

Government announces latest situation of fresh food supply from Mainland

A Government spokesman announced today (April 18) that the supply of fresh food from the Mainland yesterday (April 17) was sufficient and stable.

According to the latest information, the quantity of vegetables supplied from the Mainland to Hong Kong yesterday (as of midnight) by land and water transportation was about 2 500 tonnes, comparable to the average daily supply from the Mainland on a normal day. The volume of vegetables supplied from the Mainland to Hong Kong sold through the wholesale markets of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) and the Vegetable Marketing Organization was about 598 tonnes. The average wholesale prices of choi sum and pak choi stood at \$5.60 and \$6.10 per catty respectively yesterday, and largely returned to the level of a normal day. The supply of eggs to the wholesale market remained steady, with the average daily supply over 3.4 million for the past week, largely comparable to the average daily supply on a normal day last year.

The total supply of chilled meat from the Mainland yesterday was over 40 tonnes. The supply of live pigs was plentiful.

The supply of chilled poultry from the Mainland was about 160 000 head yesterday, and over 9 000 live chickens were slaughtered locally. The supply was abundant.

Regarding the rice supply, in compliance with the requirement of the Government, stockholders of rice have to maintain the reserve stock of rice at a level sufficient for consumption by the local population for 15 days. The trade generally stocks double the required amount, which is sufficient for one month's consumption by Hong Kong citizens. In recent years, the import and consumption of rice in Hong Kong has stood at a steady level of around 320 000 to 330 000 tonnes per year. The import quantity (including reserve stock) as of end-February 2022 was 29 000 tonnes. Suppliers also maintain a reserve for food that can be stored, such as frozen meat, for around three months' stock generally.

The Government will continue to maintain close liaison with the Mainland authorities and major food suppliers to ensure a stable food supply.

The AFCD updates and publishes the fresh food supply information daily. Members of the public may visit the AFCD website for updates on daily supplies and wholesale prices of fresh food (www.afcd.gov.hk/english/agriculture/agr_fresh/agr_fresh.html).