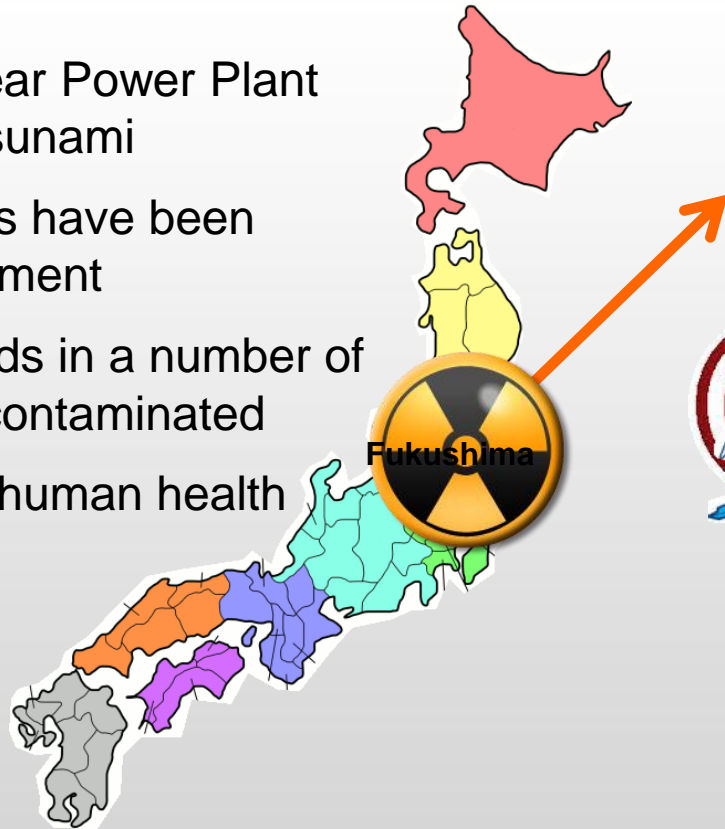


Control of Food Imported from Japan



Background

- Earthquake at Japan on 11 March 2011
- The earthquake triggered powerful tsunami
- Fukushima Daini Nuclear Power Plant was damaged by the tsunami
- Radioactive substances have been released in the environment
- Certain agricultural foods in a number of prefectures had been contaminated
- At levels hazardous to human health



Food Surveillance

Section 78B Order

- Since 12 March 2011, the Centre for Food Safety (CFS) has stepped up surveillance on radiation level of imported food from Japan.
- The Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene issued an Order under Section 78B of the Public Health and Municipal Services Ordinance (Cap. 132) to prohibit certain food items to be imported into Hong Kong or supplied within Hong Kong from the five most affected prefectures of Japan, namely

縣份	Prefecture
福島	Fukushima
茨城	Ibaraki
栃木(櫛木)	Tochigi
千葉	Chiba
群馬	Gunma

Section 78B Order

PUBLIC HEALTH AND MUNICIPAL SERVICES ORDINANCE

(Chapter 132)

(Section 78B)

Section 78B Order

Order No. : CFS/1/2011

FEHD Ref. : FEHD/CFS/78B

TO : All persons

This Order takes effect at 12:00 noon on 24 March 2011.

I now have reasonable grounds to believe that the making of this order in relation to the food specified in Annex A is necessary to prevent or reduce a possibility of danger to public health, or to mitigate any adverse consequence of a danger to public health, the details of which are specified in Annex B. **I DO**, in exercise of my powers under section 78B(1) of the Public Health and Municipal Services Ordinance (Chapter 132), order that :

- a. you be prohibited from importing into Hong Kong the food specified in Annex A, that is intended for human consumption, for the period from 12:00 noon on 24 March 2011 until further notice.
- b. you be prohibited from supplying¹ within Hong Kong the food specified in Annex A, that is imported into Hong Kong after 12:00 noon on 24 March 2011, and is intended for human consumption, for the period from 12:00 noon on 24 March 2011 until further notice.

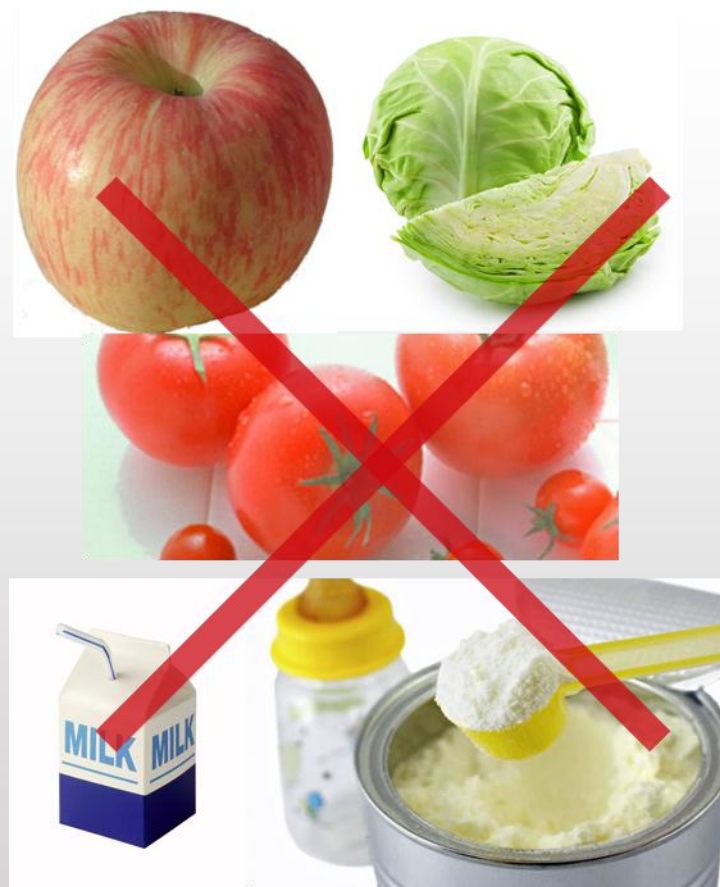
If you feel that you are aggrieved by this order, you may, within 28 days from becoming bound by it (that is the date and time specified in paragraph 1), appeal to the Municipal Services Appeals Board.

¹ "Supplying" means (a) selling the food; (b) offering, keeping or exhibiting the food for sale; (c) exchanging or disposing of the food for consideration; (d) transmitting, conveying or delivering the food in pursuance of (i) a sale; or (ii) an exchange or disposal for consideration; or (e) for commercial purposes, giving the food as a prize or making a gift of the food.

Food Surveillance

Section 78B Order

- Prohibited food items
 - Vegetables
 - Fruits
 - Milk and Milk beverages
 - Milk powder



from the five most affected prefectures of Japan, namely Fukushima, Ibaraki, Tochigi, Chiba and Gunma.

Food Surveillance

Section 78B Order

Prohibited food items

The following food items from **Fukushima**, **Ibaraki**, **Tochigi**, **Chiba** and **Gunma** to Hong Kong were also prohibited, unless accompanied by a certificate issued by the competent authority of Japan

- chilled or frozen **game**
- chilled or frozen **meat**
- chilled or frozen **poultry**
- **poultry eggs**
- all live, chilled or frozen **aquatic products**



Food Surveillance

Certificate issued by the competent authority of Japan

- The import of all chilled or frozen game, meat and poultry, all poultry eggs and all live, chilled or frozen aquatic products from the five prefectures to Hong Kong were also prohibited, unless accompanied by a certificate issued by the competent authority of Japan certifying that the radiation levels do not exceed the Guideline Levels.

Sample of Certificate on radiation levels in aquatic products

FISHERIES AGENCY
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FISHERIES, GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN
1-2-1, Kasumigaesaki, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8507, Japan

Certificate on radiation levels in food for export to Hong Kong

Consignment Code..... Declaration Number.....
(competent authority)

DECLARES that the food of this consignment composed of:

(description of consignment, product, number and type of packages, gross or net weight)
embarked at (embarkation place)
on (date of embarkation)
by (identification of transporter)
going to (place and country of destination)
which comes from the establishment (name and address of establishment)

■ is falling into the category of the products in the table below and is originating from (prefecture), has been sampled¹ on (date), and subjected to laboratory analysis on (date) in the (name of laboratory²), to determine the level of the radionuclides, iodine-131, cesium-134 and caesium-137, and hereby certify that the radiation levels do not exceed the standards laid down by the Codex Alimentarius Commission in the Guideline Levels for Radionuclides in Foods Contaminated following a Nuclear or Radiological Emergency.

Done at on
Stamp of
authorized representative of competent authority.

Table
Category of food:
All live, chilled or frozen aquatic products

Sample of Certificate on radiation levels in game, meat, poultry and poultry eggs

MAFF
Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries

Certificate on radiation levels in food for export to Hong Kong

Consignment Code..... Declaration Number.....
(competent authority)

DECLARES that the food of this consignment composed of:

(description of consignment, product, number and type of packages, gross or net weight)
embarked at (embarkation place)
on (date of embarkation)
by (identification of transporter)
going to (place and country of destination)
which comes from the establishment (name and address of establishment)

is falling into the category of the products in the table below and is originating from (prefecture), has been sampled¹ on (date), and subjected to laboratory analysis on (date) in the (name of laboratory²), to determine the level of the radionuclides, iodine-131, cesium-134 and caesium-137, and hereby certify that the radiation levels do not exceed the standards laid down by the Codex Alimentarius Commission in the Guideline Levels for Radionuclides in Foods Contaminated following a Nuclear or Radiological Emergency.

Done at on
Stamp of
authorized representative of competent authority

Table
Category of food:
All chilled or frozen game, meat and poultry, all poultry eggs

Food Surveillance

Section 78B Order

- The Order has taken into effect on 24 March 2011 and **is still in force**
- Contravention a term of the Order commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine of HK\$100,000 and to imprisonment for 12 months



Report arrival of food imported from Japan for radiological inspection

- Please submit the following documents to arrange radiological inspection
 - Compulsory information
 - Bill of lading / Air waybill
 - Packing list (with originating prefecture of manufacture)
 - Other information (If applicable)
 - Invoice
 - Lot sheet of cold store
 - Laboratory report
 - Import Licence
 - Health Certificate
 - Certificate of origin

Report arrival of food imported from Japan for radiological inspection / Enquiry

By sea	By air
Health Inspector (Import/Export) Radiation	Health Inspector (Import/Export) Airport
Tel : 2522 1271 / 2522 1297	Tel : 2116 8254
Fax : 2739 6639	Fax : 2116 0290
Email : RIO@fehd.gov.hk	Email : fsc@fehd.gov.hk

Conclusion

- The risk of Fukushima nuclear plant event has not been cleared
- Radioactive isotope Caesium-137 has a half-life of several ten years
- The order on prohibition of importation of food from the affected 5 prefectures in Japan is still in force
- To ensure the safety of imported food from Japan, CFS continues to monitor closely the situation in Japan and the radiation testing results of food samples in order to formulate surveillance programme according to risk assessment

~ End ~

