

Red tide sighted

A red tide was sighted during the past week, the Inter-departmental Red Tide Working Group reported today (June 30).

The red tide was spotted by staff of the Marine Department on June 27 at Victoria Harbour near Hung Hom. The red tide persists and no associated fish deaths have been reported as of today.

A spokesman for the working group said, "The red tide was formed by *Pseudo-nitzschia delicatissima*, which is commonly found in Hong Kong waters. According to literature overseas, the algal species might produce toxins. However, no such reports have been recorded in Hong Kong."

Red tide is a natural phenomenon. The AFCD's proactive phytoplankton monitoring programme will continue to monitor red tide occurrences to minimise the impact on the mariculture industry and the public.