

CFS investigates suspected cases of breaching Food Safety Order involving aquatic products, vegetable and seaweed products imported from Japan

The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) announced today (September 29) that aquatic products, vegetable and seaweed products from regulated metropolis/prefectures were found when the CFS inspected food imported from Japan and the importers concerned were in suspected breach of the relevant Food Safety Order. The products concerned have been marked and sealed by the CFS and have not entered the market. The CFS is following up on the cases.

A spokesman for the CFS said, "During an inspection of the food labels of the concerned consignments of food imported from Japan, the CFS found one pack each of chestnut leaves and persimmon leaves from Fukushima, two packs of Japanese shiba shrimp suspected to have been manufactured in Tokyo, a box of sea urchin from Miyagi, as well as a pack of kombu processed in Tokyo and a pack of makizushi nori manufactured in Ibaraki, which are suspected of breaching the relevant Order."

According to the Order, all vegetables, fruits, milk, milk beverages and dried milk originating from Fukushima are banned from importing into Hong Kong, while all aquatic products originating from the 10 metropolis/prefectures, namely Tokyo, Fukushima, Chiba, Tochigi, Ibaraki, Gunma, Miyagi, Niigata, Nagano and Saitama, are prohibited from being imported into and supplied in Hong Kong if they are harvested, manufactured, processed or packed on or after August 24, 2023, including all live, frozen, chilled, dried or otherwise preserved aquatic products, sea salt, and unprocessed or processed seaweed.

The CFS will continue to follow up on the incidents and take appropriate action, including informing the Japanese authorities concerned of the incidents. Prosecutions will be instituted against the importers concerned should there be sufficient evidence. The investigation is ongoing.