

Red tide sighted

A red tide has been sighted over the past week, an inter-departmental red tide working group reported today (January 25).

The red tide was spotted by staff of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) at Hoi Ha Wan on January 23.

The red tide has dissipated and no associated death of fish has been reported.

A spokesman for the working group said, "The red tide was formed by *Akashiwo sanguinea*, which is commonly found in Hong Kong waters and is non-toxic."

The AFCD urged mariculturists at Tap Mun, Kau Lau Wan and Sham Wan to monitor the situation closely and increase aeration where necessary.

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