

Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution

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Report Name: Guangzhou Continues Importing Meat and Seafood

Country: China - Peoples Republic of

Post: Guangzhou ATO

Report Category: Agriculture in the News, Fishery Products, Livestock and Products

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Report Highlights:

Despite widespread news stories to the contrary, the city of Guangzhou – a major metropolis in South China – has not/not suspended imports of meat and seafood. The misinformation seems to have stemmed from an earlier notice a cold storage association in Guangzhou sent to its membership asking them to suspend meat and seafood imports from undefined COVID-affected areas.

Guangzhou Continues Importing Meat & Seafood:

Guangzhou, the provincial capital of Guangdong in South China, has not/not suspended imports of meat and seafood, despite widespread media reporting to the contrary. The misleading news seems to stem from a notice that a local cold storage association sent to its members on August 18 to remind them to follow established guidelines for safe handling of meat and seafood, and to ask them to temporarily suspend imports from undefined COVID-affected areas. However, importers are not in any way obligated to stop shipments as the cold storage association has no authority on the matter. (Note: The General Administration of Customs China (GACC) is responsible for import inspection and quarantine control.)

This notice was later misinterpreted in the news as the city of Guangzhou halting imports of meat and seafood, most likely due to an earlier report of a sample of imported Brazilian chicken testing positive for COVID-19. However, Guangzhou authorities took no such action, and the city continues to import meat and seafood. More broadly, with the exception of the delisting of export establishments because of COVID-19 concerns, mainland China continues to import meat and seafood from around the world.

Attachments:

No Attachments.