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## FACT SHEET

### Guangdong's regulation of food exports to Hong Kong

#### 1. Background

1.1 In the Mainland, the State General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine (國家質量監督檢驗檢疫總局) ("AQSIQ") is a ministerial administrative body established under the State Council (國務院) tasked with, among other things, overseeing the safety of exported food.<sup>1</sup> AQSIQ has set up 35 entry-exit inspection and quarantine bureaux in various provinces for administering the relevant food export legislation and regulations. In Guangdong, there are three AQSIQ entry-exit inspection and quarantine bureaux<sup>2</sup> responsible for regulation of food such as vegetables, live poultry, livestock and aquatic products exported to Hong Kong.

1.2 As to food export legislation, the *Food Safety Law of the People's Republic of China* 《中華人民共和國食品安全法》 is the overarching legislation covering areas such as safety of exported food, monitoring and assessment of food safety risks, food safety standards and food inspection. Other relevant legislation includes the *Law of the People's Republic of China on the Entry and Exit Animal and Plant Quarantine* 《中華人民共和國進出境動植物檢疫法》, the *Law of the People's Republic of China on Import and Export Commodity Inspection* 《中華人民共和國進出口商品檢驗法》 and related regulations.

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<sup>1</sup> The responsibilities of AQSIQ include entry-exit health quarantine, entry-exit commodity inspection, entry-exit quarantine of animals and plants, safety of imported and exported food, and certification and accreditation.

<sup>2</sup> These are the Guangdong, Shenzhen and Zhuhai Entry-Exit Inspection and Quarantine Bureaux.

1.3 In addition to the national legislation, AQSIQ has also put in place various administrative measures regulating the supply of specified categories of food to Hong Kong. These administrative measures provide for the registration of farms and related establishments supplying food to Hong Kong, the control and supervision of the registered establishments, and the related inspection and quarantine arrangements. The entry-exit inspection and quarantine bureaux in Guangdong are responsible for implementing the respective administrative measures, and the relevant provisions governing the export of vegetables, live poultry, livestock (pigs, cattle and goats) and aquatic products to Hong Kong are highlighted in the **Table** below.

**Table – Guangdong's regulation of food exports to Hong Kong**

	Vegetables	Live poultry	Live pigs	Live cattle	Live goats	Aquatic products
<b>Background information</b>						
Number of registered farms and/or processing plants in Guangdong <sup>3</sup>	• 147.	• 36.	• 82.	• 2.	• Information not available.	• 77.
Major locations of registered farms and/or processing plants in Guangdong	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Huizhou (惠州).</li> <li>• Qingyuan (清遠).</li> <li>• Guangzhou (廣州).</li> <li>• Shaoguan (韶關).</li> <li>• Zhanjiang (湛江).</li> <li>• Zhongshan (中山).</li> <li>• Dongguan (東莞).</li> <li>• Zhaoqing (肇慶).</li> <li>• Meizhou (梅州).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Foshan (佛山).</li> <li>• Huizhou (惠州).</li> <li>• Guangzhou (廣州).</li> <li>• Zhongshan (中山).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Huizhou (惠州).</li> <li>• Jiangmen (江門).</li> <li>• Heyuan (河源).</li> <li>• Qingyuan (清遠).</li> <li>• Shanwei (汕尾).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dongguan (東莞).</li> <li>• Zhanjiang (湛江).</li> </ul>	• Information not available.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Zhongshan (中山).</li> <li>• Foshan (佛山).</li> <li>• Jiangmen (江門).</li> <li>• Zhanjiang (湛江).</li> </ul>

<sup>3</sup> The figure refers to the numbers of farms and/or processing plants registered with the Guangdong Entry-Exit Inspection and Quarantine Bureau for supplying food to Hong Kong and Macao. The numbers of farms and/or processing plants registered with the Shenzhen and Zhuhai Entry-Exit Inspection and Quarantine Bureaux are not available.

**Table – Guangdong's regulation of food exports to Hong Kong (cont'd)**

	Vegetables	Live poultry	Live pigs	Live cattle	Live goats	Aquatic products
<b>Relevant administrative measures</b>						
Administrative measures regulating food exports to Hong Kong	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Administrative Measures on Inspection, Quarantine, and Supervision for Vegetables Supplied to Hong Kong and Macao 《供港澳蔬菜檢驗檢疫監督管理辦法》.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Administrative Measures on Inspection and Quarantine of Live Birds Supplied to Hong Kong and Macao 《供港澳活禽檢驗檢疫管理辦法》.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Administrative Measures on Inspection and Quarantine of Live Pigs Supplied to Hong Kong and Macao 《供港澳活豬檢驗檢疫管理辦法》.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Administrative Measures on Inspection and Quarantine of Live Cattle Supplied to Hong Kong and Macao 《供港澳活牛檢驗檢疫管理辦法》.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Administrative Measures on Inspection and Quarantine of Live Goats Supplied to Hong Kong and Macao 《供港澳活羊檢驗檢疫管理辦法》.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Measures for the Supervision and Administration of the Inspection and Quarantine of Export-oriented Aquatic Animals 《出境水生動物檢驗檢疫監督管理辦法》.</li> </ul>
Major types of establishments regulated under the administrative measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vegetable farms; and production and processing plants.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Poultry farms; and transport and storage establishments.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pig farms; and transport and storage establishments.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Feedlots; transit farms; and transport establishments.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Transit farms and transport establishments.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aquaculture farms; fishery establishments; transit farms; and packing and transport establishments.</li> </ul>

**Table – Guangdong's regulation of food exports to Hong Kong (cont'd)**

	Vegetables	Live poultry	Live pigs	Live cattle	Live goats	Aquatic products
<b>Registration and control system for farms, processing plants and transit farms</b>						
Major registration criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Installing a well-established quality and safety management system.</li> <li>Having the capacity to test pesticide residue for the outputs.</li> </ul> <p><u>Additional criteria for farms</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>using soil, water and irrigation systems that meet the national quality standards; and</li> <li>employing dedicated staff for managing the usage and storage of pesticides and related materials.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rearing at least 30 000 birds.</li> <li>Not having any outbreak of avian influenza in the farm and nearby areas in the past six months.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supplying at least 10 000 heads of pig each year.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Having a rearing capacity of not less than 200 heads and 20 heads of cattle for feedlot and transfer establishment respectively.</li> <li>Not having any outbreak of specific animal diseases in (a) the feedlot and nearby areas in the past six months, and (b) the transit farm in the past 21 days.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Having a rearing capacity of not less than 200 heads of goat.</li> <li>Not having any outbreak of specific animal diseases in the past 21 days.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Using (a) water that meets the relevant national quality standards; and (b) facilities, equipment and materials that meet the inspection and quarantine requirements for rearing the aquatic products.</li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Being at least 1 000 m (for live poultry and pigs) or 500 m (for live cattle and goats) away from any farm, hospital or slaughter house.</li> <li>Rearing only the specified type of poultry or livestock in the farms.</li> </ul>				
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Built with well-established animal disease prevention system and farming system, and operated under a hygienic environment.</li> </ul>				

**Table – Guangdong's regulation of food exports to Hong Kong (cont'd)**

	Vegetables	Live poultry	Live pigs	Live cattle	Live goats	Aquatic products
<b>Registration and control system for farms, processing plants and transit farms (cont'd)</b>						
Valid period of registration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Four years.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Five years.</li> </ul>				
Requirements for quality management and/or record systems	<u>Farms</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• keeping records of the operations such as pesticides used, incidents of pest attacks, sales records etc.</li> </ul> <u>Processing plants</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• testing outputs against the relevant standards, and maintaining a record system for information on the raw materials inspected and outputs tested.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establishing an animal disease prevention and control system managed by a registered veterinarian.</li> <li>• Keeping records of the operations of the farms or transit farms in terms of disease prevention and control system, vaccination arrangements, and usage of feeds and approved medicine.</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintaining a safety evaluation system for aquatic animals introduced into the farms.</li> <li>• Keeping records of the operations of the aquaculture or transit farms covering the monitoring of water quality, outbreaks of diseases, usage of feeds and medicine etc.</li> </ul>	
Requirements for the use of fertilizers, pesticides, feeds or medicine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meeting the standards and requirements of Hong Kong, Macao or the Mainland where appropriate.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meeting the relevant national standards.</li> </ul>				
Requirements for report and control of epidemic diseases	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No specific requirement.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reporting the occurrence or suspected occurrence of epidemic diseases in the establishments to the responsible local authorities and taking appropriate actions to control the diseases.</li> </ul>				
Inspection of the establishments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regular inspections of the farms, processing plants and transit farms to ensure their compliance with the registration requirements and other requirements on the quality management and record systems.</li> </ul>					

**Table – Guangdong's regulation of food exports to Hong Kong (cont'd)**

	Vegetables	Live poultry	Live pigs	Live cattle	Live goats	Aquatic products
<b>Inspection and quarantine arrangements</b>						
Responsibilities of the local inspection and quarantine authorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inspecting the documents submitted by the processing plants to certify the origin and the test results of the vegetables exported.</li> <li>Conducting sample tests on the vegetables.</li> <li>Issuing the customs clearance document if the test results are satisfactory.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Segregating the birds for quarantine for five days before the day of export.</li> <li>Testing at least 0.5% of the birds or at least 13 birds for each batch of birds exported for any infection of H5 avian influenza.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Segregating the pigs for quarantine and conducting relevant sample tests.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Segregating the cattle for quarantine, and conducting relevant sample tests where necessary.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inspecting the goats for export, and conducting relevant sample tests where necessary.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inspecting the relevant documents and the aquatic animals for export.</li> <li>Supervising the loading of aquatic products.</li> <li>Affixing seals on the product containers or the vehicles carrying the aquatic products.</li> <li>Issuing the relevant customs clearance documents, and the animal health certificate (if required) if the aquatic products meet the inspection and quarantine requirements.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supervising the loading of vegetables or animals to the vehicles by the farms or processing plants.</li> <li>Supervising the affixing of seals or marks to the vehicles by the farms or processing plants, or being responsible for affixing the seals or marks.</li> </ul>					
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Issuing the "Animal Health Certificate" (動物衛生證書) to certify that the animals meet the inspection and quarantine requirements.</li> </ul>				

**Table – Guangdong's regulation of food exports to Hong Kong (cont'd)**

	Vegetables	Live poultry	Live pigs	Live cattle	Live goats	Aquatic products
<b>Inspection and quarantine arrangements (cont'd)</b>						
Inspection and quarantine arrangements at the port of exit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inspecting the relevant documents, the animals (for live poultry and livestock), and the seals or marks affixed by the local inspection and quarantine authorities, the farms or the processing plants (if available).</li> <li>Re-issuing the Animal Health Certificate for livestock if there is a change in the vehicles used for carrying the animals to Hong Kong.</li> <li>Issuing the relevant customs clearance document if not yet been issued.</li> </ul>					
<b>Product identification and tracing system</b>						
Arrangements to facilitate traceability of food exports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vegetable farms issue a raw material processing certificate (加工原料證明文件) for every vegetable supply consignment to certify its source.</li> <li>Processing plants affix label on the packaging of the vegetables which includes information on name of the processing plant, date of production and consignment number.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Animal Health Certificate issued by the local inspection and quarantine authorities contains information on the farm or establishment from which the animals are exported.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The tattoo marks or the ear-tags on the animals indicate the registered farms they originate from.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Label is affixed on the packaging or containers of the aquatic animals which contains information on names of the aquaculture farm and export enterprise, and type and quantity of the aquatic animals being exported.</li> </ul>	

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## References

### Hong Kong

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### The Mainland

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