

Importer fined \$6,000 for illegal import of food products

Chai Yuen Di Vegetable LLP was fined a total of \$6,000 by the Court today for illegally importing fresh fruits and vegetables and processed food for sale.

2 In February 2020, officers from Singapore Food Agency (SFA) detected 187.5kg of undeclared fresh fruits and vegetables and 584kg of undeclared processed food in the consignments imported from Malaysia during an inspection. All the illegal consignments were seized.



A total of 771.5kg of illegally imported food products were detected and seized (Photo: SFA)

3 In Singapore, food imports must meet SFA's requirements. Food can only be imported by licensed importers, and every consignment must be declared and accompanied with a valid import permit. Illegally imported food products are of unknown sources and can pose a food safety risk. For example, unregulated or high level of pesticides may be used in illegally imported vegetables. The long-term ingestion of excessive pesticide residues through the consumption of vegetables that have been subjected to pesticide abuse could lead to adverse health effects.

4 Offenders who illegally import fresh fruits and vegetables shall be liable on conviction to a maximum fine of \$10,000 and/or imprisonment for a term not exceeding three years. Offenders who illegally import processed food shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$1,000 and in the case of a subsequent conviction, to a fine not exceeding \$2,000.

Issued by the Singapore Food Agency

17 Feb 2021