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Hong Kong Lifts Ban on Imports and Sales of Arizona Romaine Lettuce

Report Categories:

Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety

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

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Report Highlights:

Effective March 5, 2019, Hong Kong has lifted its ban on the import and sale of romaine lettuce harvested in Arizona. Hong Kong implemented the ban on April 23, 2018 following a notice from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration of an outbreak of E coli infections that was likely linked to the consumption of romaine lettuce produced in the State of Arizona.

In the evening of March 5, 2019, the Hong Kong government issued a notice that it would lift its ban on the import and sale of California romaine lettuce effective immediately.

Hong Kong Government Centre for Food Safety News for Importers and Trade

Import Suspension on Romaine Lettuce Produced in Arizona, 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 produced in Arizona, US since 23.4.2018.

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 produced 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
5 March 2019

End Notice.

Please contact ATO Hong Kong with any questions or concerns.
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