

## Several kinds of prepackaged puff product may contain undeclared allergen (milk)

The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department today (June 8) said that several kinds of prepackaged puff product manufactured in the United Kingdom might contain an allergen, milk, which was not declared on the products' food label. Consumers who are allergic to milk are advised not to eat the affected products. The trade should also stop using or selling the products concerned immediately should they possess them.

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Product details are as follows:

Product name:

Eat Real Quinoa Puffs White Cheddar 113g

Eat Real Quinoa Puffs Jalapeno & Cheddar 113g

Eat Real Quinoa & Kale Puffs White Cheddar 113g

Eat Real Quinoa & Kale Puffs Jalapeno & Cheddar 40g

Eat Real Quinoa Puffs Jalapeno & Cheddar 40g

Eat Real Quinoa & Kale Puffs White Cheddar 40g

Eat Real Quinoa Puffs Mediterranean 40g

Brand: Eat Real

Place of origin: United Kingdom

Importer: Slowood

Best-before date: All best-before dates up to and including end of May 2022

€ "The CFS, through its Food Incident Surveillance System, noted notices issued by the Food Standards Agency of the UK, the Food Standards Australia New Zealand, and New Zealand's Ministry for Primary Industries that several kinds of puff product (including the above-mentioned products) are under recall because they may contain milk but the ingredient is undeclared on the food label," a spokesman for the CFS said.

€ Upon learning of the incident, the CFS immediately followed up with major local importers and retailers. A preliminary investigation confirmed that the importer concerned had imported the affected products which were on sale in its retail outlets. The importer has already stopped sale and removed from shelves the affected products and initiated a recall according to the CFS' instructions. Members of the public may call its hotline at 2762 0770 during office hours for enquiries about the recall.

€ The spokesman advised consumers who are allergic to milk to stop consuming the products concerned. They should seek medical treatment if they feel unwell after consuming them.

€ "People who are allergic to milk may have immunologic responses like vomiting, diarrhoea and rash upon consumption of food containing this

allergen. In severe cases, anaphylactic shock may even develop. As for other members of the public, generally speaking, they would not be subject to such reactions when the food in question is consumed," he said.

â€‹ The Food and Drugs (Composition and Labelling) Regulations (Cap. 132W) require that all prepackaged food for sale in Hong Kong should list out the food ingredients in its list of ingredients. The maximum penalty upon conviction is a fine of \$50,000 and six months' imprisonment.

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

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## [Veterinary drug chloramphenicol found in venus clam sample](#)

The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department announced today (June 8) that a sample of venus clam was detected to contain a veterinary drug, chloramphenicol. The CFS is following up on the case.

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A CFS spokesman said, "The CFS collected the above-mentioned sample from a stall at Bowrington Road Market in Wan Chai for testing under its Food Surveillance Programme. The test result showed that the sample contained chloramphenicol at a level of 5 micrograms per kilogram."

The spokesman said that the CFS has informed the vendor concerned of the irregularity and instructed the vendor to stop sale of the affected product. The CFS is also tracing the source and distribution of the product concerned.

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 of \$50,000 and to imprisonment for six months upon conviction.

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

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## [Two renovation contractors convicted](#)

# of violating Trade Descriptions Ordinance

Two renovation contractors were sentenced to 80 and 180 hours of community service order today (June 8) respectively at Kowloon City Magistrates' Courts and Eastern Magistrates' Courts for violating the Trade Descriptions Ordinance (TD0). One of the contractors was also ordered by the court to pay compensation of \$25,000 to the victim of the case.

Hong Kong Customs received information alleging that two renovation contractors had engaged in unfair trade practices in the supply of renovation services.

After investigation, it was revealed that the renovation contractor in the first case had made false claims of including some renovation items free of charge. However, the contractor later charged extra fees for those items. The contractor had also made false claims related to the pricing and the supplier of electrical appliance items involved. The total amount of the renovation works contract was \$370,000.

In the second case, the renovation contractor had engaged in a misleading omission in respect of the total contract price. The contractor, upon receiving from the customer \$100,000 as the full payment for the renovation works, asked for an additional charge of \$80,000 for the same renovation works after the commencement of the renovation.

Customs reminds traders to comply with the requirements of the TD0 and consumers to procure services at reputable shops.

Under the TD0, any trader who in the course of any trade or business applies a false trade description to any services commits an offence. Any trader who engages in a commercial practice that omits or hides material information or provides material information in a manner that is unclear, unintelligible, ambiguous or untimely and as a result causes, or is likely to cause, an average consumer to make a transactional decision also commits an offence. The maximum penalty upon conviction is a fine of \$500,000 and imprisonment for five years.

Members of the public may report any suspected violation of the TD0 to Customs' 24-hour hotline 2545 6182 or its dedicated crime-reporting email account ([crimereport@customs.gov.hk](mailto:crimereport@customs.gov.hk)).

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## **Fraudulent mobile application related to The Bank of East Asia, Limited**

The following is issued on behalf of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority:

The Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) wishes to alert members of the public to a press release issued by The Bank of East Asia, Limited relating to a fraudulent mobile application (App), which has been reported to the HKMA. A hyperlink to the press release is available on the [HKMA website](#).

Anyone who has provided his or her personal information, or who has conducted any financial transactions, through or in response to the App concerned, should contact the bank using the contact information provided in the press release, and report the matter to the Police by contacting the Cyber Security and Technology Crime Bureau of the Hong Kong Police Force at 2860 5012.

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## **Fraudulent websites and phishing instant messages related to The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited**

The following is issued on behalf of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority:

The Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) wishes to alert members of the public to a press release issued by The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited relating to fraudulent websites and phishing instant messages, which has been reported to the HKMA. A hyperlink to the press release is available on the [HKMA website](#).

Anyone who has provided his or her personal information, or who has conducted any financial transactions, through or in response to the websites concerned, should contact the bank using the contact information provided in the press release, and report the matter to the Police by contacting the Cyber Security and Technology Crime Bureau of the Hong Kong Police Force at 2860 5012.