

**Guidelines relating to importation of livestock
intended to be slaughtered for food from the Mainland**

Importers or import agencies wishing to import livestock (swine, cattle, sheep and goat) intended to be slaughtered for food should perform the following steps:

1. Importers or import agencies should apply for <Import Permit> from the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department. The permit can be applied by designated application form. The application form can be obtained from 5/F Cheung Sha Wan Government Office or by fax. <Import Permit> is issued according to the Rabies Ordinance, Cap. 421, Laws of Hong Kong.
2. The issue of <Import Permit> usually requires 5 working days. Applicants can collect the <Import Permit> at the Headquarter of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department or by mail upon request.
3. The <Import Permit> lists out the additional terms and conditions of the permit.
4. If livestock are carried into Hong Kong by land by lorries, they should enter through designated entry point. After customs clearance, lorries should be driven to the Man Kam To Animal Inspection Station of Food and Environmental Hygiene Department to undergo inspection with the following steps:
 - (1) The original of the <Animal Health Certificate> issued by the General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China should be presented to FEHD staff.
 - (2) FEHD staff will check the tattoo marks or ear-tag numbers of the livestock which must be consistent with those on the <Animal Health Certificate>. A <Movement Permit> will also be issued to the driver.
 - (3) If livestock are carried to the Sheung Shui Slaughterhouse directly through railway, importers or import agencies should present the original of the <Animal Health Certificate> issued by the General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China to FEHD staff. Remaining

step is similar to point 4(2) but no <Movement Permit>will be issued.

(4) On arrival at slaughterhouse, the driver should hand in the <Movement Permit> to the staff on duty of the Slaughterhouse and Disease Surveillance Unit of Food and Environmental Hygiene Department and then unload the livestock.

5. According to Regulation 11 of the Rabies Regulation, Cap. 421A, Laws of Hong Kong, no person shall import or cause, suffer or permit to be imported into Hong Kong any animal, carcass or animal product except under and in accordance with a permit to do so issued by an authorized officer. A person who contravenes subsection above commits an offence and is liable to a fine of \$50,000 and to imprisonment for 1 year.

6. According to Section 8 of the Public Health (Animals & Birds) (Chemical Residues) Regulation, Cap. 139N, Laws of Hong Kong, the animal should be accompanied by a valid certificate issued by a competent veterinary authority of the exporting origin certifying that the authority has no reason to suspect to the best of their knowledge-

(i) that the food animal contains any prohibited chemical; and

(ii) that the concentration of any agricultural and veterinary chemical in the tissues of the food animal exceeds the maximum residue limit. Contravention to Section 8 of the Public Health (Animals and Birds) (Chemical Residues) Regulation commits an offence and is liable to a fine of level 6 (\$100,000).

For enquiries on importation of livestock (swine, cattle, sheep and goat) intended to be slaughtered for food, please contact the following offices during office hours:

	Phone	Fax
Food and Environmental Hygiene Department Headquarters	2867 5428	2521 8067
Food and Environmental Hygiene Department Man Kam To Animal Inspection Station	2671 9000	2673 3144
Food and Environmental Hygiene Department	2673 0043	2330 8090

Sheung Shui Slaughterhouse Office		
Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department Import and Export Section	2150 7065	2375 3563