

Veterinary drug chloramphenicol found in blue crab sample

The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department announced today (September 27) that a blue crab sample was detected with a veterinary drug, chloramphenicol. The CFS is following up on the case.

"The CFS collected the sample from a stall in Sai Ying Pun Market for testing under its routine Food Surveillance Programme. The test result showed that the sample contained chloramphenicol at a level of 0.4 parts per billion," the spokesman said.

According to the Harmful Substances in Food Regulations (Cap 132AF), no fish (including shell fish) sold in Hong Kong for human consumption is allowed to contain chloramphenicol. Offenders will be liable to a fine up to \$50,000 and to imprisonment for six months upon conviction.

The spokesman said, "The CFS has informed the vendor concerned of the irregularity and instructed it to stop sale of the affected product."

The CFS will continue to follow up on the case, including tracing the source of the affected product to safeguard food safety and public health.