立法會 Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(2)410/12-13(02)

Ref: CB2/PL/FE

Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene

Information note prepared by the Legislative Council Secretariat for the special meeting on 3 January 2013

Production, sale and use of substandard cooking oil ("gutter oil")

The recent media reports about a suspected unlicensed establishment supplying suspected substandard cooking oil to local restaurants have aroused wide public concern over the safety of cooking oil used by local restaurants. In the light of the media reports, the Centre for Food Safety ("CFS") has conducted inspections at the establishment in question, its supplier of cooking oil and 13 local restaurants. According to the press release issued by the Administration on 18 December 2012, Benzo [a] pyrene ("BaP") was detected in several cooking oil samples collected from these premises. CFS has requested the cooking oil supplier concerned to stop selling and recall the affected product.

- 2. BaP is toxic to genes and can cause cancer in humans. The European Union and the Mainland have set legal limits for BaP in various processed foods. However, neither the Codex Alimentarius Commission nor Hong Kong has set any legal limits of BaP in food. According to CFS, whenever BaP is detected in food, CFS will conduct a risk assessment to assess the health risk involved and advise appropriate measures to be taken.
- 3. Between January 2011 and October 2012, CFS tested more than 310 cooking oil samples under the regular food surveillance programme. All samples were found to be satisfactory. CFS also carried out a targeted food surveillance project in November 2012. Results of all samples were also satisfactory.

- 4. To allay public concerns, CFS will carry out another targeted food surveillance project on cooking oil. The project is expected to be completed within one to two months.
- 5. The recent media reports and press releases issued by the Administration in relation to the issue of substandard cooking oil are in **Appendices I** and **II** respectively.

Council Business Division 2
<u>Legislative Council Secretariat</u>
2 January 2013



蘋果日報

2012-12-13

A02| 要閏

《蘋果》直擊黑心工場 內地購花生油葵涌加工 油價平一半 13食肆中招

【本報訊】為調查永興油行是否在製造地溝油,以及這些懷疑含有致癌物質的食油,怎樣被送往食肆傾銷,《蘋果》記者在過去兩個月時間內多次跟蹤及「放蛇」,最終直擊到油行向內地糧油商購入花生油後,進行兌溝加工,以及一次次運往港九新界食肆的流程。誤收這類地溝油的食肆多不勝數,其中13家包括連鎖酒樓在內的食肆,更成為常客;記者在調查過程中,已分別聯絡其中部份食肆,以及向食環署舉報。記者:林熊

陳偉雄

邱錦綉

永興油行的廠房位於葵涌永健工業大廈,衛生環境十分惡劣,地上滿佈油**迹**和垃圾,牆身發霉剝落,發出陣陣惡臭,恍如內地的黑心工場。工廈走廊放滿一桶桶油,油桶上插了油管,正在抽油往貨倉內的油缸。

這些用大鐵桶裝着的油,部份寫着「皇冠花生油」或「金帝花生油」,似是購自不同油行;不過,這些不同品牌的油全部抽往同一個油缸,混合後再分裝入細鐵桶分銷出去。

中招食肆遍佈全港九

經記者長時間觀察,發現永興職員每周有多天會到北大荒位於屯門的廠房提取10多桶 (每桶200公斤)花生油,再運返葵涌廠房「加工」,在儲存缸混合其他油後,再分成 28斤鐵罐裝分銷出去,懷疑就是這個加工過程,將花生油變成含有致癌物質的地溝油。

每天早上8時許,兩名永興工人便會將約70罐油搬上貨車,然後開始送貨。記者尾隨視察,發現他們的送貨路線並非固定,經過不斷跟蹤,發現他們重複送貨的地點包括葵芳恒景花園「尚賓樓」、長沙灣「裕滿人家」、深水埗「寶龍酒家」、九龍灣「豚肉飯專門店」,筲箕灣、牛頭角、長沙灣的「嘉豪酒家」,銅鑼灣「旺記飯店」、灣仔「坤記麵廠」、鰂魚涌「華威酒家」、香港仔中心「權發飯店」、觀塘「喜雲天」和土瓜灣「囍慶藝廚酒家」等共13間食肆。這些食肆中,不少是連鎖式酒家、酒樓。

記者日前到永興查問,負責人陳先生見記者手持一份關於其油廠花生油的化驗報告後,即黑面說:「我哋呢度係工廠嚟,啲油唔係用嚟食,係工業用油!」他又否認將油分銷予食肆,「我都講咗,我哋係賣工業用豬油,用嚟製造番梘同化妝品,又或者 畀機器用,唔係食嚟!」

「為咗降低成本搶客」

陳先生說不會在廠房內進行加工或煉油,說畢即趕記者離場;此時,工廠內的職員繼續裝油,記者再跟蹤,發現他們將油送去八間食肆。

北大荒(香港)有限公司副主席袁子輝證實,有批發花生油給永興,每桶200公斤裝售價6,500元,即每斤16.25元;但永興28斤裝花生油,賣210元,即每斤7.5元至8元,比來貨價便宜一半有多,明顯做了「手腳」,「呢行競爭好大,應該係有人為咗降低成本搶客,加入廉價嘅劣質油,令到啲油出事。」

花生油不應含致癌物

袁子輝稱,他們也會「溝油」,但只會「靚油」溝「靚油」,不會用平價油混入「靚油」;而在正常生產過程中,花生油不會含有致癌物質苯並(a)芘,「可以咁講,花生油絕對唔應該含有苯並(a)芘。」袁強調做食用油生意,應該要有良心,這種混入劣質油的做法十分不道德,調查後如證實永興違規,不會再與他們合作。

港人鬧爆奸商

劉小姐

「賣地溝油嘅商人好唔啱,係黑心奸商。」

江先生、李小姐

「生產地溝油嘅商家,完全有社會責任心,為錢而埋沒良心。」

李小姐

「相信本港就算有食肆用地溝油,都只佔極小部份。」

文章編號: 201212130060124

本內容經慧科的電子服務提供。 本內容之版權由相關傳媒機構 / 版權持有人擁有。除非獲得明確授權,否則嚴禁複製、改編、分發或發布本內容。版權持有人保留一切權利。

_____ 1 -----

慧科訊業有限公司 查詢請電: (852) 2948 3888 電郵速遞: sales@wisers.com 網址: http://www.wisers.com 慧科訊業有限公司(2012)。版權所有,翻印必究。



蘋果日報

A02| 要聞

2012-12-13

港油商證溝油普遍

【業界質疑】

對於本港市面出現地溝油,本港糧油界及餐飲業界均感到愕然;香港糧油業商會理事關思聰指出,其實港府經常抽查從外國入口的食油,若發現有害物質超標,就會整批銷毀。

關思聰表示,過往有油商發現入口的食油含有害物質超標後,會偷偷用「靚油」兌 溝,以求降低有害物質的含量。他補充,本港大部份油商從外國入口原油後,都會根 據市場需求而用不同品質的油兌溝,兌溝各種油的比例就是自己公司的秘方,但無論 如何,都絕不會用劣質油來溝。

對於有油商向本港食肆傾銷地溝油,香港餐飲聯業協會總幹事譚俠聲指,本港餐飲業所用的食用油,均是自行向油商採購,業界無統一或指定的供應商,他希望業界向信譽食好的油商取貨。譚俠聲指,本港餐飲業已很成熟,注重商譽,相信不會貿然購買來歷不明的食油。

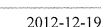
《蘋果》記者

文章編號: 201212130060020

本內容經慧科的電子服務提供。 本內容之版權由相關傳媒機構 / 版權持有人擁有。除非獲得明確授權,否則嚴禁複製、改編、分發或發布本內容。版權持有人保留一切權利。

_____ 1 -----

慧科訊業有限公司 查詢請電: (852) 2948 3888 電郵速遞: sales@wisers.com 網址: http://www.wisers.com 懸科訊業有限公司(2012)。版權所有,翻印必究。





明報 A01| 要聞 頭條

北大荒食油致癌物超標 兩樣本高歐盟7倍食署促停售回收

【明報專訊】內地糧油集團「北大荒」捲入黑心食油風波。食環署上周在港九抽驗39個食油樣本,發現有4個樣本的致癌物「苯並(a)芘」含量超標,分別涉及永興油行及糧油供應商北大荒(香港)的食油樣本。其中,北大荒兩個「金帝濃香花生油」的苯並(a)芘超標較嚴重,較歐盟標準高7倍,較中國標準亦高六至七成。食環署已要求北大荒停止供應有關食油產品,並向客戶全面回收。

北大荒:沒超標食署追查分銷情况北大荒是內地上市的著名糧油及食米集團,兩年多前在港成立北大荒(香港)有限公司。北大荒(香港)發言人昨堅持公司代理食油安全,致癌物沒有超標:「請大家放心。」但食環署堅稱北大荒兩個食油樣本致癌物超標,又指食物安全中心正追查這些食油的來源及分銷情况。

永興油行有超標「金帝」油字樣罐

據報道,永興油行懷疑曾向北大荒(香港)購買食油,自行稀釋及分銷,本報上周在 永興油行內,亦曾發現印有「金帝濃香花生油」字樣的200公斤罐裝食油,今次食環署 的化驗結果,令人關注致癌物超標食油的源頭會否是北大荒(香港),事件亦帶出本 港對人口食油缺乏化驗或監管。

食環署昨表示,現時本港法例,並沒有就食物中的苯並(a)芘含量制定法定限值,暗示難以直接就4樣本超標一事提出檢控,但指署方將因應公眾對致癌食油(如地溝油)的疑慮,未來一兩個月大規模化驗供應及零售層面的食油是否含苯並(a)芘。

倘證實溝油永興可控無牌製食品

食環署又稱,會進一步化驗永興及北大荒(香港)4個超標食油樣本內是否含其他有害物質,以研究可否以其他原因提檢控,或採進一步行動保障公眾健康。消息人士補充,葵涌永興油行衛生環境欠佳兼未領取食物製造廠牌照,只要能證實該公司曾自行溝製食油,有可能控告負責人無牌製造食品。

位於葵涌的永興油行,被指在衛生環境差劣廠房內,自行把花生油以不明材料稀釋,再用超低價轉售給至少10多間食肆。食環署上周取得法庭手令後,聯同警方等破門進入油行,檢走8個食油樣本化驗,同一時間,食環署亦到被指曾向永興供應食油的北大荒(香港)位於屯門新益里的廠房,取走20個食油樣本,連同在食肆抽取的11個樣本交給化驗所。

39 樣本4 不合格北大荒永興各二

食環署食物安全中心昨公布結果,指39個食油樣本中有4個不合格,其中北大荒(香港)所抽樣20個樣本中有兩個「金帝濃香花生油」樣本,驗出每公斤分別含16及17微

克的致癌物苯並(a)芘,較歐盟標準(2 微克)及中國標準(10 微克)都高。至於永興油行8個食油樣本,有兩個的苯並(a)芘含量超過歐盟標準,含量分別為每公斤5.8及6.2 微克,但此數值沒有超過中國標準。

食物安全中心稱,大量的苯並(a) 芘對人類基因有害,可能致癌,但今次4個食油樣本超標不算嚴重,對食用者健康風險應不大,但為慎重起見,中心已要求供應商(北大荒(香港)) 停止供應有關產品並向客戶全面回收。

記者昨到葵涌永興油行,見到消防員再次巡查上址有否商戶違例阻塞走火通道,但油行仍無人上班。

北大荒

記者昨在北大荒(香港)在屯門新益里的廠房內,看到有一些表面不見標籤的紅色及 綠色大型金屬罐,暫未知罐內盛載的是否食環署發現致癌物超標的「金帝濃香花生 油」。(鄧宗弘攝)

*食油驗出含「苯並(a)芘」可致癌,歐盟規定每公斤食品中有關含量不能多於2微克,中國標準則是10微克**記者曾在永興油行發現200公斤裝「金帝濃香花生油」鐵罐,但不確定是否購自北大荒(香港)

永興油行

被驗出有兩個食油樣本致癌物超標的葵涌永興油行(生鏽鐵閘),昨日仍無人上班,消防員昨日再次巡視上址,了解是否有人違法阻塞走火通道。(楊嘉欣攝)

食環署昨指出北大荒(香港)屯門廠房兩個「金帝濃香花生油」樣本致癌物超標。巧合的是,記者上周在葵涌永興油行內亦發現印有「金帝」字樣的200公斤大油筒(圖),令人關注永興的食油是否來自北大荒(香港)。(資料圖片)

文章編號: 201212190040226

本內容經慧科的電子服務提供。 本內容之版權由相關傳媒機構 / 版權持有人擁有。除非獲得明確授權,否則嚴禁複製、改編、分發或發布本內容。版權持有人保留一切權利。

----- 1 ------

慧科訊業有限公司 查詢請電: (852) 2948 3888 電郵速遞: sales@wisers.com 網址: http://www.wisers.com 慧科訊業有限公司 (2012)。版權所有,翻印必究。



南華早報 2012-12-19

CITY4| CITY| Food safety| By Amy Nip

Tests reveal carcinogen in cooking oils

Four cooking oil samples were found to contain a cancer-causing substance at levels higher than the European Union's limit, the Centre for Food Safety said yesterday.

The centre took 39 cooking oil samples from an oil plant in Kwai Chung's Wing Kin Industrial Building, the plant's supplier in Tuen Mun, and 13 restaurants in various districts that allegedly bought oil from the establishment.

Tests revealed two samples that came from the Tuen Mun supplier contained the carcinogen Benzopyrene at 16 and 17 micrograms per kilogram of oil, exceeding the mainland's legal limit of 10 micrograms per kg and the EU's limit of two micrograms per kg. The substance was found in two samples from the Kwai Chung plant at levels of 5.8 and 6.2 micrograms per kg respectively, lower than the mainland's limit but exceeding the EU's.

The announcement came after media reports last week alleging the Kwai Chung plant had supplied substandard oil to various eateries. The plant reportedly mixed unknown substances into the oil it received from the Tuen Mun supplier.

Hong Kong does not set a limit on Benzopyrene in foodstuffs. The health risk in consuming the cooking oils concerned was not high, the centre's spokesman said. "However, for the sake of prudence, the Centre for Food Safety has requested the cooking oil supplier to stop selling and recall the affected product."

The department has sent a notice to the suppliers requiring improvement of hygiene conditions. However, it did not say whether they would be prosecuted, and investigations were continuing.

The centre's findings did not indicate whether the problematic oils were tied to "gutter oil", or oil illegally produced by collecting discarded oil from restaurant waste, a practice that has sparked controversy on the mainland.

"The oils [named by the centre] are substandard, but we cannot call them 'gutter oil' before identifying their sources," William Chui Chun-ming, president of the Society of Hospital Pharmacists, said.

Gutter oil can be a source of carcinogens if producers fail to remove harmful substances during the process of recycling discarded oil. Still, other types of contamination during the production process could also be the reason behind the presence of cancer-causing substances, he said. "Benzopyrene can be found in smoke and burned wood, and it could appear in oil if the burnt matter accidentally falls into it," he added.

Given that Benzopyrene is a carcinogen, people should avoid ingesting it, he said.

文音編號:	20	121	121	an	27	n	147	1
V = 0m 4/T.	/.11	<i>1</i> /.	/. I	71	12.1	111	1-4 /	

本內容經慧科的電子服務提供。 本內容之版權由相關傳媒機構 / 版權持有人擁有。除非獲得明確授權,否則嚴禁複製、改編、分發或發布本內容。版權持有人保留一切權利。

----- **1** -----

慧科訊業有限公司 查詢請電: (852) 2948 3888 電郵速遞: sales@wisers.com 網址: http://www.wisers.com 慧科訊業有限公司 (2012)。版權所有,翻印必究。





明報 A06| 港間

北大荒非登記進口商揭違規 食安中心查單據 追蹤上下游 公司

【明報專訊】兩個食油樣本被驗出含致癌物質苯並(a)芘的屯門新益里食油供應商北大荒,強調沒銷售問題油,並稱近兩個月來只替外來油商「金帝濃香花生油」包裝過200公斤食油;因涉不同說法,食安中心仍正調查單據,追蹤北大荒上游及下游公司。另北大荒被發現沒按規定登記為進口商或分銷商,該署已發警告信,飭令其14天內登記。違反登記規定的商戶,可被罰款5萬元及監禁6個月。

食環署助理署長李小苑昨在商台《晴朗的一天出發》受訪時稱仍在追查問題食油來 源,但因涉不同講法,連日來署方忙於檢查單據,署方已聯絡到相關分銷商,停止有 關食油銷售。

北大荒出示內地質檢證書食安中心正追蹤北大荒的上游及下游公司,據悉,北大荒的金帝濃香花生油來自新天地企業。北大荒昨亦出示一張在中國烟台印發的出入境檢驗檢疫品質證書,收貨人新天地企業在今年4月入1.6 萬公斤金帝濃香花生油,而發貨人是「QingdaoGrand International Co. Ltd」,本報昨未能與發貨人聯絡。

回收14桶封存16桶

另外,金帝花生油及永興油行產品未發現直接零售,供應商指花生油用作原料和其他油脂混合使用。食環署人員調查發現不同公司名稱發出的食物銷售單據,資料尚在核對。據供應商資料,目前仍在回收,現已回收14桶金帝濃香花生油,另有16桶金帝濃香花生油已被中心封存。該中心已巡查已知的涉事食肆及抽取油樣本化驗,結果滿意。

北大荒(香港)副主席袁子輝昨在港台《千禧年代》受訪時聲稱,該公司從加拿大進口食油,全部符合國際安全標準,又聲言被驗出含致癌物質苯並(a)芘超標16及17 微克的問題油,來自外來油商「金帝濃香花生油」,北大荒只負責替該油商將大包食油包裝為小包,但無代為銷售。袁又稱「金帝濃香花生油」提出合作時,曾出示合格及產地證書。袁子輝又否認涉事的永興油行向北大荒買油。北大荒昨發聲明稱會配合食安中心查核源頭,已停止包裝及運送「金帝濃香花生油」,並要求全面退回「金帝濃香花生油」。

學者:分析即知結果難抵賴中大生命科學院副教授何永成說,政府化驗所用化學分析將食油樣本作成分測試便可知結果,供應商無從抵賴。他說,高溫煮食或製油過程中會產生苯並(a)芘,若翻用食油,產生的苯並(a)芘便會超標,而目測亦可分辨食油是否受污染。

本內容經慧科的電子服務提供。 本內容之版權由相關傳媒機構 / 版權持有人擁有。除非獲得明確授權,否則嚴禁複製、改編、分發或發布本內容。版權持有人保留一切權利。

----- 1 ------

慧科訊業有限公司 查詢請電: (852) 2948 3888 電郵速遞: sales@wisers.com 網址: http://www.wisers.com 慧科訊業有限公司 (2012)。版權所有,翻印必究。



蘋果日報

A04| 要聞

涉非法賣油 又無保留單據難追查 北大荒地溝油去向 不明

【本報訊】內地著名食油供應商北大荒及本港山寨油商永興油行,銷售含超標致癌物質苯並〔a〕芘花生油,引發全城恐慌。食環署昨證實北大荒違反《食物安全條例》,未有登記為食物進口商或分銷商,涉非法賣油;兩廠商又沒有依法保留來貨及出貨的單據,當局難以完全追查地溝油銷售去向及回收,難以評估市面還有多少地溝油供市民食用。記者:蔡朗清

陳沛冰

消息指,食環署擬檢控北大荒及永興油行,一經定罪最高可判監六個月。食環署發言人表示,北大荒未有按《食物安全條例》規定,登記為食物進口商或分銷商,該署已向北大荒發警告信,飭令北大荒於14天內按法例登記為食物分銷商或入口商。

面臨檢控 最高可判監半年

此外,按法例規定,北大荒需保留有關業務的紀錄,但經調查,發現北大荒以不同公司名稱發出食物銷售單據。根據現有資料,北大荒的含致癌物質苯並〔a〕芘超標7.5倍的金帝濃香花生油及永興油行產品,未被發現在零售層面直接出售。

食環署消息指出,該署搜查涉案北大荒及永興油行,發現北大荒未有按規例登記為分銷商或入口商;兩廠商又未依法保留來貨及出貨的單據,明顯無依照今年初生效的《食物安全條例》,保留清晰的交易資料,讓食環署追蹤食物來源,以便迅速採取行動追查食物去向。該署現階段會循有關法例研究檢控涉案廠商,最高可判罰款50,000元及監禁六個月。

消息又指,北大荒及永興均沒有工場牌照,事件經傳媒曝光後,該署到場已經未能搜 集到證據顯示有生產程序。永興負責人迄今未有現身,相信欲避開調查和檢控而隱藏 身份。

港九罐頭洋酒伙食行商會副監事長李廣林表示,供港食油以花生油為主,今年截至10月,進口本港精製的花生油約378萬公斤,總值近一億元,當中內地佔進口量七成達270萬公斤,「港人對花生油嘅需求好穩定,每年都有幾個百分點增長,來源地主要係內地」。

業內人士指過去本港以南順、合興及大昌三大油商為主,相安無事,北大荒前年加入 市場後便有問題,業界十分關注北大荒花生油含致癌物,「油商正常做生意會登記為 入口商,保留進出貨單據;間公司賣油有登記,又有保留單據,食環應依法檢控」。

文章编號:	20121	12200	060127

本內容經慧科的電子服務提供。 本內容之版權由相關傳媒機構 / 版權持有人擁有。除非獲得明確授權,否則嚴禁複製、改編、分發或發布本內容。版權持有人保留一切權利。

_____1 _____

慧科訊業有限公司 查詢請電: (852) 2948 3888 電郵速遞: sales@wisers.com 網址: http://www.wisers.com 慧科訊業有限公司(2012)。版權所有,翻印必究。



東方日報

A06| 港閏

2012-12-20

業界促發牌規管食油包裝

【本報訊】葵涌永興油行混合食油事件引發的風波,令業界非常關注。本港三大食油 生產商之一的南順香港集團透露,中小油莊加工及包裝食油現時毋須領牌,存在監管 漏洞,而有關豁免領牌制度原是為舊時的中小油莊和雜貨店售賣散裝食油時提供方 便,但現今市面上再無散裝食油售賣的情況,條例早已過時。包括南順在內本地食油 生產商及供應商前日便與食安中心開會,建議加強對中小型食油包裝商立法規管,引 入發牌制度。

南順集團研究及發展科技總監趙國邦指,包裝食油出售豁免領牌法例已過時,發牌加強監管能夠保障消費者權益。

南順香港集團研究及發展科技總監趙國邦認為,現時油莊將食油重新包裝或由大拆細,屬於一個生產過程,無論廠房的環境衛生、機械運作、載具清潔及工作人員是否有足夠訓練和衛生常識等,每個環節都有機會出錯造成污染,整個生產流程應有一套標準規範,受發牌條例的監管約束和考核,讓食環署前線執法人員更容易執法,定期抽取食油進行化驗,確保產品出廠時均符合安全食用。

史志強

來歷不明難追查

除分拆食油包裝工序無王管外,南順集團總經理史志強亦指出,現時不少餐飲食肆採用的食油來歷不明,有盛載食油的鐵罐甚至空白一片沒有任何資料,一旦食油出事,要追查源頭極為困難,令正規生產食油的大油廠亦受牽連,當局有必要發牌加強監管,規定所有食油包裝要附有標籤,業界亦要保留交易單據資料,供食環署人員檢查,保障消費者。

文章編號: 201212200327103

本內容經慧科的電子服務提供。 本內容之版權由相關傳媒機構 / 版權持有人擁有。除非獲得明確授權,否則嚴禁複製、改編、分發或發布本內容。版權持有人保留一切權利。

_____1 _____



香港經濟日報

2012-12-24

A18| 港閏

1.3萬斤毒油流市面 退款回收

【本報訊】含致癌物質苯並〔a〕芘的「金帝濃香花生油」,疑有45桶逾1.3萬斤已流入 市面,有曾分銷金帝的商戶已零售給街坊及屋**邨**居民。

曾銷售問題食油的誠興油行,昨代表多間分銷商向市民致歉,並將安排退款回收。

由人口商「新天地(企業)香港有限公司」供應的致癌毒油「金帝濃香花生油」,食環署日前公布9個分銷商的名單,而新天地截至上周五共回收和解封35桶食油,並運回內地原產地。但據悉,有問題食油應共約有80桶,每桶300斤,即約2.4萬斤。

分銷商向市民致歉

當中曾向新天地取貨的誠興油行,該公司董事總經理李金聰表示,2個月前向新天地取貨 5桶,從傳媒得悉事件後已立即將完全未出售的4桶交回新天地,另一桶已開封及並有半桶約 150斤,以散裝形式出售居於西環區的街坊,其餘半桶則已銷毀。食環署最近曾來店舖取樣去 檢驗,但不是金帝的品牌。

曾擔任香港油行商會會長的李金聰表示,就事件上周六與多間牽涉的分銷商開會,當中 包括溢利油莊、順昌降麻油蠔油有限公司及聯益糧油食品等。

李金聰指,這次牽涉的不少是小型商戶,如恒源油米,是由兩父子經營,只是「推車仔」送貨到各屋**邨**,直接把所訂購的食米或食油直接送上門。這次出事後已直接影響生意,不少向誠興訂購食油的食肆都打來查詢,經解釋後暫未要求退貨,因食肆主要訂購豆油和菜油,而非出事的花生油。

李昨代表多間分銷商就事件向市民致歉,並會盡力向他們曾購買有問題食油的顧客回收及安排退款。

李續說,事件未曝光之前,本身亦不知道食油含有苯並〔a〕芘的問題,根據化驗師提供的意見,應是花生油提煉時過熱而產生,如港府將立法規定食油的苯並〔a〕芘含量及要求食油包裝等需取牌,油商會遵從法律要求配合。

ナマエルドロお、	201	21	224	521	7070
立音編號・	20	12.1	12.24	. 7 1	7979

本內容經慧科的電子服務提供。 本內容之版權由相關傳媒機構 / 版權持有人擁有。除非獲得明確授權,否則嚴禁複製、改編、分發或發布 本內容。版權持有人保留一切權利。



大公報

A02| 要聞

2012-12-25

「毒油」打擊生意餐業促監管

【本報訊】記者號書報道:含致癌物質食油流出市面引起市民恐慌,飲食界立法會議員張宇人表示,業界普遍支持政府加強監管食油包裝工廠,建議政府修訂食物安全條例,要求所有人口、本地生產及出售食油均應檢驗。曾被指使用「毒油」的嘉豪酒家,生意暴跌達50%,雖然食環署檢驗報告已還清白,酒家並已改用其他品牌的食油,但生意每天仍跌20%至30%,酒家老闆希望政府立即加強監管。

張宇人昨稱,食物安全條例應就食用油作修訂,規定所有人口香港的食油、在本港生產的 食油源頭,出售前應抽取樣本檢驗。他會在聖誕假期後向業界發問卷,了解是否支持監管 及監管尺度,但由於加強監管會增加經營成本,處理時應將對小商戶影響減至最低。

漕牽連酒家牛意跌50%

他稱一年多前起向全港食肆收購「廢油」,經處理後售往歐洲做生物柴油。「生物柴油係環保燃料,減低碳排放,又減少廢油對環境污染。歐洲好多國家都用緊,但成本貴,混合柴油一齊用,目前比例大概只佔7%。」他稱回收廢油價格不會太高,自問出價已「到頂」,但仍有大公司向食肆以更高價收購,質疑「唔知佢地收嚟做咩」。但他認為,生物柴油是未來大趨勢,氣候暖化問題越來越嚴重,若內地發展生物柴油,將會是很大市場。

嘉豪酒家被指使用永興油行的「毒油」,報道出街後各分店生意大跌,老闆陳祥佐說:「(生意)跌到好驚!以為又會好似沙士時期咁,冬至前一兩日跌咗五成,而家晚市的客得返五成半,平均每間生意都跌兩至三成,被點名嗰幾間最受影響。」他強調並非「貪平」,向永興買油每桶價格220元,另一間供應商價錢也相近,「幫襯咗20年,講個信字,無問過佢同邊個入貨,我哋用嘅都唔係有問題果款」。

陳祥佐稱,雖然出事後食環署檢驗已證實,旗下酒家用油含致癌物每公斤僅0.1 微克,遠 低於歐盟標準的2 微克,但食客「只接受到『有問題』信息」。他稱已停用永興供應的食油,並終止合作關係,轉用每桶238 元的合興獅球嘜。

文章編號: 201212250020185

本内容經慧科的電子服務提供。 本内容之版權由相關傳媒機構 / 版權持有人擁有。除非獲得明確授權,否則嚴禁複製、改編、分發或 發布本內容。版權持有人保留一切權利。



明報

2012-12-28

A14| 港閩

再驗出「黑心油」兩樣本 源頭青島長生集團

【明報專訊】食物安全中心再驗出兩個金帝濃香花生油樣本的致癌物苯並(a) 芘含量,超出歐盟標準逾五成至6倍,兩個樣本分別來自入口商新天地及分銷商誠興油行,顯示由入口至分銷線均出現致癌油。該中心亦追查出致癌油源頭是來自青島長生集團,據了解,該集團按新天地要求擅自更改花生油加工工序及原料比例,而該批油供港前並無抽驗,青島有關部門已暫停其產品供港及停產。

超標6倍停產停供港

繼永興油行、其供貨商北大荒的4個油樣本驗出苯並(a)芘超標後,食物安全中心昨公布,入口商新天地的一個金帝濃香花生油樣本亦驗出苯並(a)芘,每公斤含14 微克,較10 微克的國家標準高四成,較歐盟的2 微克標準高6 倍,新天地分銷商誠興油行的樣本亦驗出苯並(a)芘,每公斤含3.1 微克。

食安中心從國家質檢總局得悉問題食油來自青島長生集團,該集團供港的80桶油在出口前未被揀選抽驗。據長生集團網頁,該集團是「中國糧油企業100强」,曾獲國家質量金獎。本報昨晚未聯絡上青島長生集團。

64 桶已分銷回收其中19 桶長生集團供港的80 桶油中,目前有16 桶被食安中心查封,另外64 桶已分銷,當中19 桶已回收,其餘已被分銷售出或丟棄。該中心在調查過程中向9間食物進口商、分銷商及一間未能提交食物交易紀錄的已登記分銷商發警告信,包括恒德國際商貿、俊匯發、金寶運、北大荒、新天地、生興油米行、興記、順昌隆麻油蠔油廠、溢利油莊、合發祥油莊等,該中心另向一間衛生環境欠佳銷售商發出要求改善的通知。

文章編號: 201212280040006	
本內容經慧科的電子服務提供。 本內容之版權由相關傳媒機構 / 版權持有人擁有。除非獲得明確授權,否則嚴禁複製、改發或發布本內容。版權持有人保留一切權利。	編、分
	.,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

_____ 1 -----



星島日報

A14| 港閏

餐飲業促規管「萬年油」回收 憂提煉「黑心食油」包裝再出售

「黑心食油」可能流入本港,影響食客信心,無端受累,餐飲業叫苦。香港餐飲聯業協會會長黃家和表示,擔心不法之徒把業界賣給回收商的「萬年油」重新提煉成「黑心食油」,再包裝推出市場,希望政府規管「萬年油」回收,並修例要求包裝食油的製造商須申領衛生牌照。另外,包括大家樂在內多家大型連鎖食肆集團,均稱要貼出化驗食油結果,挽回食客信心。

記者:黃栩源

黃家和昨日於「食用油事件與餐飲業食品安全管理講座」上表示,之前聽過內地有不 法商人,把翻炸多次的「萬年油」翻新,溝入食用油出售圖利,他擔心香港的「萬年 油」會成為不法之徒的目標。

倡包裝食油商須領衛生牌

他指香港的「萬年油」,現時會經回收商回收再造成生物柴油、肥皂等物品,不過現時沒有法例規管「萬年油」的回收用途,他說:「萬年油每日回收幾多?回收後去了哪裏?做了甚麼產品?這些問題就算問政府,應該都沒有答案,業界也不知道。」他建議政府立法規管「萬年油」回收用途,減低黑心食油流入市面的風險。

黃家和又表示,現時食油批發公司溝油或者包裝食油毋須申領牌照,是一個法律漏洞,他擔心這類油行把大桶油包裝為小包裝,製作過程有可能會不符合食物衛生標準,他建議所有進行包裝食油的公司,均須申領衛生牌照,就如生產食油的廠房一樣看待。他又指香港食油市場規模小,可以全面檢查所有食油的衛生情況,令市民食用時更安心。

自從永興行食油爆出含有致癌物質「苯並(a)芘」後,十三間接收永興食油的食肆即時開名,損失慘重,黃家和指其中一間食肆生意大跌八、九成,連日澄清已經停用永興行食油後,生意稍為回升。

另外,昨日參與講座的多間連鎖集團食肆,包括大家樂、聯邦酒樓、PizzaHut等,均表示已經把使用的食油送交化驗,之後會把化驗結果張貼出來,以挽回食客信心。上述食肆均表示沒有向有問題的油行入口食油,故此實際不受影響。大家樂採購貨項經理經理梁佩儀表示,曾聽過有油行以低於市價一、兩成價錢向集團推銷食油,不過他們沒有考慮採用。

本內容經慧科的電子服務提供。 本內容之版權由相關傳媒機構 / 版權持有人擁有。除非獲得明確授權,否則嚴禁複製、改編、分發或發布本內容。版權持有人保留一切權利。

----- 1 -----

慧科訊業有限公司 查詢請電: (852) 2948 3888 電郵速遞: sales@wisers.com 網址: http://www.wisers.com 慧科訊業有限公司 (2012) 。版權所有,翻印必究。



蘋果日報

A13| 港閩

再爆食油恐慌 哥士的洗油罐扮名牌賣

地溝油風波一浪接一浪,《蘋果》自揭發有無良山寨油廠向港九新界大小食肆,出售 含致癌物苯並(a) 芘的食油後,食用油的安全成為城中話題,食油行業的運作和規範 亦漸受關注。《蘋果》根據本地油商的爆料,經調查後,揭發領有牌照的油廠,公然 出售冒牌油。

冒牌油售價平一成半

流浮山一間用鋅鐵搭建的小型油莊「義隆興」,環境惡劣,3,000呎地方放滿過百個裝油的鐵罐,這些油罐印有南順出品的「順嘜上等菜籽油」,以及合興出品的「SS上等菜籽油」標籤,似是二手油罐。記者眼見工人用「哥士的」略略清洗這些油罐,過水曬乾後再入油,整個過程**衛**生成疑。

本報記者連日守候,發現義隆興每隔數天便出貨,食油主要供應新界區的粉麵廠。有 南順營業員向本報記者表示,推銷期間發現有商戶使用南順食油,有關商戶卻不在客 戶名單之上;經追查後發現,義隆興以每罐204元出售食油,較南順每罐240元低一成 半,但不少商戶根本不知情。

記者分別向多家粉麵廠查證後,發現他們所購買的其實並非南順食油,而是冒牌油; 不過,其中一間位於屯門的粉麵廠,老闆黎生表示,向義隆興購買食油製作伊麵多年,他暗示得悉罐內食油並非來自大行,「人哋循環再用啫」。

「新罐14元二手罐5元」

南順香港集團回覆本報查詢時證實,早在今年10月已就事件向海關舉報。海關則回覆稱,今年至11月接獲一宗懷疑冒牌食油舉報,現正跟進個案,並會在有需要時採取適當的執法行動。食環署回覆查詢時稱,曾到義隆興抽驗食油樣本,但未有透露結果。另外,合興集團則以有關負責人不在港為由,未有回應事件。

義隆興老闆陳健強就今次事件,日前接受記者採訪時,坦承會回收油罐,又說此做法 行內非常普遍。他更直言此做法環保又節省成本,「一個新罐14元,二手罐大約5至6 元」,強調沒有對外宣稱出售的是大廠食油,「今次之後,都唔再用(二手罐) 喇!」

家庭式油行慨嘆風氣變

義隆興位於流浮山的廠房,其實只是鐵皮頂,環境設施相當簡陋;現場見年屆90歲的 創辦人球叔和兒子陳健強,還有一個年近60歲的工人,小小油行就只有三人打理, 「到西環碼頭攞油、推大油桶、入油、送貨,我都要親力親為」。一臉倦容的陳健強 道出辛酸。 義隆興於40多年前由球叔建立,20多年前因西環舊廠加租而轉到現址,成為現存僅有的家庭式油行,購買二手罐重新裝油的傳統做法,也沿用至今。

子承父業的陳健強欷歔慨嘆:「?家風氣變晒,衛生樣樣都好嚴格,要有齊合格證;加上租金咁貴,都俾大廠做晒,我哋唔喺呢度(流浮山)做唔住,一罐都係賺得少少,我都知我哋遲早會被淘汰。」

文章編號: 201212300060111	
本內容經慧科的電子服務提供。 本內容之版權由相關傳媒機構 / 版權持有人擁有。除非獲得明確授權,否則嚴禁複製、改終發或發布本內容。版權持有人保留一切權利。	扁、分
 1 	

慧科訊業有限公司 查詢請電: (852) 2948 3888 電郵速遞: sales@wisers.com 網址: http://www.wisers.com 慧科訊業有限公司(2012)。版權所有,翻印必究。

新聞公報

以下是食物及衞生局局長高永文今日(十二月十三日)下午到訪荃灣 區後會見新聞界的談話內容:

記者: (有關「地溝油」的跟進情況)

食物及衞生局局長:就傳媒報道有一間懷疑無牌的食品加工場生產「溝油」,把「地溝油」滲入食用油中,食物環境衞生署(食環署)今日已立即採取行動,前往有關的地點進行調查,而且在下午已根據搜查令進入該工場,現時有關人員正在調查中。食環署的職員在較早時已在相關的地點及食肆抽取食用油的樣本,進行化驗。因此,希望大家知道我們也十分關注這問題,不會容忍任何食物內含有危害市民健康的做法。

記者:有關的油供應了多少間食肆?是否有相關數據?

食物及衞生局局長:詳細的數據要等待食環署職員調查後才知道,我希望 強調,政府非常重視這事宜,而且食環署在得悉事件後,已在今日馬上採 取行動。他們上午已到達有關地點,但由於沒有人應門,無法進入處所 內,但他們已在其他相關或有可能使用該供應商提供的食用油的食肆內抽 取樣本,進行化驗,並在下午隨即申請搜查令,進入該懷疑工場調查,一 切要待調查有結果,盡快讓大家知道。

記者:估計需時多久?

食物及衞生局局長:要視乎化驗的難度,以及調查進度,因此現階段未能 說得很清楚。

記者:會否主動加強巡查其他地區的油廠?

食物及衞生局局長:我們一直透過食環署食物安全中心,今年首十個月,在市面上抽查食物樣本已達五萬多個。自從成立食物安全中心後,再配合食環署的工作,我們已加強在食物安全方面的執法,確保市民健康。當然,如再發現任何類似問題,我們會隨即跟進。

記者:今次事件是否一個警號?會否擔心有其他隱藏的(類似情況)?

食物及衞生局局長:任何時間我們都會很小心,留意香港會否有無牌的食物加工場,滲入一些對市民健康有影響的食品,我們一定會注意。

記者:有否數字顯示有多少間無牌油廠?

食物及衞生局局長:如有相關數字,食環署會公布。

記者:局長巡視荃灣區,區內違規擺賣的情況如何?

食物及衛生局局長:荃灣區議會主席和區議員都非常盡責,不時向我們反映當區有一些食肆或店鋪非法佔用公共地方,我們也十分關注這問題,其實就食肆方面,食環署在這一、兩年已引入扣分制度,若有違反相關條例,除了當局執法,然後可能被罰款外,如果重複違規,在我們引入扣分制度後,某食肆若被扣分至一個定額,可能會被停牌。至於停牌的時間,若違規次數越多,停牌的時間可能會越長。以今日為例,食環署署長已行使其權力,一間於荃灣區的食肆,由於違反了食環署執行的條例(《食物業規例》),於數月內屢次違反規定,根據已生效的扣分制度,食環署署長遂暫時吊銷該食肆牌照,由今日開始停牌二十一天,至明年一月二日。當然,這不能一次過完全解決問題,但這已是一個很嚴重的信息,讓食肆和店鋪知道我們十分重視這問題,並會按照法例執法。多謝大家。

完

2012年12月13日(星期四) 香港時間19時30分

新聞公報

以下是食物及衞生局局長高永文今日(十二月十八日)下午出席立法 會衞生事務委員會特別會議後會見新聞界的談話內容:

食物及衞生局局長:我相信大家也知道,今日衞生署公布梁挺雄醫生將出任衞生防護中心總監,接替曾浩輝醫生的職務。梁醫生一直在衞生署不同的崗位工作,對衞生防護中心各方面的工作,包括傳染病及非傳染病的工作,一向很具經驗。故此,我對梁挺雄醫生擔任衞生防護中心總監很有信心,相信他能令整個衞生防護中心團隊一起合作,無論是在傳染病及非傳染病方面的工作,均能做得好,保障香港市民的健康。另一方面,我也相信梁挺雄醫生能與其他醫護組織,包括醫院管理局、私家醫院及局方通力合作,為大家尤其關注的傳染病防預工作做得更好。

記者: (有關有食用油樣本被驗出苯並〔a〕芘含量超出國家標準)

食物及衞生局局長:食環署已公布較早時在一個工場內抽取的食用油樣本,以及在一系列食肆抽取的食用油樣本,當中有數個樣本超出標準,他們亦進行了分析,在新聞公布內已詳細說明有關風險等各方面的問題。我希望大家留意,在食物安全方面,最重要的是以風險為本的方式,為市民把關,防止任何在市民進食後對健康構成影響的物質,讓市民食用。故此,食環署已因應調查結果,與有關工場、供應商或食肆聯絡,會停用檢驗結果顯示(苯並〔a〕芘含量)超標的食用油,供應商並會回收。大家亦要留意,所謂「地溝油」,有關食用油的來源,實際上不能純粹透過檢查樣本以確定。檢查主要是在化學成分,檢驗究竟該些油是否含有一些對人體有害的物質,即有毒或致癌的物資。如大家關心油的來源,我們需以其他方法配合值查,希望大家明白。

完

2012年12月18日(星期二) 香港時間19時46分

Press Releases

FEHD's follow-up investigation into suspected substandard cooking oil

The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) today (December 18) announced initial test results of 39 cooking oil samples taken last week from more than 10 different locations. The results showed that Benzo[a]pyrene (BaP) was detected in two samples at respective levels of 16 and 17 micrograms per kilogram, exceeding the Mainland's legal limit of 10 mcg/kg and the European Union (EU)'s limit of 2 mcg/kg. BaP was also found in two other samples at respective levels of 5.8 and 6.2 mcg/kg, lower than the Mainland's limit but exceeding that of the EU. Of the remaining 35 samples, BaP was either not detected or below the EU limit.

In the light of a newspaper report last week about a suspected unlicensed establishment supplying for sale cooking oil that is alleged to be of substandard quality, the FEHD took immediate follow-up action by inspecting the establishment in question, the cooking oil supplier of that establishment and 13 restaurants, collecting a total of 39 cooking oil samples for testing of BaP.

As shown in the test results, two samples, which were found to have BaP at levels exceeding the limits adopted by the EU and the Mainland, were collected from the same brand and from the cooking oil establishment's supplier in Tuen Mun. The other two samples with BaP detected at levels lower than Mainland's limit but higher than that of the EU were collected from the cooking oil establishment's premises in Kwai Chung. Investigation into the sources and distribution of this cooking oil is under way.

A CFS spokesman said, "Legal limits of BaP in food are not set by the Codex Alimentarius Commission (Codex) and in Hong Kong legislation. Making reference to the standards adopted by the Mainland and the EU and according to the results of risk assessment adopting the margin of exposure approach, the health risk concern for consuming cooking oil with a BaP level at 17 mcg/kg should not be high.

"However, for the sake of prudence, the CFS has requested the cooking oil supplier concerned to stop selling and recall the affected product. Further tests would be conducted on the four samples to confirm whether they contained other harmful substances."

Regarding whether the cooking oil samples were "gutter oil", the spokesman pointed out that there is not any established scientific method to test and identify "gutter oil".

Nevertheless, the quality of cooking oil could be monitored by conducting chemical tests to ascertain the amount of harmful substances contained.

The CFS safeguards public health through its routine food surveillance programme and targeted food surveillance. Whenever BaP is detected in food, the CFS will conduct risk assessment to determine if there is any potential health risk and advise what measures are to be taken in response.

The CFS has all along been monitoring the quality of cooking oil in Hong Kong. More than 310 cooking oil samples were tested for different chemicals, which include erucic acid, colouring matter, mycotoxins, anti-oxidants and metallic contaminants from January 2011 to October 2012 under the regular food surveillance programme. All samples were found to be satisfactory.

In a targeted food surveillance project announced last month, 68 samples of used cooking oil were collected from various local restaurants for testing for BaP and other chemicals. Results of all samples were also satisfactory.

"To further allay public concerns, the CFS will embark on an additional targeted food surveillance project on cooking oil. Samples will be taken from different stages of the food supply chain, which include importers, manufacturers, distributors, wholesalers, retailers and restaurants, to ensure that the products are in compliance with the legal requirements in Hong Kong and are fit for human consumption. The project is expected to be completed within one to two months and results will be announced once available," the spokesman said.

BaP is one of the polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs). Since PAHs are ubiquitous in the environment, they may be found in various types of food, including cereals and vegetables. Levels of BaP may vary depending on the processing conditions and are often higher in barbecued or smoked meat or fish. According to the Joint Food and Agriculture Organization/World Health Organization Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA), cereals, vegetables, fats and oils are major contributors to dietary exposure to PAHs.

BaP is toxic to genes and can cause cancer in humans. A safe intake level is, therefore, hard to be defined for this type of substance. However, the JECFA commented in 2005 that the estimated dietary exposure to BaP might be of low human health concern, whereas the European Food Safety Authority in a 2008 evaluation commented that exposure to PAHs as a whole might indicate a potential health concern for high consumers. People are advised to maintain a balanced diet with a wide variety of fruits and vegetables.

The spokesman said, "The FEHD and the CFS will follow up the case, continue the investigation and take appropriate actions to safeguard public health. With regard to the unsatisfactory hygiene condition of the cooking oil establishment's premises in Kwai Chung, the FEHD will serve a notice to the persons concerned under relevant legislation, requiring improvement of the hygiene conditions of the premises.

"The FEHD will continue to investigate into the suspected operation of unlicensed food business on that premises. Prosecutions will be initiated if there is sufficient evidence of anyone being in breach of the law, which includes the Public Health and Municipal Services Ordinance, the Food Safety Ordinance, the Food Business Regulation and the Food and Drugs (Composition and Labelling) Regulations."

The CFS also held a special meeting today with representatives of the trade to brief them on the testing results. They were reminded again to source food from reliable suppliers, including checking whether the suppliers possess the relevant food business licences and whether they have been registered as food distributors under the Food Safety Ordinance

as well as checking the source and quality of the food ingredients. They should also maintain a good recording system in accordance with the Food Safety Ordinance to allow source tracing if needed.

Ends/Tuesday, December 18, 2012
Issued at HKT 17:59

NNNN

新聞公報

以下是食物及衞生局局長高永文今日(十二月十九日)出席公開活動 後會見傳媒的談話內容:

食物及衞生局局長:我相信市民非常關心香港的食用油安全問題,食物環境衞生署(食環署)正十分積極調查這事宜。在傳媒報道這事宜當天,食環署已立即派職員到有關工場調查,並在同日下午申請到搜查令進入工場調查,亦在工場、另一供應商及一些食肆內抽取油樣本進行檢測。檢測結果證實有數個樣本的苯並〔a〕芘含量超標。其實有專家評定(超標樣本的苯並〔a〕芘)含量的風險水平不高,但為安全起見,食環署已下令相關分銷商全面停止供應有關食油,並需要回收。實際上,食環署一直十分關注食用油的安全,在一、兩個月前公布的一項調查,是在市面上抽查68個「翻用食用油」的樣本(作苯並〔a〕芘及其他化學測試),樣本的測試結果均合格。為了進一步令市民安心,食環署計劃在未來一、兩個月進行大規模的抽樣調查,包括在進口商、批發商、一些分銷商及食肆中抽查食用油的樣本,就所有我們關注的物質,例如有危險、有毒或致癌物質,進行化驗。

記者:會否立法規管?

食物及衞生局局長:我們會考慮任何方法,若有需要,我們會毫不猶疑進行。我們會首先考慮把苯並〔a〕芘納入常規的追蹤及檢查範圍內。下月初,我們亦會配合立法會相關的事務委員會,到立法會進行全面解釋,希望市民知道我們所有的工作。當然,我們亦有與食肆和飲食業聯繫,希望大家一起加強市民對食用油安全的信心,維持香港美食天堂的美譽。

記者:大型的抽查預計在何時完成?

食物及衞生局局長:大約兩個月,希望大家可以放心。

記者:(有關有問題食用油的來源)

食物及衞生局局長:現時暫時沒有證據證明該些油的來源,但這當然是其中一個我們會調查的方向。我重申,最重要的是檢查是否有對人體有害或 致癌的物質在食油中,這是最重要的。

完

2012年12月19日(星期三) 香港時間22時11分

Press Releases

Latest update on FEHD investigation into suspected substandard cooking oil

Following days of thorough investigation and source-tracing, the findings of the Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) today (December 27) showed that a consignment of cooking oil with Benzo[a]pyrene (BaP) level higher than the Mainland's limit was very likely caused by undesirable quality control during the production process. So far, there is no evidence that so-called "gutter oil" was involved.

CFS' investigation revealed that the consignment of peanuts oil was manufactured in Qingdao, Shandong Province. A total of 80 barrels were imported to Hong Kong by the New World Enterprise (HK) Limited in mid-November. Among them, 16 barrels were marked and sealed by the CFS during investigation. The remaining 64 barrels were confirmed to have been sold to nine distributors and 19 of them were successfully recalled by the importer upon the CFS' request. They were returned to their place of origin. The remainder was understood to have been sold or discarded by the distributors and no remaining stocks have so far been found from the food establishments/premises concerned.

After the test results of 39 cooking oil samples were announced on December 18, 23 more samples were collected from 23 locations, including the importer and different distributors and restaurants, for testing of BaP. The test results showed that one sample from the same batch of peanut oil taken from the importer was found to contain BaP at a level of 14 micrograms (mcg) per kilogram (kg), exceeding the Mainland's legal limit of 10 mcg/kg. Meanwhile, another sample collected from one of the distributors was detected with 3.1 mcg/kg of BaP, exceeding the European Union (EU)'s limit of 2 mcg/kg. BaP was either not detected or below the EU limit in the rest of the samples.

Through checking records kept by the importer and repeated discussions with the State General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine, the CFS found that the batch of cooking oil in question was manufactured by the Qingdao Changsheng Group Co Ltd, which was understood to be a well-established enterprise bearing a good track record. Its products were monitored and subject to regular sampling tests by the local Entry-Exit Inspection and Quarantine Bureau, with quality certificates issued for its products. Nevertheless, the consignment of 80 barrels of cooking oil concerned was not selected for testing before export.

The company concerned indicated that it would ascertain the cause of the excessive BaP content in order to avoid recurrence of similar incidents in future. Export of this particular brand of cooking oil to Hong Kong would be suspended until the result was known.

In the course of investigation, the FEHD has invoked the stipulations under the Food Safety Ordinance and effectively traced the source and distribution of the affected cooking oil according to the sale records kept by the importer and the distributors, and issued warning letters to nine food

importers/distributors who have not yet registered under the Food Safety Ordinance and one registered food distributor for failing to comply with the record-keeping requirement under the same Ordinance. Besides, a notice was served to a vendor due to the unsatisfactory hygiene condition of its establishment's premises, requiring the persons concerned to improve the hygiene conditions of the premises.

"Legal limits of BaP in food are not set by the Codex Alimentarius Commission (Codex) and in Hong Kong legislation. Furthermore, there is not any established scientific method to test and identify 'gutter oil'. Nevertheless, the quality of cooking oil could be monitored by conducting chemical tests to ascertain the amount of harmful substances contained," a CFS spokesman said.

"The CFS collected samples at different levels under its routine food surveillance programme and targeted food surveillance projects to ensure that they are in compliance with the legal requirements and are fit for human consumption. To safeguard public health, the CFS will conduct risk assessment whenever BaP is detected in food to determine if there is any potential health risk and advise what measures are to be taken in response," he said.

The CFS has all along been monitoring the quality of cooking oil in Hong Kong, he added. More than 310 cooking oil samples were tested for different chemicals, which include erucic acid, colouring matter, mycotoxins, anti-oxidants and metallic contaminants from January 2011 to October 2012 under the regular food surveillance programme. All samples were found to be satisfactory.

In a targeted food surveillance project announced last month, 68 samples of used cooking oil were collected from various local restaurants for testing for BaP and other chemicals. Results of all samples were also satisfactory.

To further allay public concerns, the CFS has embarked on an additional targeted food surveillance project on cooking oil. Samples will be taken from different levels of the food supply chain, which include importers, manufacturers, distributors, wholesalers, retailers and restaurants, to ensure that the products are in compliance with the legal requirements in Hong Kong and are fit for human consumption. The project is expected to be completed within one to two months and results will be announced once available.

Ends/Thursday, December 27, 2012 Issued at HKT 20:00

NNNN