

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

# GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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## Hong Kong

**Post:** Hong Kong

### Hong Kong Lifts Ban on California Romaine Lettuce

**Report Categories:**

Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety

SP2 - Prevent or Resolve Barriers to Trade that Hinder U.S. Food and Agricultural Exports  
Vegetables

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**Report Highlights:**

Effective February 19, 2019, Hong Kong has lifted its ban on the import and sale of romaine lettuce harvested in California. Hong Kong implemented the ban on November 27, 2018 as a result of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's advisement.

**General Information:**

In the evening of February 19, 2019, the Hong Kong government (HKG) informed the U.S. Agricultural Trade Office (ATO) Hong Kong that it would lift its ban on the import and sale of California romaine lettuce effective immediately. The official HKG notice can be found here:

[https://www.cfs.gov.hk/english/import/import\\_ifc.html](https://www.cfs.gov.hk/english/import/import_ifc.html)

**Hong Kong Government Centre for Food Safety News for Importers and Trade****Import Suspension on Romaine Lettuce Harvested in California, US Lifted**

In connection with the previous food incidents concerning US romaine lettuce, the Centre for Food Safety (CFS) has suspended the import into Hong Kong of romaine lettuce harvested in California, US since 27.11.2018.

In view of the submission of investigation report and the implementation of surveillance programme by the US authorities, CFS has conducted an assessment and decided to lift the import suspension imposed on romaine lettuce harvested in the above area with immediate effect.

CFS will continue to monitor closely romaine lettuce imported from US.  
Appropriate actions will be taken to safeguard food safety and public health.

Centre for Food Safety  
Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
19 February 2019

End Notice.

Please contact ATO Hong Kong with any questions or concerns.

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