

# Import of poultry meat and products from areas in US suspended

The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department announced today (January 20) that in view of a notification from the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) about outbreaks of highly pathogenic H5N1 avian influenza in areas in the United States (US), the CFS has instructed the trade to suspend the import of poultry meat and products (including poultry eggs) from the relevant areas with immediate effect to protect public health in Hong Kong.

The relevant areas are as follows:

State of South Carolina

(1) Spartanburg County

State of Indiana

(2) Jay County

State of Delaware

(3) Kent County

State of South Dakota

(4) Miner County

State of Missouri

(5) Cooper County

State of Nebraska

(6) Lancaster County

(7) Johnson County

(8) Nemaha County

State of Wisconsin

(9) Burnett County

State of Michigan

(10) Ottawa County

State of California

(11) Butte County

(12) Riverside County

(13) Monterey County

State of Ohio

(14) Mercer County

(15) Greene County

State of Arkansas

(16) Clay County

State of Mississippi  
(17) Copiah County

State of Illinois  
(18) Lawrence County

State of West Virginia  
(19) Pocahontas County

A CFS spokesman said that according to the Census and Statistics Department, Hong Kong imported about 63 470 tonnes of chilled and frozen poultry meat, and about 17.2 million poultry eggs from the US in the first nine months of last year.

"The CFS has contacted the American authority over the issue and will closely monitor information issued by the WOAHP and the relevant authorities on the avian influenza outbreaks. Appropriate action will be taken in response to the development of the situation," the spokesman said.