

Import of poultry meat and products from Sønderborg Municipality in Denmark suspended

The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department announced today (July 7) that in view of a notification from the Danish Veterinary and Food Administration about an outbreak of highly pathogenic H5N8 avian influenza in the Sønderborg Municipality in Denmark, the CFS has instructed the trade to suspend the import of poultry meat and products (including poultry eggs) from the district with immediate effect to protect public health in Hong Kong.

A CFS spokesman said that according to the Census and Statistics Department, Hong Kong imported about 490 tonnes of frozen poultry meat and about 790,000 poultry eggs from Denmark in the first three months of this year.

"The CFS has contacted the Danish authorities over the issue and will closely monitor information issued by the World Organisation for Animal Health and the relevant authorities on the avian influenza outbreak. Appropriate action will be taken in response to the development of the situation," the spokesman said.