

Import of poultry meat and products from areas in Sweden suspended

The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department announced today (April 23) that in view of a notification from the Swedish Board of Agriculture about an outbreak of highly pathogenic H5N8 avian influenza in Eslöv Municipality of Skåne County in Sweden, the CFS has instructed the trade to suspend the import of poultry meat and products (including poultry eggs) from the above-mentioned area, as well as the Municipalities of Höör and Kävlinge of Skåne County near the affected area, 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 1 550 tonnes of frozen poultry meat from Sweden last year.

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