

Singaporean fined \$15,000 for illegal import of meat and seafood products

Man Wee Kong was fined \$15,000 by the Court today for illegally importing meat and seafood products from China.

2 On 10 August 2021 Immigration & Checkpoints Authority (ICA) officers at the Pasir Panjang Scanning Station detected anomalies in the scanned images of a cargo container declared to contain assorted items. Physical checks on the cargo revealed consignments of “meat and seafood products” imported from China, without a valid import permit. The case was referred to the Singapore Food Agency (SFA) for investigation.

3 On 16 August 2021, SFA officers conducted an inspection at a warehouse located at 21 Pandan Avenue where the food items were stored and found more than 180kg of meat and seafood products illegally imported from China. The illegal food items were seized.



More than 180kg of illegally imported assorted food products were seized. (Photo: SFA)



MEDIA RELEASE

4 In Singapore, food imports must meet SFA's requirements. Illegally imported food products of unknown sources can pose a food safety risk. Food can only be imported by licensed importers, and every consignment must be declared and accompanied with a valid import permit. In addition, meat and its products can only be imported from accredited sources in approved countries that comply with our food safety standards and requirements.

5 Offenders who import meat and fish products illegally from unapproved sources or found in possession of meat and fish products for the purpose of selling, which were imported without an import licence shall be liable on conviction to a fine of not exceeding \$50,000 and/or imprisonment of up to two years. In the case of a subsequent conviction, offenders shall be liable to a fine not exceeding \$100,000 and/or imprisonment of up to three years.

6 Safeguarding Singapore's borders remains ICA's top priority. ICA will continue to conduct security checks to detect and deter illegal importation attempts to keep Singapore safe. SFA will continue to safeguard food safety through our integrated food safety system, which includes strict import regulations and enforcement, and work closely with border control agencies to deter illegal import across our borders.

Issued by SFA and ICA

10 August 2023