

Enforcement Action on Prepackaged Festive Foods

Centre for Food Safety
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Background

- During the festive period, prepackaged festive foods will be found for sale in the market lasting for a short period of time from a few weeks to one or two months.
- Due to short period of time for sale of prepackaged festive food, current law enforcement strategy failed to timely deal with the problem of discrepancy of food label of festive food. CFS will take different enforcement strategy to handle the aforesaid problem.
- CFS will pay special attention to the locally manufactured prepackaged festive food and check the food labels of the prepackaged festive foods in retail outlets.

Examples of Festive Food

1. Lunar New Year: pudding (糕點類), preserved meat (臘味類), fried dumpling (煎堆, 角仔), seeds/nuts (糖蓮子), etc;
2. Mid-Autumn Festival: mooncake (月餅);
3. Dragon Boat Festival: glutinous rice dumpling (糉子)

Enforcement Actions on Discrepancy of General Labelling and Nutrition Labelling upon Visual Checking

- On detection of labelling irregularities, CFS will take appropriate enforcement action under the Food and Drugs (Composition and Labelling) Regulations, Cap.132W.
- 7-day (calendar day) verbal warning, followed by 7-day (calendar day) warning letter will be issued to the trader if the irregularities are not rectified.
- Prosecution will be taken against the trader if irregularities are not rectified.
- The offender will be liable to a fine at Level 5 (\$50,000) and imprisonment for 6 months.

Enforcement Actions on Nutrient

Value Discrepancy of Nutrition Labelling

- For nutrient value discrepancies of nutrition labelling, 21-day (calendar day) enquiry letter, followed by 39-day (calendar day) warning letter will be issued to the trader if the explanation is not acceptable.
- Prosecution will be taken against the trader if irregularities are not rectified.
- The offender will be liable to a fine at level 5 (\$50,000) and imprisonment for 6 months.

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