

Veterinary drug chloramphenicol found in prepackaged frozen jade perch sample

The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department announced today (September 25) that a sample of prepackaged frozen jade perch was detected with a veterinary drug, chloramphenicol. Members of the public should not consume the affected batch of the product. The trade should also stop using or selling the affected batch of the product immediately if they possess it. The CFS is following up on the case.

Product details are as follows:

Product name: JADE PERCH FISH
Brand: (Not available in English)
Net weight: 251 grams to 300g
Best-before date: February 25, 2025
Distributor: Inspire Foodie Limited

A spokesman for the CFS said, "The CFS collected the above-mentioned sample from an online shop for testing under its routine Food Surveillance Programme. The test result showed that the sample contained chloramphenicol at a level of one microgram per kilogram.

"The CFS has informed the vendor concerned of the irregularity and instructed it to stop sales and remove from shelves the affected batch of the product. According to the CFS's instructions, the distributor has initiated a recall on the affected batch of the product. Members of the public may call its hotline at 9778 8484 during office hours for enquiries about the recall of the product concerned," the spokesman added.

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

The CFS will alert the trade and will continue to follow up on the incident and take appropriate action. An investigation is ongoing.