

**Voluntary Report** – Voluntary - Public Distribution

**Date:** December 03,2019

**Report Number:** HK2019-0072

**Report Name:** Hong Kong Customs Intercepted Smuggled Frozen Meats

**Country:** Hong Kong

**Post:** Hong Kong

**Report Category:** Agriculture in the News, Livestock and Products

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**Report Highlights:**

Hong Kong Customs seized 540 MT of smuggled frozen meats with an estimated market value of about USD6.4 million in Hong Kong waters on four fishing boats when they were on the way to China. The smuggled products were largely high-value beef products coming from various countries. All fishing boats related to this case did not have refrigerated facilities.

The Hong Kong Customs conducted an anti-smuggling operation on November 28, 2019 and successfully seized 540 MT of meat products valued at USD 6.4 million on four fishing boats when they were on the way to China. This was the largest detection of smuggled meats both in terms of value and volume in the past decade.

According to Hong Kong Customs, these products were loaded onto four fishing boats at a Hong Kong pier and were seized in Hong Kong waters when the boats were heading towards China. Six people were caught during the operation. Seized products were found to be beef including cuts like shanks, ribs, round, etc. No pork was found. There were no refrigeration facilities on the fishing boats. The government announcement did not tell the specific origin of the products, but a spokesperson indicated that the products came from a number of countries including Europe and the United States.

Hong Kong Customs indicated that they seized a total of 976 MT of smuggled frozen meats this year which was more than double of the total in the past ten years. The value of seized frozen meats in this year amounted to USD8.2 million, which surpassed the total of the past decade by over 200 times.



Source: Hong Kong government press release November 29, 2019

#### **Attachments:**

No Attachments.