



SFA/LPD/EICD/006

15 December 2020

To food manufacturers/exporters exporting food products to China

- 1) This is to inform you that in view of the Covid-19 situation and current development and measures taken in China, imported frozen food products and/or its packaging materials are subjected to nucleic acid test for coronavirus. Consignments detected positive for nucleic acid test for coronavirus might be rejected by the importing country's customs.
- 2) An infected person can contaminate the food or food packaging but the risk of infection of Covid-19 due to contact with contaminated surfaces of food and/or packaging is very low and can be further reduced through good personal hygiene practices. As such, SFA continues to emphasise the importance of good personal hygiene practices to uphold high public health standards in Singapore. These include:
 - a) Seeking medical attention promptly and staying home if unwell
 - b) Wearing a mask covering the nose and mouth at all times
 - c) Avoid touching your face with your hands
 - d) Covering mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing/sneezing, and throwing the tissue away into a bin immediately
 - e) Not sharing food/drinks with others
- 3) SFA reminds food manufacturers and exporters to adhere to the food safety measures and ensure that these preventive measures are in place during food production. SFA has issued guidelines to food establishments in Singapore on management of sick workers, cleaning and disinfection, use of personal protective equipment and personal hygiene and other management measures. Please refer to the link for details of safe management measures: <https://www.sfa.gov.sg/covid-19/guidelines-for-employers-ESDM>
- 4) SFA would also like to highlight the following laboratories that are able to carry out nucleic acid test for coronavirus on food surfaces. Food manufacturers and exporters may consult these laboratories if they wish to perform such test for own quality/safety check.

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Export Inspection and Certification Department
Licensing and Permits Division
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