the district offices of the FEHD targeted areas that had drawn particular concern, such as public markets, cooked food centres and hawker bazaars, single-block buildings, streets and back lanes, common parts of buildings, village houses, construction sites, vacant sites and road works sites, to remove accumulated water and carry out mosquito prevention and control work. To further enhance the effectiveness of mosquito control, the FEHD and relevant government departments have carried out the second phase of the All-out Anti-mosquito Operations since May 2 to focus on intense adult mosquito control by means of regular ultra-low volume fogging operations to continue to eliminate

potential mosquito breeding places, and called on property management offices to arrange necessary repairs to their premises to minimise mosquito breeding places. As the weather has turned cooler and drier, the All-out Anti-mosquito Operations launched since March 26 this year will end on December 30. Although the index remains at a low level, the breeding and activity of mosquitoes will not stop in winter. The FEHD advises members of the public to continue routine mosquito prevention and control work to reduce the chance of mosquito breeding when the rainy season approaches.

The FEHD appeals to members of the public to continue to stay alert and work together to carry out mosquito prevention and control measures early, including inspecting their homes and surroundings to remove potential breeding grounds, changing water in vases and scrubbing their inner surfaces, removing water in saucers under potted plants at least once a week, properly disposing of containers such as soft drink cans and lunch boxes, and drilling large holes in unused tyres. The FEHD also advises members of the public and estate management bodies to keep drains free of blockage and level all defective ground surfaces to prevent the accumulation of water. They should also scrub all drains and surface sewers with an alkaline detergent at least once a week to remove any mosquito eggs.

â€‹*Aedes albopictus* is a kind of mosquito that can transmit DF. DF is commonly found in tropical and subtropical regions of the world, and has become endemic in many countries in Southeast Asia. Based on the latest surveillance data from the Centre for Health Protection of the Department of Health, there has been an increase in DF cases in some places in Asia thus far, compared with the corresponding period of last year. The World Health Organization has recorded over 13 million cases, which is a record number, since the beginning of 2024. Although the number of DF cases recorded in Guangdong Province in the past few months remained at a high level, and most of the cases were locally acquired infection, the number of local DF cases has been decreasing gradually, from over 1 200 cases a week (November 4 to 10) to around 500 cases a week (November 18 to 24), according to the Guangdong Provincial Center for Disease Control and Prevention. Hong Kong has recorded 152 imported DF cases and five local DF cases so far this year. Members of the public should continue to carry out effective mosquito prevention and control measures proactively.

Excavation of dinosaur fossils on Port Island completed

A spokesman for the Development Bureau (DEVB) said today (December 11) that, with the guidance and assistance of experts from the Institute of Vertebrate Paleontology and Paleoanthropology (IVPP) of the Chinese Academy of Sciences and with the support of the Agriculture, Fisheries and

Conservation Department (AFCD), officers from the Antiquities and Monuments Office (AMO) of the DEVB began excavation on Port Island in late October. About 30 rocks containing dinosaur bone fossils have been excavated. The actual quantity of dinosaur fossils can only be confirmed after the fossil preparation is completed. After thorough inspections by the IVPP experts and local palaeontologists at the fossil discovery site, it was confirmed that all exposed fossils have been removed. The team has completed the excavation of dinosaur bone fossils on Port Island.

The AMO and the AFCD, in collaboration with the IVPP, experts and research institutes in Hong Kong, the Mainland and other places, will continue to take forward the preparation of dinosaur fossils and relevant studies to identify the species of dinosaur found on Port Island and to explore the palaeoecology of Hong Kong.

Regarding display and public education, the temporary workshop in the courtyard of the Hong Kong Heritage Discovery Centre will open on December 20. The AMO will make arrangements for the public to observe the preparation of fossil specimens. Dinosaur fossils prepared and other fossils discovered in Hong Kong, such as aquatic animals ostracod and ammonite, as well as ferns, will also be displayed. Details of the arrangements will be announced on the website of the AMO in due course. In addition, the AMO and the AFCD will continue to organise public lectures and palaeontology workshops to enhance public understanding and interest in palaeontology. The AFCD will also hold outreach science popularisation activities for primary and secondary schools. For details, please refer to the websites of the AMO (www.amo.gov.hk/en/visitor-centre/education-programmes/education-activities/special-event/index.html) and Hong Kong Geopark (www.geopark.gov.hk/en/education/educational_activity).

In view of the completion of the investigation and excavation on Port Island, the Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation will lift the closure of the entire area of Port Island within Plover Cove (Extension) Country Park from tomorrow (December 12).

The spokesman stressed that all exposed dinosaur fossils have been removed from Port Island and reminded members of the public that the island is remote and lacks ancillary facilities for landing and sightseeing. Due to geographical and weather conditions that may pose risks for boat docking, members of the public are urged not to take risks to land on Port Island. Furthermore, pursuant to the Antiquities and Monuments Ordinance (Cap. 53), no person other than the Authority and a designated person authorised by it shall excavate or search for antiquities. Any person who discovers or knows of the discovery of an antiquity or supposed antiquity must report the discovery to the AMO.

[Appeal for information on missing woman in Cheung Sha Wan \(with photos\)](#)

Police today (December 11) appealed to the public for information on a woman who went missing in Cheung Sha Wan.

Ma Man-yiu, aged 35, went missing after she was last seen on Cheung Yue Street on December 3 evening. Her family made a report to Police the following day.

She is about 1.6 metres tall, 50 kilograms in weight and of medium build. She has a round face with yellow complexion and long brown and black hair. She was last seen wearing a black long-sleeved jacket, black trousers and white shoes.

Anyone who knows the whereabouts of the missing woman or may have seen her is urged to contact the Regional Missing Persons Unit of Kowloon East on 3661 0335 or email to rmpu-ke-2@police.gov.hk, or contact any police station.



[Fraudulent website related to Bank Julius Baer & Co. Ltd.](#)

The following is issued on behalf of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority:

The Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) wishes to alert members of the public to a press release issued by Bank Julius Baer & Co. Ltd. relating to a

fraudulent website, which has been reported to the HKMA. A hyperlink to the press release is available on the [HKMA website](#).

The HKMA wishes to remind the public that banks will not send SMS or emails with embedded hyperlinks which direct them to the banks' websites to carry out transactions. They will not ask customers for sensitive personal information, such as login passwords or one-time password, by phone, email or SMS (including via embedded hyperlinks).

Anyone who has provided his or her personal information, or who has conducted any financial transactions, through or in response to the website concerned, should contact the bank using the contact information provided in the press release, and report the matter to the Police by contacting the Crime Wing Information Centre of the Hong Kong Police Force at 2860 5012.

Fraudulent websites and internet banking login screens related to Chong Hing Bank Limited

The following is issued on behalf of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority:

The Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) wishes to alert members of the public to a press release issued by Chong Hing Bank Limited relating to fraudulent websites and internet banking login screens, which have been reported to the HKMA. A hyperlink to the press release is available on the [HKMA website](#).

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