



CIRCULAR

AV 16.02.001.0007

13 March 2012

To All Importers of Minimally Processed Fruits & Vegetables

(All declaring agents are requested to inform your consignees or importers of the contents of this circular)

Dear Sirs

REVISED SUBMISSION FREQUENCY OF LABORATORY TEST REPORTS FOR IMPORT OF

(1) MINIMALLY PROCESSED FRUITS

(2) MINIMALLY PROCESSED VEGETABLES FOR NON-LEAFY & LEAFY VEGETABLES

AVA has recently reviewed the submission of laboratory test reports of the abovementioned minimally processed (MP) fruits & vegetables import from all countries, and would like to reduce the frequency of submission to facilitate trade without compromising the food safety. With effect from 1 May 2012 the following requirements will be implemented:

(a) The submission of chemical and microbiological laboratory reports will no longer be required for the import of non-leafy MP vegetables (eg. onions, potatoes, carrots, water chestnuts etc.)

(b) Submission of chemical and microbiological laboratory reports will only be required once in six months for the import of MP fruits and MP leafy vegetables (eg. lettuce, cabbage, cai xin etc.).

Laboratory Report Submitted by Importer (once in 6 months)	
Chemical	Microbiological for ready-to-eat only (e.g salad, cut fruits etc.)
<u>Pesticide Residues</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Organochlorines ▪ Organophosphates ▪ Dithiocarbamates ▪ N-Methylcarbamates ▪ Pyrethroids 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Total colony count ▪ Fecal coliform ▪ <i>E. coli</i>

2 We would also like to highlight that with effect from 1 March 2012, the import of all ready-to-eat MP fruit and MP vegetables (leafy and non-leafy) from Malaysia is only allowed from Malaysian producers which have been registered and certified by Malaysia’s Ministry of Health. More information on this can be found in AVA circular dated 30 September 2011.

Other matters

3 Please be reminded that all applications for permits to import MP fruits and MP leafy vegetables are processed online during office hours. Therefore, importers are advised to submit all applications for import permits during office hours for processing.

4 Please also note that all imported food products are subjected to inspection and sampling by AVA.

5 You may contact our TradeNet Officers at Tel: 63250783 or 63250784, if you need any clarification.

Yours faithfully

TAN TUANG HONG DAVID
INSPECTION DIVISION
QUARANTINE & INSPECTION DEPARTMENT
for DIRECTOR-GENERAL
AGRI-FOOD AND VETERINARY SERVICES

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