

## Director's Message

2007-08 was both a challenging and encouraging year for the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) as we reaped rosy results through our services and efforts.

During the year, we continued our detailed preparation for the 2008 Olympic and Paralympic Equestrian Events with excited anticipation. Not only did we aim for the smooth running of the events, but we did our best to ensure the animal quarantine, disease prevention and overall welfare of the participating horses would be well taken care of.



The development of organic farming has grown to meet the greater demand of consumers. During the year, 110 farms joined the Department's "Organic Farming Support Service". Together, they produce about four tonnes of organic vegetables per day, marking a 33% increase from the previous year.



On the fisheries side, following the successful completion of culture trials on jade perch, the Department conducted trials on the hatching of imported fertilised eggs and the rearing of fish fry in temperature controlled tanks, and induced spawning of jade perch to help fish farmers secure a stable supply of fish fry at a lower cost.

Prevention of avian influenza (AI) outbreaks has been one of our major tasks over the years. The Department's AI year-round surveillance programme continued to monitor and screen for the presence of the virus at various sites considered to be at risk, such as poultry farms, the wholesale poultry market, pet shops, recreational parks and nature reserves. Dead wild birds were also collected daily and tested for the H5 virus.

The achievement of Hong Kong in enforcing the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) has received recognition in the international arena. At the 14th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP14) to the CITES, the Department was awarded the "Ecomessage Award" by Interpol for its commitment to combating illegal trade in endangered species. The Department was the second recipient of the award since its establishment in 2004.

The Hong Kong Wetland Park has continued to play an important role in promoting wetland conservation and education in the Asia Pacific region. The ecotourism park has attracted more than 20 million visitors since its opening in 2006.



To promote nature appreciation activities, the Department worked with the Friends of the Country Parks to publish the "Eyes on Nature Series 2007" and "30 Years of Country Parks" series in 2008. The former focuses on local fauna and flora while the latter traces the history and development of Hong Kong's country parks since their establishment. The "Eyes on Nature Series 2007" won the first annual "Hong Kong Book Prize 2007" award.

We believe education is the most effective way to help conserve nature. We continued to organise school visits, public seminars and eco-tours, exhibitions, beach cleanup activities in 2007-2008.

These outlines are reported in detail in the following chapters. Here I would like to take the opportunity to thank all our staff and volunteers for their hard work and our collaborative partners for their full support. Without their dedication and contributions, all these achievements could not have been realised.

**Cheung Siu-hing**  
**Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation**



# Overview

The main objectives of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) are -

- facilitating agricultural and fisheries production and improving productivity;
- managing government fresh food wholesale markets;
- conserving flora, fauna and natural habitats;
- managing country parks, special areas, marine parks and marine reserves;
- protecting endangered species;
- protecting animal welfare; and
- controlling animal and plant diseases.



In addition to the overall administration by the Director and the Deputy Director, the Department is organised into the following five functional branches -



- Agriculture Branch;
- Fisheries Branch;
- Inspection and Quarantine Branch;
- Conservation Branch; and
- Country and Marine Parks Branch.

The following chapters set out the work of these branches.

## WORK OF THE AGRICULTURE BRANCH

The objectives of the branch are:

- To provide basic agricultural infrastructure and technical support for the development of modern, efficient and environmentally-friendly farming;
- To ensure the adequate provision at and efficient operation of the government's wholesale marketing facilities for fresh food produce;
- To register credit unions and co-operatives and perform related duties;
- To license livestock farms and implement schemes for the voluntary surrender of their licences that may be in force; and
- To provide administrative support to the Vegetable Marketing Organisation (VMO).



## THE AGRICULTURE INDUSTRY

Agriculture in Hong Kong is undertaken mostly in the urban fringes. Currently, only 19 square kilometres out of the territory's 1 104 square kilometres of land area are farmed. Some 6 100 farmers, about 0.17 per cent of the territory's total work force, are engaged in agriculture.

The local agricultural industry involves producing quality fresh food through intensive land use and modern farming practices. Despite its relatively small scale, the industry produces a substantial amount of vegetables, poultry and pigs. Local agricultural production in the years 2006 and 2007 were valued at about \$1.18 billion and \$1.09 billion respectively. Statistics on agricultural production, fresh foodstuff consumption and agricultural land utilisation are at Appendices 1 to 3.



Vegetable crops grown year-round include Chinese white cabbage, flowering Chinese cabbage, lettuce and celtuce. Long bean, water spinach, Chinese spinach, cucumber and several species of Chinese gourd are produced in summer, while spinach, watercress, Chinese kale and matrimony vine are grown in the cooler months.

Orchids and ornamental plants are now grown all year round. Dahlia, chrysanthemum, lily and gladiolus are grown in winter, while ginger lily, lotus flower and sunflower are grown in summer. Peach blossom is grown specially for the Lunar New Year season.

## PREMIUM VEGETABLES

### General

The Department continues to promote the cultivation of premium vegetables to serve niche markets and help farmers gain better economic returns. Three improved varieties including seedless water melon, baby pumpkin and strawberry were introduced to farmers for production.

### Local Vegetable Farm Voluntary Registration Scheme

Since July 2006, the Department has been running a voluntary registration scheme for local vegetable farms. Under the scheme, the Department has set up a central vegetable farm database containing farmers' particulars,



farm size, location and horticultural details. As at March 2008, 1 885 farms covering a total area of 395 hectares have joined the scheme.

### Accredited Farm Scheme

The Department has been running a voluntary Accredited Farm Scheme since 1994. Under the Scheme, the Department advises participating farmers on the proper and safe use of pesticides; monitors their horticultural practices and samples their vegetables for pesticide residues analysis. Accredited farmers market their vegetables through the VMO which distributes vegetables to designated retail outlets including wet market stalls and supermarkets. To enable easy identification by the public, every designated outlet carries a logo of VMO "Accredited Retailer".

As at March 2008, 193 local farms covering a total area of 71 hectares and 32 vegetable farms operating by Hong Kong farmers in Guangdong covering 1 868 hectares had been accredited. There are 250 accredited retail outlets located in different districts to provide easy access to accredited vegetables for consumers.

### Organic Farming



Since December 2000, the Department has been helping local farmers shifting towards organic farming practices by providing relevant knowledge, technical support and low-interest loans, while the VMO assists farmers in selling their organic produce through its established sales channels.

Up to March 2008, 110 farms covering a total area of 44 hectares have joined the Department's "Organic Farming Support Service". Together, on average they produce about four tonnes of organic vegetables per day, including vegetable varieties such as lettuce, white cabbage, flowering cabbage, water spinach, Chinese spinach, Chinese kale, Garland chrysanthemum, eggplant, bitter cucumber, wax gourd, yard-long bean, cherry tomato, carrot, etc.

The Department also actively supports the Hong Kong Organic Resource Centre (HKORC), a non-profit organisation co-founded by the Hong Kong Baptist University, the Hong Kong Organic Farming Association and the Produce Green Foundation, to develop and implement certification standards for organic production and processing in Hong Kong. Since the launch of this organic certification service in late 2004, 36 organic farms and 2 processing companies have been certified.

## AGRICULTURAL STRUCTURES

### Greenhouses

Controlled-environment greenhouses are built with transparent plastic films or polycarbonate sheets to provide an enclosed environment that enables the regulation of temperature, humidity and intensity of light for the optimal production of crops. To further increase productivity, advanced greenhouses are often equipped with automatic irrigation, fertilisation and/or spraying systems as well.

The Department has adapted greenhouse technology to local conditions and extended it to farmers through seminars and demonstrations for the intensive production of high value crops, such as white bitter cucumber, rock melon, edible fungus, edible white chrysanthemum and lily. Newsletters are issued regularly to update farmers on the latest developments and an electronic version is also available on the [Department's website](#).



### Letters of Approval

Under the terms and conditions of land grants, a farmer who wishes to build an agricultural structure (greenhouse, livestock shed, hatchery, fish pond or store room) on leasehold agricultural land must apply to the Lands Department for a Letter of Approval for Agricultural Structures. To facilitate applications by farmers, the AFCD has streamlined procedures with the Lands Department and taken up the responsibility for assessing such applications. During 2007-08, the Department processed 21 applications covering 41 agricultural structures. One greenhouse, 2 mushroom sheds and 3 other structures were also granted appropriate approval from the Lands Department.

## **SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE**

### **Agricultural Support Services**

The Department promotes the return of fallow land not earmarked for development to cultivation by helping farmers arrange land tenancy, improving soil conditions, and providing marketing facilities and farm road access. During 2007-08, about 1 hectare of such rehabilitated agricultural land was serviced. The Department responded to 4 862 technical inquiries related to agricultural production or development and conducted 321 field investigations in connection with irrigation and other agricultural matters.



### **Agricultural Credit**

The Department operates the Kadoorie Agricultural Aid Loan Fund, the J.E. Joseph Trust Fund and the Vegetable Marketing Organisation Loan Fund to meet farmers' credit needs. A total of \$4.845 million was lent to farmers during 2007-08, including 55 loans (\$2.975 million) to crop farmers and 22 loans (\$1.87 million) to livestock farmers. A total of \$2.744 million was lent to fish farmers, including 11 loans (\$0.775 million) to pond fish farmers and 20 loans (\$1.969 million) to mariculturists.

### **Emergency Relief Operations**

Emergency relief grants are issued to needy farmers who suffer from natural disasters. Grants totalling \$1.98 million were distributed to 778 farmers during 2007-08.

## **FRESH FOOD WHOLESALE MARKETS**

The Department manages four government wholesale food markets, providing some 2 600 trading stalls and related ancillary facilities. Altogether, these markets provide some 37.6% of the fresh food items (vegetables, freshwater fish, eggs, fruits and live poultry) consumed by the community. Appendix 14 gives details of the market throughput in these wholesale markets.



## **VEGETABLE MARKETING ORGANISATION**

The Vegetable Marketing Organisation (VMO) is set up under the Agricultural Products (Marketing) Ordinance, Cap. 277 as a non-profit making concern to provide facilities and services for the orderly and efficient marketing of vegetables. The organisation charges wholesalers a commission of up to 10% of the total value of sales for providing trading facilities, accounting and pesticide residue testing services. Its surpluses are used to support agricultural programmes and development projects. The VMO Loan Fund provides credit assistance to farmers, and the Agricultural Products Scholarship Fund promotes education and training in agriculture.

## **LIVESTOCK FARM LICENSING**

Since the implementation of the Livestock Waste Control Scheme in 1994, all livestock farms must hold a Livestock Keeping Licence (LKL) for the keeping of livestock. In order



to obtain an LKL, the farmer must install appropriate waste treatment facilities that meet minimum discharge standards. An LKL also contains provisions relating to the protection of public health and includes conditions relating to the control and prevention of animal diseases, such as avian influenza. All licensed livestock farms are inspected regularly, particularly those suspected of discharging waste illegally or where waste treatment practices have caused a nuisance to surrounding communities. Action is also taken against illegal livestock keeping.

With the rapid urbanisation of the New Territories, pig farming has brought about public health and pollution concerns. To encourage pig farmers to give up their business, a one-year voluntary scheme was implemented in June, 2006 for those who opted to surrender their LKL and cease business permanently in exchange for the grant of an ex-gratia payment. The scheme ended in May, 2007, and 222 out of the original 265 pig farms participated in the scheme.



## WORK OF THE FISHERIES BRANCH



The objectives of the branch are:

- To provide financial and technical support to fishermen and fish farmers for promoting the sustainable development of the fisheries industry;
- To enforce legislation to regulate and manage the fisheries industry;
- To plan and implement suitable projects and measures for the conservation and management of fisheries resources; and
- To provide administrative support to the Fish Marketing Organisation (FMO).

## THE FISHERIES INDUSTRY

The fisheries industry, which comprises capture fisheries, mariculture and pond fish culture, provides a steady supply of fresh fish to the local market. In 2007, the capture fisheries and mariculture sectors accounted for about 25% of all seafood consumed in Hong Kong, whereas pond fish farms produced about 5% of freshwater fish of total consumption.

### Capture Fisheries

In 2007, the number of fishing vessels was about 4 000 and that of local fishermen was about 8 500. The main fishing methods are trawling, long-lining, hand-lining, gill-netting and purse-seining, with about 87% of the total catch obtained through trawling. The estimated number of fishing vessels by type is at Appendix 4. In 2007, the industry produced an estimated 154 000 tonnes of fish products, of which about 41 000 tonnes were consumed in Hong Kong.



### Mariculture

Marine fish culture involves rearing marine fish in cages suspended by floating rafts in sheltered coastal areas. In 2007, there were 1 070 licensed operators in 26 fish culture zones (a location map is at Appendix 5), occupying a sea area of 209 hectares. Most licensed operations are small and family-based, with farm size averaging about 280 square metres. Estimated production in 2007 was 1 530 tonnes, or about 9% of all locally consumed live marine fish.



### Pond Fish Culture

Most inland ponds are located in the Northwest New Territories. These ponds, covering some 1 160 hectares, produced 1 930 tonnes of freshwater fish in 2007. Most ponds practise polyculture of carps mixed with tilapia or grey mullet. Some coastal ponds have been converted to culture brackish species, such as scat, sea bream, pampano and giant grouper, to reap better profits.



## SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT

The Department has implemented various measures to promote the sustainable development of the fisheries industry.





### Combating Destructive Fishing Practices

Hong Kong waters are patrolled regularly to deter destructive fishing practices prohibited under the Fisheries Protection Ordinance, Cap. 171. These practices include the use of explosives, toxic substances, dredging or suction devices and apparatus that transmits electricity. One case of illegal fishing was successfully prosecuted in 2007.

### Artificial Reefs Deployment

Artificial reefs are effective in promoting the growth and development of various marine organisms which in turn provide food, protection and shelter for fish. Since 1996 the Department has been implementing an artificial reefs programme and some 169 000 cubic metres of artificial reefs have been deployed at suitable locations including Marine Parks, and fish spawning and nursery grounds in Port Shelter and Long Harbour. To enhance the fisheries resources and conserve the marine ecology of the Tung Ping Chau Marine Park, 690 cubic metres of artificial reefs made from concrete structures of demolished piers were deployed in the park in 2007. Over 220 species of fish, including many high-value ones such as grouper, bream, snapper and sweetlip, have been using the reefs for feeding and shelter, as well as spawning and nursery areas.



### Support Services

The Department provides technical support, training and liaison services, and credit facilities to fishermen. During the year, the Department continued to liaise with both Mainland and foreign fisheries authorities and agencies to obtain information on recreational fishing, aquaculture, fish processing and offshore fishing, and disseminate it to fishermen. Technical advice was also given to fishermen to help assess their development proposals. The Department also worked with the Marine Department to study the feasibility and technical details of allowing Hong Kong fishing vessels to carry passengers for recreational fishing. To help some 1 200 trawling and purse-seining fishermen affected by the annual two-month fishing moratorium in the South China Sea implemented by the Mainland authorities, special loans are made available under the Fish Marketing Organisation Loan Fund. Some 480 loans amounting to \$59.7 million were issued to affected fishermen in 2007. Vocational training courses and seminars were also organised for fishermen during the period to raise their awareness of fisheries management and conservation, and to upgrade their knowledge and skills in vessel operation and fishing techniques.

### Fisheries Impact Assessment



To protect fisheries resources and habitats, the Department continued to vet and provide professional advice on development proposals as well as relevant Environmental Impact Assessment studies, monitoring and audit programmes to ensure that the likely impacts of development projects on fisheries would be adequately addressed, evaluated and minimised through effective mitigation. The Department also assisted in conducting investigations in fish kills or water quality deterioration incidents allegedly caused by development projects with a view to providing prompt advice on remedial actions and minimising fish loss.

## **Aquaculture**

### Proper Management of Marine Fish Culture Activities

Under the Marine Fish Culture Ordinance, Cap. 353, all marine fish culture activities in Hong Kong are required to operate under licence in designated fish culture zones. The Department conducts regular

patrols in these fish culture zones and takes enforcement actions against illegal mariculture activities. As at March 2008, there were 1 070 licensed mariculturists.

To meet the growing public demand for recreational fishing facilities and to help mariculturists diversify their business, the Department has implemented a scheme to allow mariculturists to carry out recreational fishing activities on fish culture rafts. As at March 2008, a total of 11 fish culture zones and 34 licencees have been given the permission to conduct such activities.

#### Safeguarding Aquaculture Environments



To minimise the impact of red tides and water quality deterioration on mariculture, the Department conducts regular monitoring on the water quality of fish culture zones and implements red tide monitoring and management measures. The latter includes proactive phytoplankton monitoring before the formation of a red tide and rapid risk assessment of reported red tide incidents. A computerised system using Geographic Information System technology has been established to help visualise the spatial and temporal distribution of red tides and provide a quick analysis of their development and movement. Prompt red tide warnings and technical advice are disseminated to mariculturists and the public through the red tide support groups set up in fish culture zones, press releases and the Red Tide website

([www.hkredtide.org](http://www.hkredtide.org)).

Thirteen red tide incidents were recorded in Hong Kong waters in 2007. All of these were caused by non-toxic algal species. No fish kills arose from any of these incidents.

Following the deployment of specially designed artificial reefs known as biofilters to help improve the water quality and seabed environment in the Kau Sai and Sham Wan fish culture zones, eight units of biofilters are being constructed for deployment in Lo Tik Wan fish culture zone.

#### Promoting Good Aquaculture Practices

To help fish farmers minimise losses due to fish disease, the Department has put in place a fish health inspection programme. During the year, regular farm visits were conducted to facilitate early detection of disease outbreaks, training was provided to fish farmers on disease prevention measures and fish disease diagnosis and treatment services were given in case of an outbreak. Improved culture techniques and good management practices were introduced to fish farmers through seminars, advisory leaflets and on-farm demonstrations.

#### Accredited Fish Farm Scheme

The Department introduced a voluntary Accredited Fish Farm Scheme in mid 2005 to enhance the competitiveness of the local aquaculture industry. Participating fish farms under the scheme are required to adopt a set of good aquaculture practices with a view to raising the environmental hygiene standards of the fish farms and the quality of cultured fish. Quality assurance tests, including analyses of drug residues and heavy metals in fish, are conducted to ensure that all cultured fish meet food safety standards before they are sold in the market. The scheme has been very well received by local mariculturists and pond fish farmers. As at end March 2008, a total of 72 fish farms (21 fish ponds and 51 mariculture farms), representing 12% of the total area of local fish farms, have registered under the scheme. In collaboration with the FMO, the Department continues to publicise and promote the marketing of fish products under this brand name.



#### Culture Trials of New Fish Species

To provide a wider choice of species for culture, the Department proactively identifies new species with good market potential that can be recommended to farmers. Following the successful



completion of culture trials on jade perch (*Scortum barcoo*), the Department conducted trials on the hatching of imported fertilised eggs and rearing of fish fry in temperature controlled tanks, and induced spawning of jade perch with a view to helping fish farmers secure a stable supply of fish fry at a lower cost. Jade perch, originated from Queensland, Australia, is a good candidate for pond fish culture. It is of high nutritional value, with an especially high percentage of poly-unsaturated fatty acids. Since 2006, jade perch has been marketed under the Accredited Fish Farm Scheme and well received by the public.

### Voluntary Registration of Local Aquaculture Farms

To promote the quality of local aquaculture farms, the Department implemented in early 2007 a voluntary registration scheme for local pond fish farms. As at March 2008, 264 pond fish farmers have registered under the scheme.

### Committee on Sustainable Fisheries

A Committee on Sustainable Fisheries was set up in December 2006 to study the long term goals and directions as well as feasible options and implementation strategy for the sustainable development of the fisheries industry, with regard to fisheries trends, ecological sustainability, economic viability and other relevant factors, such as financial implications and social impact. The Department chairs and provides supporting services to the Committee. Since its establishment, the Committee has conducted a thorough review of the issues pertaining to local fisheries, and explored various possible measures that might contribute to the sustainable development of the fisheries industry and conservation of marine resources in Hong Kong. The Committee is expected to submit its report in 2009.



## **Marketing**



### Ensuring Orderly Wholesale Marketing

To ensure the orderly marketing of fresh marine fish, the Department continued to undertake enforcement actions against illegal wholesale marketing of marine fish in accordance with the Marine Fish (Marketing) Ordinance, Cap. 291. Technical and administrative support was also provided to the FMO, a statutory organisation established under Cap. 291, to ensure that orderly fish marketing services were provided to fishermen and fish traders through the wholesale fish markets operated by the FMO.

### Promotion of Local Fisheries Products

The Department works closely with the FMO to promote local fisheries products. During the year, the FMO continued to develop quality fisheries products at its processing centre and brought local fisheries products, in particular, fish accredited under the Accredited Fish Farm Scheme, to the public through its marketing network.





# Inspection and Quarantine

## WORK OF THE INSPECTION AND QUARANTINE BRANCH

The objectives of the branch are:

- To provide veterinary diagnostic support and surveillance services for detecting diseases and drug residues in food animals;
- To conduct livestock farm inspections;
- To facilitate access to approved chemicals for use in food animals;
- To investigate and control the outbreaks of animal diseases;
- To promote animal welfare and reduce nuisance caused by stray animals;
- To monitor and control the trade of animals;
- To control and regulate the use of pesticides;
- To formulate protocols and regulate the importation of animals/plants and their products; and
- To certify and facilitate exportation of animals/plants and their products.

## LIVESTOCK FARM INSPECTIONS

To protect the general population from avian influenza, the Department has imposed biosecurity requirements on local poultry farms, in addition to the implementation of its universal compulsory vaccination programme. Every batch of local chickens is also tested for avian influenza, and only when the results are negative are the chickens allowed to be sold for human consumption. In 2007-08, AFCD staff conducted more than 5 400 inspections of local livestock farms and quarantined 1 244 pigs imported for breeding purposes. One pig farm was prosecuted and convicted of offences for using prohibited chemicals.



## VETERINARY DIAGNOSTIC LABORATORY

The Laboratory provides testing services of animal pathogens, chemical residues in pre-slaughter food animals and veterinary diagnostic support. During the year, over 8 800 requests were received for animal, bird and fish disease investigation. About 279 300 tests for AI, and over 100 500 for chemical residue monitoring were conducted.

## PREVENTION OF AVIAN INFLUENZA

To safeguard the population against AI, the Department continued its year-round programme to monitor and screen for the presence of the virus at various sites considered to be at risk, such as poultry farms, the wholesale poultry market, pet shops, recreational parks and nature reserves. Dead wild birds were also collected and tested daily. From April 2007 to March 2008, over 43 000 carcasses and faecal swab samples were collected at various locations and tested for the virus. Except for 13 wild birds found dead at various locations during the year, the highly pathogenic H5N1 AI virus was not detected in any sample. The number of positive cases found was considered to be normal for the period and similar to that found in the previous year.

To enforce the legislation enacted in February 2006 to ban the keeping of backyard poultry (chickens, ducks, geese, pigeons and quails), Departmental staff patrolled all local villages and seized 72 poultry in 2007-08. Offenders are liable to a fine of \$50,000 to \$100,000.

In October 2007, a three-day course was conducted by the Department to train its staff on emergency response procedures in the event of an AI outbreak. As part of the course, a mock poultry culling exercise, codenamed "Exercise Daisy", was conducted at Ta Kwu Ling Operation Centre.

The Department from time to time issued reminders to relevant religious organisations not to release birds to the wild. Organisations contacted agreed to cooperate and inform their members about the advice.



## CONTROL ON PESTICIDES

Comments collected from the public consultation exercise in 2007 were taken into account in drafting the law for a new pesticide control regime. The proposed control areas mainly concern pesticide user control, product registration and regulation of the export, transshipment and transit of pesticides regulated by the Stockholm Convention and the Rotterdam Convention which have recently been ratified by China.

In view of the increasing public awareness about pesticide safety, the Department continued to hold technical talks and distribute leaflets to educate the public and government departments on the safe and proper use of pesticides. During the year, several environmentally friendly pesticides were registered, including a tobacco beetle sex pheromone for monitoring of tobacco beetle, a storage pest and an improved formulation of Monomolecular Film for control of mosquitoes.

Statistics on pesticide control are at Appendix 8.

## PLANT VARIETIES PROTECTION

The Plant Varieties Protection Ordinance, Cap. 490, provides plant breeders with the legal means to apply for proprietary rights over cultivated plant varieties they have bred or discovered and developed. Grantees shall have the exclusive rights to import, export, produce and sell reproductive materials of the protected variety. The rights will be granted for a term of 20 or 25 years. During the year, a new grapevine variety, namely SUGRASIXTEEN, was granted plant variety rights. This new seedless black grape variety is distinctive for its unique muscat flavour with a foxy taste.

## ANIMAL AND PLANT QUARANTINE CONTROL

As the animal import and export control authority in Hong Kong, the Department is responsible for ensuring that all cross-border animal movements are closely monitored to prevent the introduction of animal diseases into Hong Kong.

Special permits issued by the Department are required for the import of live animals and birds in accordance with the Public Health (Animals and Birds) Ordinance, Cap. 139 and the Rabies Ordinance, Cap. 421. Importing animals and birds without a special permit is liable to prosecution. In 2007-08, a total of 4 706 permits were issued for the import/transit of live animals and birds.

To comply with the import requirements of destination places, the Department issues animal health certificates to facilitate the export of animals and birds from Hong Kong. In 2007-08, a total of 3 160 applications for Animal Health Certificates were processed by the Department.

To strengthen the efforts to prevent illegal importation of animals and to safeguard public health, the Quarantine Detector Dog (QDD) Programme commenced operation in February 2008 at various land control points. The use of QDD has been shown to be an effective, internationally recognised tool for the detection of prohibited items. The QDD can detect many controlled items including mammals, birds, reptiles and other animal products even when they are hidden in baggage or under several layers of clothing.





The International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM) No 15, Guidelines for Regulating Wood Packaging Material in International Trade, endorsed by the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures of the International Plant Protection Convention under the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), requires wood packaging material used in cargoes to undergo approved methyl bromide fumigation or heat treatment and to be marked with an FAO logo with a view to preventing the spread of plant pests in international trade. There are methyl bromide fumigators approved by the Department to conduct the ISPM compliant treatment in Hong Kong. During the year, the Department also put in place a heat treatment

accreditation scheme that provides traders a more environmentally friendly measure to treat the wood packaging material. A heat treatment company accredited is authorised to apply the FAO logo on treated wood packaging material. So far one company has been accredited.

The Department continued to keep up inspection on imported plants to prevent the introduction of pests such as the Red Imported Fire Ant into Hong Kong. Publicity was strengthened to educate travellers not to bring in infected plants. Workshops and technical advice were also provided to other government departments and the public.

To allow traders to enjoy a speedy and more convenient application process for the importation of plants, the Department launched an online application service.

Statistics on plant import controls and phytosanitary certification services are at Appendix 7.

## ANIMAL WELFARE

Under the law, all animal traders have to be licensed. In 2007, some 500 Animal Trader Licences were issued, covering the trade of dogs, cats, pet birds, food birds and food reptiles.

Since December 2006, anyone found guilty of cruelty to animals is liable to a maximum fine of \$200,000 and imprisonment for 3 years. During the year, there were 9 successful prosecutions relating to animal cruelty.

An Announcement in the Public Interest (API) was introduced in March 2008 to educate and appeal to the public to report any cases of animal cruelty. To further promote animal welfare and responsible pet ownership, the Department held a "Pets are for Life" carnival in March 2008 which attracted more than 18 000 visitors through exhibition panels and games. Public awareness programmes covering both the media and public transport system were also conducted.



## PREVENTION OF RABIES

In 2007-08, a total of some 50 000 dogs were licensed and vaccinated against rabies. To safeguard the public from aggressive dogs and cats and to improve environmental hygiene, some 9 000 stray dogs and 5 000 stray cats were caught or handled during the year. Healthy animals with good temperaments would be selected for re-homing. About 700 animals were re-homed through animal welfare organisations. To further prevent the risk of rabies, the Department proposed to introduce additional measures on animal traders to control the source of dogs sold in the pet trade. During the year, it consulted relevant stakeholders, including representatives of animal traders, animal breeders, kennel clubs and animal welfare organisations, on its proposals.

## 2008 OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC EQUESTRIAN EVENTS

Hong Kong would stage the Equestrian Events for both the 2008 Olympic and Paralympic Games.



As the inspection and quarantine authority for animals and plants, AFCD would be responsible for enforcing the protocol requirements regarding the import and re-export of horses that will participate in the Equestrian Events, as well as horse feed and bedding material of plant origin. In addition, the Department would be responsible for monitoring the stabling and welfare of all horses participating in the Equestrian Events.



To prepare for the Events, during the year the Department:

- Informed National Equestrian Federations of prospective participating members on the specifically designed quarantine and biosecurity protocols regarding import of horses and horse feed and bedding materials to Hong Kong to participate in the Equestrian Events;
- Finalised official health and phytosanitary certification arrangements with relevant quarantine authorities of prospective participating members;
- Participated in the 2007 Equestrian Event as a test run for the Olympic and Paralympic Equestrian Events;
- Inspected and approved pre-export quarantine facilities; and
- Provided advice and support on horse welfare and other relevant aspects.

## WORK OF THE CONSERVATION BRANCH

The objectives of the branch are:

- To conserve local flora, fauna and natural habitats by offering professional advice on development proposals, planning strategies and environmental impact assessments;
- To draw up and implement biodiversity conservation plans, as well as to identify Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI);
- To conduct regular ecological surveys, update inventories and manage an ecological database for Hong Kong;
- To monitor the ecology of the Mai Po Inner Deep Bay Ramsar Site and to develop and manage the Hong Kong Wetland Park;
- To protect endangered animal and plant species; and
- To promote public awareness of and participation in nature conservation through publicity and educational activities.



## NATURAL ENVIRONMENT



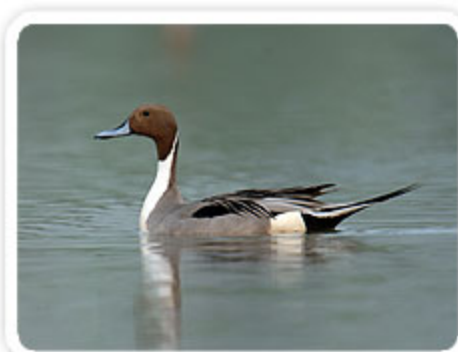
Hong Kong's topography and subtropical climate provide a wide range of habitats that support a rich variety of flora and fauna. Scenically, it has a great deal to offer – a landscape rising from sandy beaches and rocky foreshores to a height of almost 1 000 metres, with woodlands and hilly areas covered by open grassland, as well as a variety of scenic vistas rarely seen in such a small locale.

In Hong Kong, there are more than 3 100 species of vascular plants, of which about 2 100 are native; some 50 species of mammals; 480 species of birds; 160 species of freshwater fish; 80 species of reptiles and more than 20 amphibian species. Insect diversity is also very high with more than 230 species of butterflies and 110 types of dragonflies.

## ENHANCED NATURE CONSERVATION

Under the New Nature Conservation Policy announced in November 2004, 12 priority sites have been identified for enhanced conservation through public-private partnership (PPP) and management agreements with landowners (MA). The Department is responsible for monitoring PPP and MA projects selected for implementation by the private sector or non-governmental organisations in these sites.

As at March 2008, the pilot MA projects at Long Valley and Fung Yuen had been carried out for about two years. There had been increases in the number and diversity of birds and butterflies there, suggesting that the MA scheme was effective in enhancing the conservation value of the sites. In addition to the direct benefit to biodiversity, the projects also raised the conservation awareness of the public and local villagers. Noting the merits of the MA scheme, in early 2008, the Environment and Conservation Fund supported the continuation of the scheme and approved funds for these projects to continue for another two years.



## ECOLOGICAL SURVEYS AND DATABASE



The Department has been conducting a territory-wide ecological survey programme since 2002 with a view to maintaining and updating an ecological database for the whole of Hong Kong. The survey programme covers all major habitats of high conservation value in Hong Kong, including the location, status and composition of fung shui woods, as well as the distribution and abundance of selected animal groups. As at March 2008, more than 64 000 records of some 1 500 species of plants and animals had been collected, verified, and stored in the database.

The survey findings confirm that Hong Kong has a rich biodiversity, including species new to Hong Kong and even new to science. The findings further indicate that our

protected areas encompass a very significant portion of this biodiversity. For the species groups surveyed and analysed, more than 95% of the terrestrial and freshwater representatives that are regularly seen in Hong Kong have representative population(s) inside our protected areas.

During the year, the Department continued to boost public interest in local biodiversity and win public support for nature conservation through its online database on representative species and habitats at Hong Kong Biodiversity Online ([www.hkbiodiversity.net](http://www.hkbiodiversity.net)). The Department also developed a central database using the Geographical Information System which incorporates survey data and ecological information available from other sources.

## THE MAI PO INNER DEEP BAY RAMSAR SITE

Since August 2001, the Department has implemented the Mai Po Inner Deep Bay Ramsar Site Ecological Monitoring Programme. This long-term monitoring programme aims to collect ecological baseline information on the marine benthic communities, over-wintering waterbird counts and the extent of habitation at the Ramsar Site.

From October 2007 to March 2008, the highest winter count of waterbirds at the Ramsar Site was about 90 140, including some 35 070 ducks and grebes, some 27 720 shorebirds, some 11 790 gulls and terns, some 11 140 cormorants, some 3 550 egrets and herons, and some 870 rails and coots. In comparison with the winter figure for 2006, there was a 13% increase in the population of waterbirds in the Ramsar Site and it was the highest record since the 1992-93 winter.



## BLACK-FACED SPOONBILLS



The Black-faced Spoonbill is a globally endangered species that can only be found in the East Asia region. In the 2007-08 winter, the global population survey recorded 2 065 individuals which represented a record high annual increase of 20%. About 18% of them made the Inner Deep Bay area their winter or stop-over migration site. The area has the second largest number of wintering Black-faced Spoonbills in the East Asia region.

Accordingly, maintaining the Mai Po Inner Deep Bay Ramsar Site in favourable conditions for the wintering Black-faced Spoonbills in Hong Kong has been an important aspect of the territory's conservation plan since 2001. Other parts of the plan include safeguarding the site; species and habitat management; monitoring and research; education and training; as well as regional cooperation.



## CONTROL OF TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES

The Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance is the local legislation which gives effect to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES). In 2007-08, steps were taken to amend the Ordinance to give effect to the changes that were adopted by the 14th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP14) to the Convention. More species would be added to the control list, including Sawfish, European Eel and Brazil Wood.



Efforts in combating illegal trade in endangered species continued. During the year, 279 seizures were made, including a shipment of 945 live common rat snakes from Thailand, 110 kg of ivory from Kenya and 17 kg of rhinoceros horns from South Africa.

The achievement of Hong Kong in enforcement received recognition in the international arena. At CoP14 in June 2007, the Department was awarded the "Ecomessage Award" by Interpol for its commitment to combating illegal trade in endangered species. The Department was the second recipient of the award since the latter was established in 2004.

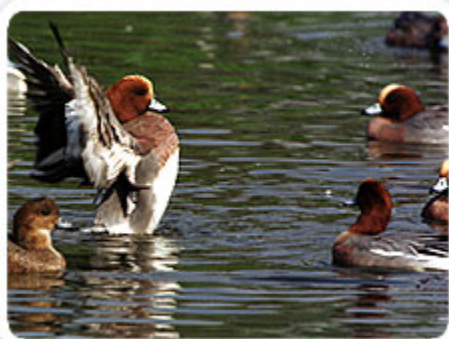
The Department continued its educational and promotional efforts to raise public awareness of the need to protect endangered species, such as organising visits to the Department's Endangered Species Resource Centre; conducting talks in schools and roving exhibitions at public venues; distributing posters and leaflets as well as arranging displays at the airport and border control points. The "Protect Endangered Species Logo Design Competition", co-organised with a local newspaper, was well received with over 5 000 entries from 113 primary and secondary schools. Under the joint education and publicity programme between the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region and Guangdong Province, a trader seminar and a training course for CITES enforcement officials were conducted.

## THE HONG KONG WETLAND PARK

The Hong Kong Wetland Park was opened in May 2006. It is a landmark in wetland conservation, with a mission to promote eco-tourism in Hong Kong and foster public awareness of the values of wetlands. The design of the Park has won much praise. Since its opening, the Park has received over 15 awards including the "2007 Urban Landscape Institute Awards for Excellence" (Global Award and Asia Pacific Award) and "Excellence on the Waterfront 2007" of the 2007 Waterfront Centre's 21st Annual International Honour Awards Programme.

The Park combines the natural beauty of 60 hectares of re-created wetland with a visitor centre of over 10 000 square meters showcasing sophisticated exhibits on wetlands. During the year, the Park attracted more than 630 000 visitors.

The Department is responsible for the management of the Park, with respect to daily operation, education and promotion, exhibit maintenance and habitat management.



In 2007-08, the Park conducted some 4 100 guided visits for nearly 87 000 students and visitors. A set of factsheets on 20 topics was produced to help teachers and the public to understand more about wetland ecology as well as our conservation work. In addition, a total of 18 public seminars attended by over 1 200 visitors were held at the Park. The Park recruited more than 2 600 volunteers under the Wetland Park Volunteers Scheme since its opening. These volunteers assisted in the operation of the visitor centre at the Park and offered guided tours for visitors. They also participated in outdoor habitat management work. By March 2008, the cumulative number of man-days served by the volunteers had exceeded 7 000.

The Park plays an important role in promoting wetland conservation and education in the Asia Pacific region. Being a key player of the Wetland Link International – Asia (WLI-

Asia) network, the Park organised the Inter-school Education Programme from August 2007 to April 2008. 13 wetland centres from 9 countries / regions recruited secondary schools in their countries / regions to join wetland study projects. Outstanding projects from the programme are available for public access at [WLI-Asia website](#).

Since 2003, the Department has been conducting habitat management at the Wetland Reserve with a view to enhancing its ecological functions. The species richness of birds recorded has since increased, and the cumulative number of bird species recorded has exceeded 220.

Waterbirds or birds dependent on wetlands which make up approximately 37% of all species have been recorded. The freshwater marshes were becoming more attractive to ducks in the winter of 2007-08. In addition to birds, ecological surveys conducted at the Reserve have recorded a variety of other species especially the wetland indicators – dragonflies, amphibians and reptiles. The cumulative numbers of dragonfly, amphibian and reptile species recorded at the Reserve are 42, 9 and 17 respectively. This shows that, with proper site design and management, the objectives of nature conservation, education and tourism can co-exist.



## HONG KONG HERBARIUM AND FLORA CONSERVATION

The Department manages the Hong Kong Herbarium which is responsible for the systematic collection, identification and maintenance of plant specimens of Hong Kong's flora. During the year, the specimen collection of the Herbarium exceeded 40 000, more than 280 of which are type specimens, making the Herbarium regionally important.

The Hong Kong Herbarium together with the South China Botanical Garden compiled the *Flora of Hong Kong*. It is a definitive technical reference aimed at recording all known plant species in Hong Kong, and is the first flora book about plants of South China written in English and fully illustrated with colour photographs and botanical drawings. During the year, in the course of this project, some plant species were newly recorded, including a species new to science. The discovery of *Syzygium impressum*, of the Myrtaceae family, was published in botanical literature, based on a type specimen collected from Hong Kong. This species is also described in Volume 2 of the *Flora of Hong Kong* published in early 2008.



In addition to being a resource centre for plant workers, the Herbarium aims to promote public awareness of local flora through organising guided visits and publishing educational materials.

## SITES OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST

Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) may be land-based or aquatic sites, which are of special scientific interest because of their flora, fauna, geographical or geological features. During the year, the Department continued to patrol and monitor the conditions and scientific values of all SSSIs. Where warranted, the Department also carried out appropriate habitat management work at some SSSIs to maintain or enhance their scientific value. For instance, Mikania control was conducted at A Chau SSSI to improve the conditions of the trees there so as to provide a suitable site for egrets and herons to nest. The Department also continued to review the status of SSSIs and identify new sites suitable for SSSI listing or make proposals for de-listing those sites no longer deserving the SSSI status due to changes in circumstances over time after their listing. In 2007-08, newly designated SSSIs include Lin Ma Hang Stream, Siu Lang Shui and Deep Water Bay Valley. One SSSI, Tsing Shan Tsuen, was de-listed from the SSSI Register.

## CONTROL OF MIKANIA

Mikania (*Mikania micrantha*) is an exotic climber which grows rapidly in open and disturbed areas, such as roadsides and derelict land. The overgrowth of Mikania causes damage to other plants by cutting out light and smothering them. Since Mikania seldom grows in the shade, it does not result in any adverse impact on established woodlands with large trees and a close canopy.

To prevent the proliferation of Mikania in any sites with conservation value, the Department continued to clear the plant when it was found in country parks, special areas and SSSIs. Besides mechanical weeding, habitat management control was applied on a trial basis.

In addition, the Department has prepared the Nature Conservation Practice Note "Clearing Mikania" which provides technical guidance to relevant government departments and landscape contractors responsible for the clearance of Mikania. The Department has also set up a website on Mikania for the public. The URL is: [http://www.afcd.gov.hk/english/conservation/con\\_flo/About\\_Mikania/about\\_mikania.html](http://www.afcd.gov.hk/english/conservation/con_flo/About_Mikania/about_mikania.html)

## CONTROL OF WILD MONKEYS

The wild monkey population in Hong Kong has been increasing in recent years and has caused public concern. To control the unnatural population increase in the long term, the Department has stepped up the field trial of contraceptive treatment. In 2007-08, the Department carried out such treatment on 291 monkeys. The Department has also strengthened the enforcement of feeding ban in specific country parks to minimise monkey nuisance to visitors. In 2007-08, a total of 66 country park visitors were prosecuted for unauthorised feeding of wild monkeys.





# Country and Marine Parks

## WORK OF THE COUNTRY AND MARINE PARKS BRANCH



The objectives of the branch are:

- To conserve the natural environment through the identification, designation and management of suitable areas as country parks, special areas, marine parks and marine reserves;
- To conserve important marine and terrestrial fauna and flora, such as the Chinese white dolphins, finless porpoises, coral communities, birds, mammals, butterflies and dragonflies;
- To promote nature appreciation through publicity and educational activities and the provision of suitable facilities.

## COUNTRY AND MARINE PARKS

To conserve the countryside, by March 2008, 41 644 hectares (about 38 % of Hong Kong's total land area) had been designated as country parks and special areas. The Department continued to manage all 23 country parks and 17 special areas for conservation, recreation, education and tourism. Hiking trails, nature trails, barbecue and picnic sites, camp sites and visitor centres were provided in the country parks, drawing some 12 583 600 visitors in 2007-08.



The Department also continued to manage marine parks and marine reserves for conservation, recreation, education and scientific studies. There are currently four marine parks and one marine reserve, covering 2 430 hectares. They comprise scenic coastal areas, seascapes and important marine habitats with interesting marine fauna and flora, providing ideal opportunities for diving, snorkelling, canoeing and underwater photography. Some 211 000 visitors to marine parks were recorded in 2007-08.

## HILL FIRES

During the year, 42 hill fires occurred over an area of 189 hectares with 20 600 trees damaged within or adjacent to country parks. The number of hill fires was similar to that of the past two years. However, the damage caused by hill fires was lower than that of the previous year as no special severe hill fire had occurred. Planting programmes to rehabilitate the areas damaged by hill fires continued.

## TREE PLANTING

Some 933 000 seedlings were planted in 2007-08, as compared with 903 000 in 2006-07. The slight increase was

due to the need to plant more trees at Tai Lam Country Park to rehabilitate the damage caused by hill fires that occurred in late 2006. To enrich local plant diversity, the Department continued to produce and plant seedlings of native tree species. Major native species planted included *Castanopsis fissa*, *Celtis sinensis*, *Gordonia axillaris*, *Liquidambar formosana*, *Machilus chekiangensis*, *Machilus gamblei* and *Schima superba*, accounting for about 56% of all plantings.

Seedlings of uncommon species like *Aphananthe cuspidate*, various *Camellia* species, *Keteleeria fortunei*, *Nauclea officinalis* and *Pyrus calleryana* as well as seedlings of tree species that were not readily available in the market, such as *Machilus chekiangensis* and *Machilus pauhoi*, were produced for planting in country parks.



### Ecological Enhancement

Efforts continued to be made to enhance the diversity of flora and fauna in country parks. For instance, seedlings of native species were planted within plantations of exotic species to enrich their species diversity and ecological value. Artificial wetlands were constructed for attracting aquatic wildlife. Butterfly gardens were also developed to increase diversity of butterflies through planting food plants to attract rare butterflies to breed there.

## MANAGEMENT OF MARINE PARKS

With the increasing popularity of marine parks, a number of measures were taken to address problems arising from the increase in visitors. These included increased patrols, with volunteers assigned to advise visitors of rules to observe during their visits, the arrangement of guided activities and the publication of educational materials. Law enforcement action was also taken to combat illegal activities.

In May 2007, Coral Beach of the Hoi Ha Wan Marine Park was closed for the purpose of allowing damaged coral to recover.



## NATURE CONSERVATION EDUCATION

### Publication of Nature Books

To promote nature appreciation activities, we collaborated with the Friends of the Country Parks to publish the "Eyes on Nature Series 2007" and "30 Years of Country Parks" series in 2008. The "Eyes on Nature Series 2007" is a set of 12 books focusing on local fauna and flora, geology features and promoting nature with the aid of music and lyrics. The "Eyes on Nature Series 2007" won the first annual "Hong Kong Book Prize 2007" award. The book entitled "30 Years of Country Parks" celebrates the 30th anniversary of the country parks, detailing the history and development of Hong Kong's country parks since their early days.



### Nature Appreciation Activities of Visitor Centres

During November 2007 to March 2008, the Lions Nature Education Center launched a regular guided walk service utilising a web-based booking system. Over 660 participants from 16 organisations joined the guided walks.

Ngong Ping Nature Centre, the first country park visitor centre set up on Lantau Island, was opened in March 2008.



The centre displays ecological and hiking information on Lantau.



### **Geoconservation Appreciation Tours**

In collaboration with Friends of the Country Parks and the Association for Geoconservation Hong Kong, the Department offered

a "Geo-landmarks Appreciation Guided Walks" program to the public in March and April 2008. The appreciation tours were hosted at six geo-landmarks in Hong Kong, including High Island Reservoir, Ma Shi Chau Special Area, Ngong Ping (Lantau), Shek O, Tai Lam Country Park and Bride's Pool. The guided walks aimed to promote geo-conservation through appreciation of the unique natural landmarks in Hong Kong. The programme was so popular that all guided walks were fully subscribed with over 2 000 participants.



### **Songs of Nature**

To promote the appreciation of nature through music, the Department, the Friends of the Country Parks and the Education Bureau jointly hosted a territory-wide singing contest "Songs of Nature" in January and February 2008. The event celebrated nature's beauty and dynamism with music and lyrics, drawing 2 450 students from 47 schools to participate. The participating teams were free to present any one of the 10 Songs of Nature written by Mr. Albert Au, a renowned local folk singer. Of the songs, each a eulogy to a local scenic site, five are newly written and five are golden oldies reinvigorated with poetic lyrics to extol the natural splendour of Hong Kong's countryside.

### **School Visits**

Under the "School Visit Programme 2007-08", park wardens met some 2 800 kindergarten students from 36 schools to promote the message of nature appreciation through experience sharing and games during October 2007 to March 2008.



### **Marine Conservation Education Programme**

The Department organised a variety of marine conservation education activities targeting various sectors of the community. During the year, we organised 88 public eco-tours, 9 public seminars, 7 beach cleanup activities, 13 school lectures, 7 exhibitions and 20 other kinds of educational activities, benefiting over 8 000 participants.

## **LAW ENFORCEMENT**

Park wardens patrol country parks and special areas on a regular basis to provide visitor services and to enforce the Country Parks Ordinance and related legislation. In 2007-08, 929 offenders were prosecuted or given a fixed penalty notice with fines totalling \$898,700. Statistics are at Appendix 12. Under the Fixed Penalty (Public Cleanliness Offences) Ordinance, Cap. 570, a total of 525 offenders were given a fixed penalty notice for littering or spitting; 30 offenders were charged with unauthorised possession of protected plants or damaging plants; while 8 people were prosecuted



for illegal use of fire in the countryside or a country park. Park wardens also conducted frequent special operations in the country parks, such as searching for illegal animal traps, visiting villages for the promotion of fire prevention and assisting the police in search-and-rescue exercises. Regular joint operations with the Police were undertaken to combat crimes, such as robbery and illegal felling of Buddhist Pines and Incense Trees.

In our marine parks and reserves, wardens patrol on a daily basis, paying special attention to any illegal fishing activities and other offences. Close liaison is also maintained with the Marine Police and the Fisheries Authority of Shenzhen to combat illegal fishing by Mainland fishermen in marine parks. Wardens give advice or warnings to visitors and institute prosecutions when necessary. In 2007-08, 90 prosecutions were instituted with fines totalling \$72,400.

## MARINE CONSERVATION

### Reef Check

The Department coordinated the annual Reef Check, in collaboration with the Reef Check Foundation. In 2007, 33 coral sites were surveyed with the assistance of over 360 volunteer divers. Twenty-two of the total 33 coral sites recorded high coral cover (i.e. more than 50%) and the growth of corals at all sites was stable. Results of the Reef Check were publicised to enhance public awareness of the current status of our marine environment and to seek the public's cooperation in protecting our precious marine resources. The findings also provided the Department with important information on the health of corals so that appropriate action could be taken to protect them.



2007 was the 10th anniversary of Reef Check. To mark the occasion, a special handbook documenting the objectives and major achievements of Hong Kong Reef Check was produced.

### Conservation of Corals



Specially-designed marker buoys were installed at Ung Kong Wan, Sharp Island and Port Island for better protection of corals from anchoring damage. Regular sea patrols and underwater ecological surveys were also conducted to monitor the effectiveness of the coral marker buoys in those areas. The results to date are encouraging. There has been an overall increase in live coral cover in the marker area and damaged corals have shown signs of recovery.

The Department organised the "Photo and Video Exhibition on Coastal and Marine Life of Hong Kong in 2007" with a view to promoting the beauty and diversity of coastal and marine environment and enhancing the public's understanding of the importance of marine conservation. A

photo album showing the winning entries and the Department's work on conservation and management of Hong Kong marine environment was produced in 2007.

### Conservation of Marine Mammals

There are about 1 300 to 1 500 Chinese white dolphins living in the Pearl River Estuary. About 200 dolphins of this population live in the western waters of Hong Kong around Lantau Island, Tuen Mun, Sha Chau and Lung Kwu Chau. The Department has been implementing a Conservation Programme for the Chinese white dolphin since 2000. Tasks include habitat protection and management, long-term monitoring of the dolphin population, investigation of dolphin stranding, promotion of public awareness of dolphin conservation, and liaison with the Guangdong authorities to exchange information on the conservation of the species. Population data analysis undertaken in 2007 indicated that the abundance of dolphins in Hong Kong waters was generally stable over the years.



Every reported dolphin stranding in Hong Kong is jointly investigated by the Department in collaboration with the Ocean Park. Tissue samples from the carcasses are collected for further studies. The Department also organises exhibitions and seminars as well as distributes posters and leaflets to promote conservation awareness, and publicise the code of conduct on dolphin watching and the dolphin stranding hotline. Through these efforts, the public's understanding of marine mammals has gradually deepened.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT STUDIES**

The Department regularly provides comments and advice on development proposals and projects that might affect the marine environment. We also comment on EIA reports from a marine-ecology point of view. During the year, examples of projects studied included the development of a bathing beach at Lung Mei, Tai Po, the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge Hong Kong boundary crossing facilities, upgrading of Pillar Point Sewage Treatment Work, the Harbour Area Treatment Scheme, and the development of Offshore Wind Farms.

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### Appendix 1

#### SUMMARY OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION - ESTIMATED QUANTITIES AND VALUE 2005-07\$

Item	Unit	2005		2006		2007	
		Quantity	\$'000	Quantity	\$'000	Quantity	\$'000
<b>Crop</b>							
Flowers*			183,880		182,337		216,810
Fruits	Tonne	354	1,732	448	3,106	1 617	11,650
Vegetables	Tonne	24 600	78,340	21 200	71,797	18 900	72,500
Field Crops	Tonne	190	313	190	344	200	363
Sub-total:			264,265		257,584		301,323
<b>Livestock</b>							
Pigs	Number	377 000	554,397	381 204	584,799	269 810	487,260
Cattle	Number	123	920	13	100	35	289
Fresh Milk	Tonne	133	1,865	135	1,885	106	1,485
Sub-total:			557,182		586,784		489,034
<b>Poultry</b>							
Chickens	Number	11 676 000	350,390	9 154 700	329,244	7 273 100	295,187
Hatching Hen Eggs	Thousand	1 707	3,415	3446	6,892	3 439	6,879
Table Hen Eggs	Thousand	301	211	137	224	131	211
Pigeons	Pairs	152 100	5,490	85 610	3,148	21 770	837
Sub-total:			359,506		339,508		303,114
<b>Grand Total</b>			<b>1,180,953</b>		<b>1,183,876</b>		<b>1,093,471</b>

\$ Estimated value of production was calculated using farm-gate prices i.e. the prices received by farmers

\* Including pot plants and blossom trees

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### Appendix 2 FRESH FOOD - PRODUCTION, EXPORTS, IMPORTS, RE-EXPORTS AND CONSUMPTION 2005-07

Item	Source	2005	2006	2007
FRESH VEGETABLES (Tonne)	Local production	24 600	21 200	18 900
	Exports	0	0	0
	Imports	540 020	532 440	639 720
	Re-exports	11 860	28 890	9 960
	Consumption	552 760	524 750	648 660
	Contribution by local production	4.5%	4.0%	2.9%
LIVE PIGS (Number)	Local production (Number)	377 000	381 200	269 810
	(Dressed weight in tonne)	32 420	32 780	23 200
	Exports	0	0	0
	Imports	1 674 340	1 590 270	1 503 210
	Re-exports	0	0	0
	Consumption (Dressed weight in tonne)	147 620	142 200	126 630
	Contribution by local production	22.0%	23.1%	18.3%
LIVE POULTRY (Tonne)	Local production	21 060	17 270	12 830
	Exports	0	0	0
	Imports	19 760	13 860	15 240
	Re-exports	0	0	0
	Consumption	40 820	31 130	28 080
	Contribution by local production	52.0%	55.5%	45.7%
MARINE FISH (Live / Fresh / Frozen) (Tonne)	Local production	52 910	38 530	33 440
	Exports	190	430	130
	Imports	113 100	117 820	103 900
	Re-exports	42 050	53 580	61 630
	Consumption	123 770	102 340	75 580
	Contribution by local production	42.7%	37.6%	44.2%
FRESHWATER FISH (Live / Fresh / Frozen) (Tonne)	Local production	1 900	1 940	1 930
	Exports	0	0	0
	Imports	30 110	38 260	36 660
	Re-exports	1 780	2 070	2 110
	Consumption	30 230	38 130	36 480
	Contribution by local production	6.3%	5.1%	5.3%

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### Appendix 3 AGRICULTURAL LAND UTILISATION 2005-07 (Including land outside rural Outline Zoning Plans) (hectares)

Year	Market garden crops§	Field Crops	Orchard	Fish Pond*	Abandoned / fallow	Total
2005	520	30	290	1 030	4 160	6 030
2006	510	20	280	1 100	4 180	6 090
2007	500	20	280	1 100	4 190	6 090

§ vegetables and flowers

\* including ponds that have been resumed but not yet filled

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### Appendix 4 ESTIMATED NUMBER OF FISHING VESSELS BY TYPE IN 2007

Type of vessel	2007
Pair Trawler	576
Stern Trawler	151
Shrimp Trawler	399
Hang Trawler	46
Gill Netter	194
Long Liner	130
Hand Liner	43
Purse Seiner	96
Miscellaneous	2 370
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4 005</b>

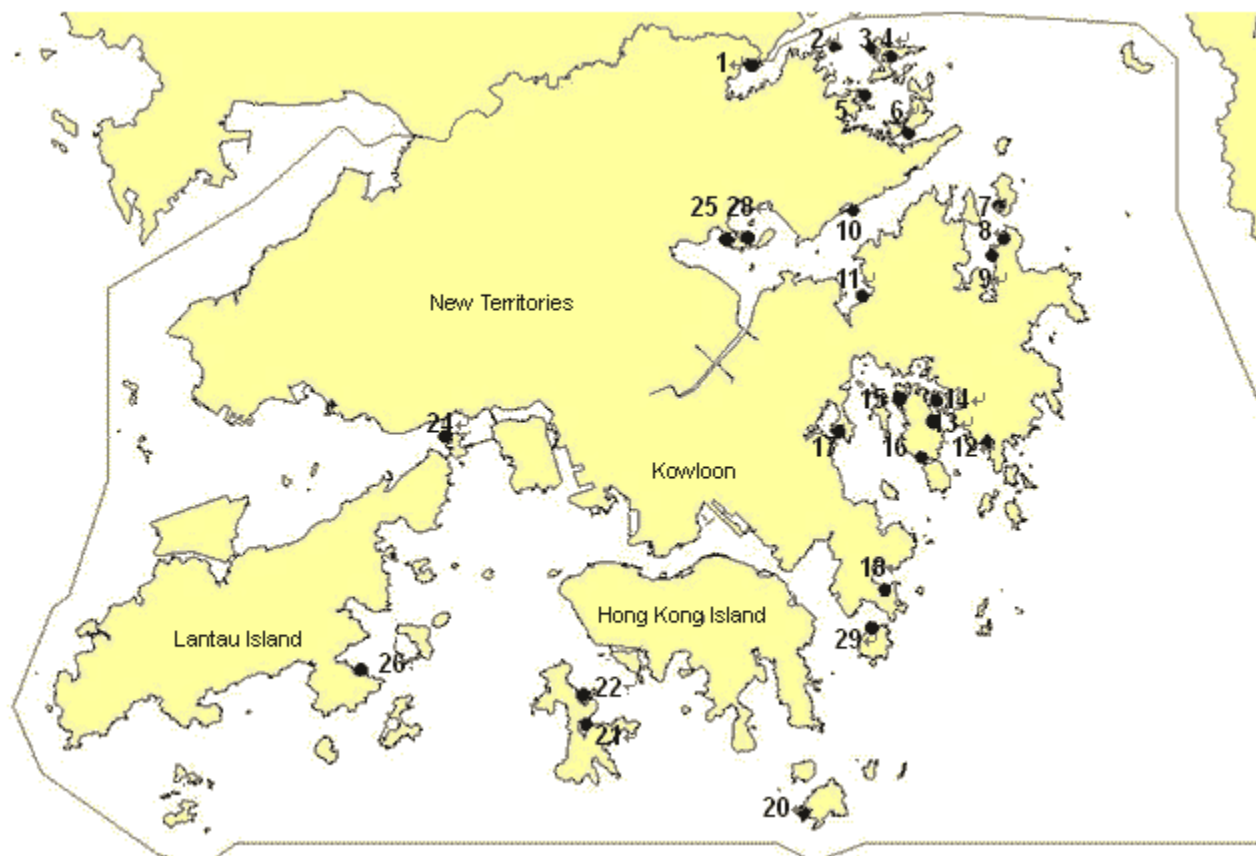
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### Appendix 5 FISH CULTURE ZONES



1	Sha Tau Kok	14	Tai Tau Chau
2	Ap Chau	15	Kai Lung Wan
3	Kat O	16	Kau Sai
4	O Pui Tong	17	Ma Nam Wat
5	Sai Lau Kong	18	Po Toi O
6	Wong Wan	20	Po Toi
7	Tap Mun	21	Sok Kwu Wan
8	Kau Lau Wan	22	Lo Tik Wan
9	Sham Wan	24	Ma Wan
10	Lo Fu Wat	25	Yim Tin Tsai
11	Yung Shue Au	26	Cheung Sha Wan
12	Leung Shuen Wan	28	Yim Tin Tsai (East)
13	Tiu Cham Wan	29	Tung Lung Chau



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### Appendix 6

#### IMPORT CONTROL, LIVESTOCK QUARANTINE, EXPORT CERTIFICATION STATISTICS 2007-08

##### Certificates, Permits, Authorisations and Licences Issued

Certificates Issued	
- Official Animal Health Certificates (for export of live animals)	1 078
- Official endorsement of Animal Health Certificates (for export of live animals)	2 082
- Sanitary Certificates (for export of animal products)	774
Permits/Licences Issued	
- Permits (Import/Transit)	4 706
- Authorisations (Import/Transit) (Permits for multiple use were introduced to replace the single use permits)	99
- Quarantine Centre Licences	0
- Animal Trader Licences	505
- Exhibition Licences	58
- Temporary Exhibition Permits	27
- Boarding Establishment Licences	22
- Riding Establishment Licences	12
- Dairy Licences	3

##### Inspections

Imported animals inspected at air/sea/land entry points	
- Breeding Pigs	1 244
- Day-old-chickens	5 294 600
- Dogs requiring quarantine	92
- Cats requiring quarantine	58
- Dogs exempted from quarantine	2 231
- Cats exempted from quarantine	1 112
- Horses for racing	430
- Horses transhipped (to Macau)	3
Animals control and management	
- Stray dogs caught	8 583
- Dogs admitted for observation following biting incidents	806
- Prosecution cases	885

##### Enforcement Actions Taken

Imported animals and plants inspected at air/sea/land entry points	
- Number of seized animals, birds, reptiles and plants etc	9 694
- Seized animals, birds, reptiles and plants' parts/derivatives	4 776.8 (kg)
- Number of voluntary surrender of animals, birds, reptiles and plants etc	4 751
- Voluntary surrender of animals, birds, reptiles and plants' parts/derivatives	1 (kg)
- Warnings issued	13
- Prosecutions	99







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### Appendix 7 PLANT IMPORT CONTROL STATISTICS 2007-08

Documents Issued	
Plant Import Licences	1 838
Import Authorisations	1 036
Phytosanitary Certificates	1 484
Inspections	
Number of imported consignments	2 590
Number of exported consignments	1 487
Confiscations	
Number of plants	2 271
Number of plant consignments	60
Live pests (number of consignments) - Crickets, butterflies pupae and grasshoppers	3

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### Appendix 8 PESTICIDE CONTROL STATISTICS 2007-08

Enforcement Summary		
Pesticide registration	Part I	3
	Part II	10
Pesticide licences issued	Part I	121
	Part II	20
Pesticide licences renewed	Part I	1 489
	Part II	290
Pesticide permits	Issued for re-export	2
	Issued for other purposes	1
	Extended for re-export	37
	Extended for other purposes	55
Pesticide import licences (Cap. 60) issued		3 030
Pesticide export licences (Cap. 60) issued		2 474
Premises inspections		2 576
Labels reviewed		205
General Summary		
Total number of Part I pesticides registered		185
Total number of Part II pesticides registered		310
Total number of Part I licencees		1 511
Total number of Part II licencees		309
Total number of permittees for re-export		21
Total number of permittees for other purposes		30

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### Appendix 9 LEGISLATION ADMINISTERED BY AFCD

The Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation is currently the Director of Marketing, the Registrar of Co-operative Societies, the Registrar of Credit Unions and the Country and Marine Parks Authority. Authority under legislation is delegated, as appropriate, to various officers of the Department. The legislation under which the Department has statutory functions and responsibility is listed below:

Cap. 33	Co-operative Societies Ordinance
Cap. 96	Forests and Countryside Ordinance
Cap. 119	Credit Unions Ordinance
Cap. 133	Pesticides Ordinance
Cap. 139	Public Health (Animals and Birds) Ordinance
Cap. 167	Dogs and Cats Ordinance
Cap. 168	Pounds Ordinance
Cap. 169	Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Ordinance
Cap. 170	Wild Animals Protection Ordinance
Cap. 171	Fisheries Protection Ordinance
Cap. 207	Plant (Importation and Pest Control) Ordinance
Cap. 208	Country Parks Ordinance
Cap. 277	Agricultural Products (Marketing) Ordinance
Cap. 291	Marine Fish (Marketing) Ordinance
Cap. 353	Marine Fish Culture Ordinance
Cap. 421	Rabies Ordinance
Cap. 476	Marine Parks Ordinance
Cap. 490	Plant Varieties Protection Ordinance
Cap. 570	Fixed Penalty (Public Cleanliness Offences) Ordinance
Cap. 586	Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance
Cap. 1067	J.E. Joseph Trust Fund Ordinance
Cap. 1080	Kadoorie Agricultural Aid Loan Fund Ordinance

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### Appendix 10 PROSECUTIONS MADE UNDER LEGISLATION ADMINISTERED BY AFCD 2007-08

Month/ Ordinance	Cap. 96	Cap. 133	Cap. 139	Cap. 167	Cap. 169	Cap. 170	Cap. 171	Cap. 207	Cap. 208	Cap. 291	Cap. 353	Cap. 421	Cap. 476	Cap. 570	Cap. 586	Sub- total	Fines (\$)	Estimated Value of goods confiscated (\$)
April / 2007	0	2	5	0	2	8	0	0	43	4	1	48	0	83	0	<b>196</b>	163,300	47,473
May	2	0	7	1	0	12	0	1	45	5	0	96	15	41	23	<b>248</b>	169,650	10,213
June	3	0	5	1	0	7	1	0	14	1	1	73	0	15	33	<b>154</b>	253,770	57,560
July	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	19	3	0	58	4	31	17	<b>134</b>	170,850	27,587
August	0	0	5	0	3	8	0	0	11	2	0	65	11	16	4	<b>125</b>	128,100	58,246
September	3	0	8	0	0	2	0	0	11	5	0	62	3	65	7	<b>166</b>	106,150	189,851
October	0	0	4	7	1	2	0	0	8	1	0	65	2	43	4	<b>137</b>	163,200	9,718
November	0	0	3	2	1	0	0	0	38	4	0	63	6	33	13	<b>163</b>	164,750	484,700
December	4	0	2	4	0	6	0	0	35	2	0	102	5	89	3	<b>252</b>	119,650	3,539
January / 2008	0	0	2	3	0	0	0	0	34	2	0	42	0	30	5	<b>118</b>	215,950	165,793
February	2	0	4	1	1	0	0	0	4	1	0	32	0	5	11	<b>61</b>	72,920	291,667
March	3	2	5	8	1	13	0	0	68	1	0	105	11	74	17	<b>308</b>	95,700	948,776
<b>Total</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>330</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>811</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>525</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>2,062</b>	<b>1,823,990</b>	<b>2,295,123</b>

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漁農自然護理署  
Agriculture, Fisheries and  
Conservation Department



漁農自然護理署年報

Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department Report

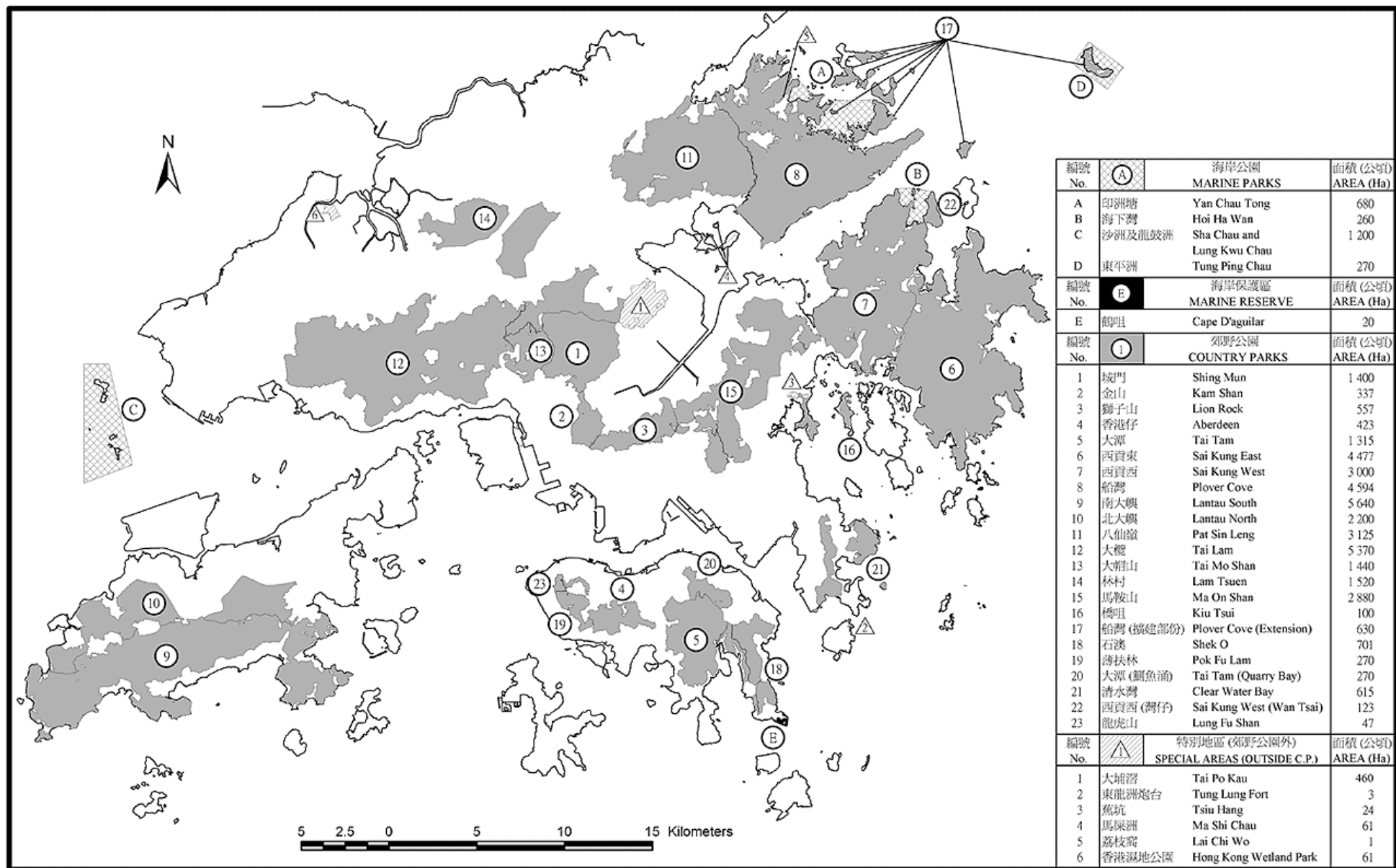
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#### Appendix 11

COUNTRY PARKS, SPECIAL AREAS, MARINE PARKS AND MARINE RESERVE







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### Appendix 12 PROSECUTIONS IN RELATION TO OFFENCES IN COUNTRYSIDE 2007-08

Cap.	Sect.	Reg.	Nature of Offence	No. of Persons Involved*	No. of concluded prosecution cases**	Total Fines***
96	3	2	Illegal possession of protected plant	2	2	\$400
96	16(1)(a)		Illegal lighting of fire in countryside	3	3	\$3,500
96	21(d)		Illegal felling of plants in countryside	12	7	\$22,200
170	4		Illegal hunting of protected wild animal	1	1	\$450
170	7(2)		Illegal possession of hunting appliance	2	2	\$1,500
170	13(1)(a)		Illegal entry in restricted area	5	6	\$3,000
170	17C(3)		Illegal feeding of wild animal	50	50	\$23,000
208	26	4(1)	Illegal possessing/driving of vehicle/bicycle	273	257	\$89,200
208	26	7(1)(a)	Illegal possession of cooking apparatus	4	3	\$750
208	26	7(1)(c)	Illegal use of fire	5	1	\$500
208	26	8(1)(a)	Illegal picking of plants	16	17	\$13,700
208	26	8(1)(b)	Illegal digging of soil	3	1	\$1,000
208	26	9(1)(b)	Illegal hawking	0	1	\$500
208	26	11(1)(c)	Illegal holding of commercial activities	3	4	\$2,250
208	26	11(2)(b)	Operating power driven model within Country Park without Permit	0	1	\$500
208	26	11(3)	Illegal camping within Country Park or special area	24	16	\$5,200
208	26	12(1)(c)	Littering	513	446	\$714,300
208	26	12(1)(e)	Spitting	12	11	\$16,500
208	26	17	Obstructing authorised officer in discharging duty	1	1	\$250
<b>Total:</b>				<b>929</b>	<b>830</b>	<b>\$898,700</b>

(i) Number of Fixed Penalty Notices issued (littering offence under regulation 12(1)(c) of Cap. 208A) = 512

(ii) Number of Fixed Penalty Notices issued (spitting offence under regulation 12(1)(e) of Cap. 208A) = 12

(iii) Number of Fixed Penalty Notices processed (littering offence under regulation 12(1)(c) of Cap. 208A) = 443

(iv) Number of Fixed Penalty Notices processed (spitting offence under regulation 12(1)(e) of Cap. 208A) = 11

\* "No. of Persons involved" denotes persons prosecuted or given a fixed penalty notice in the year.

\*\* "No. of concluded prosecution cases" may include fixed penalty notices processed and cases carried forward from previous year(s) and does not include prosecution cases that still being processed at the end of the year.

\*\*\* "Total Fines" are fines of concluded prosecution cases and fixed penalty notices processed.







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### Appendix 13 PUBLICATIONS FOR FREE DISTRIBUTION TO THE PUBLIC IN 2007-08

#### **Fact Sheets**

Agriculture and Fisheries (Chinese & English versions)  
Country Parks and Conservation (Chinese & English versions)  
Code of Conduct for Dolphin Watching Activities (Bilingual)  
Hong Kong Wetland Park Factsheets (Factsheets 1 to 20) (Bilingual)

#### **Newsletters**

Newsletter on Controlled-Environment Greenhouse (Issues 22 – 24) (Bilingual)  
Hong Kong Biodiversity, Issue 15 (English version only)  
Hong Kong Wetland Park Newsletter Issue 9 (May 2007) (Bilingual)  
Hong Kong Wetland Park Newsletter Issue 10 (November 2007) (Bilingual)

#### **Booklets/Pamphlets**

Use of Pesticides for Outdoor Mosquito Control (Revised version) (Chinese version only)  
Learn More about Organic Farming (Chinese version only)  
Local Organic Strawberry Pick Your Own Guide 2008 (Bilingual)  
Letter of Approval for Agricultural Structures – Application Guide (Chinese & English versions)  
Good Aquaculture Practices 1 – Feed management (Chinese version only)  
Good Aquaculture Practices 2 – Environmental management of mariculture (Chinese version only)  
Good Aquaculture Practices 3 – Environmental management of pondfish culture (Chinese version only)  
Good Aquaculture Practices 4 – Prevention of fish diseases (Chinese version only)  
Good Aquaculture Practices 5 – Fish fry health management (Chinese version only)  
Rodent Control Guide for Pest Control Personnel  
Protect Our Countryside, Prevent Hill Fire (Bilingual)  
Hiking on Lantau Country Trails (Chinese, English, Japanese and Korean versions)  
Hong Kong Landmarks (Bilingual)  
Hong Kong Country Parks and Marine Parks (Bilingual)  
Conserve Hong Kong's Corals (Bilingual)  
Dangerous Marine Life of Hong Kong (Bilingual)  
Little Dolphin Missing Home (Bilingual)  
Getting to know Hong Kong's Dolphins and Porpoises (English and Chinese versions)  
Horse Shoe Crabs in Hong Kong (Bilingual)  
Chinese White Dolphins (Bilingual)  
Watching Birds (Bilingual)  
Stop Feeding Wild Monkeys (Bilingual)  
Knowing the Butterflies (Bilingual)  
Meeting the Odonates (Bilingual)  
"Wetlands in my Eyes" Writing Competition (Chinese)  
Paper-cutting Art depicts Wetland Conservation and Chinese Folk Culture – Outstanding Masterpieces of Paper-cutting Competition 2007 (Bilingual)  
Hong Kong Wetland Park Guidebook, 2nd Edition (English, Simplified Chinese & Traditional Chinese versions)  
Quarantine Detector Dog Leaflet (Bilingual)

#### **Leaflets**

Plant Quarantine - Introduction to Import Control (Revised version) (Bilingual)  
Farm Machinery and Equipment Lending Services (Chinese version only)  
Control of Striped Flea Beetles (Bilingual)  
Control of Melon Flies (Bilingual)  
Integrated Pest Management of Plant Pests (Chinese version only)  
Emergency Relief Fund (Chinese & English versions)  
Accredited Fish Farm Scheme (Bilingual)  
Accredited Fish - Jade Perch (Chinese version only)

Voluntary Registration Scheme for Local Pond Fish Farms (Chinese version only)  
Prevention of Avian Influenza – Bird Management (Bilingual)  
Do not keep backyard poultry (Bilingual)  
Tackling Red Imported Fire Ants (Chinese & English versions)  
Control of Mosquito Breeding Problem in Fish Ponds (Chinese version only)  
Safe Use of Larvicides in Agricultural Field (Chinese version only)  
Care for Our Trees (Bilingual)  
World Wetlands Day 2008 (Bilingual)  
Hong Kong Wetland Park Wetland Kaleidoscope leaflets (Bilingual)  
Hong Kong Wetland Park leaflet (Chinese & English versions)  
Hong Kong Herbarium (Bilingual)  
The Traditional Uses of Plants (Bilingual)  
Gingers of Hong Kong (Bilingual)  
Native Camellias of Hong Kong (Bilingual)  
The Identity of Kiwifruit (Bilingual)  
The Five Most Poisonous Plants in Hong Kong (Bilingual)  
Stranglers (Bilingual)  
The Aristolochiaceae Plants in Hong Kong (Bilingual)  
Dose Fig-plant have flowers? (Bilingual)  
Insectivorous Plants of Hong Kong (Bilingual)  
Magnolias in Hong Kong (Bilingual)  
The Autumn Leaves and the Hamamelidaceae of Hong Kong (Bilingual)  
Native Azaleas of Hong Kong (Bilingual)  
Plants named after Hong Kong (Bilingual)  
Turfgrass in Hong Kong (Bilingual)  
Common Ferns of Hong Kong (Bilingual)  
*Syzygium* in Hong Kong (Bilingual)  
Shing Mun Arboretum (Chinese & English versions)  
Web Site of the Hong Kong Herbarium (Bilingual)  
Protect Endangered Species – Traditional Chinese Medicines (Bilingual)  
Protect Endangered Species – Pet (Bilingual)  
Protect Endangered Species – Food (Bilingual)  
Protect Endangered Species – Personal Items and Tourist Souvenirs (Bilingual)  
Protect Endangered Species – Ornamental Plants (Bilingual)  
Protect Endangered Species – Marine Species (Bilingual)  
Wild animal calls (Chinese version only)  
Prevention of Hill Fire During Grave Sweeping (Bilingual)  
Code of Practice for Mountain Bike Tracks in Country Park (Bilingual)  
Photo Identification Key for Plants of Fung Shui Wood (Bilingual)  
Good Fishing Practices (Chinese version only)  
Hoi Ha Wan Marine Park – Important Notes to Visitors (Chinese & English versions)  
Tung Ping Chau Marine Park Inter-tidal Rocky Shore Life (Chinese & English versions)  
Hoi Ha Wan Marine Park (Bilingual)  
Yan Chau Tong Marine Park (Bilingual)  
Sha Chau and Lung Kwu Chau Marine Park (Bilingual)  
Tung Ping Chau Marine Park (Bilingual)  
Cape D'Aguilar Marine Reserve (Bilingual)  
Marine Parks and Marine Reserve (Bilingual)  
Marine benthic communities in Hong Kong (Chinese & English versions)  
Reference collection of Hong Kong stony corals (Chinese & English versions)  
Getting to know more on coral protection (Bilingual)  
Visiting coral areas – Codes for SCUBA divers and snorkelers (Bilingual)  
Be aware of the Effects of Fish Nets to Chinese White Dolphin and Finless Porpoise (Chinese version only)  
Don't anchor in "No Anchoring Area" of Port Island (Bilingual)  
Don't anchor in "No Anchoring Area" of Sharp Island (Bilingual)  
Don't anchor in "No Anchoring Area" of Ung Kong Wan (Bilingual)  
Wild pig in Hong Kong (Chinese version only)

### **Poster**

Requirements for Importation of Animals and Birds (Bilingual)  
Accredited Fish Farm Scheme Products (Bilingual)  
Voluntary Registration Scheme for Local Pond Fish Farms (Chinese version only)  
Protect yourself from avian influenza, stop keeping backyard poultry (Bilingual)  
Do not Release Cage-Reared Birds (Bilingual)  
Prevent Avian Flu - Be Wary of Wild Birds (Bilingual)  
Stay Away from Red Fire Ants (Bilingual)  
Discovering Ramsar (Bilingual)  
Protect Endangered Species – General (Bilingual)

Protect Endangered Species – Controlled Medicines (Bilingual)  
Protect Endangered Species – Protected Pets (Bilingual)  
Protect Endangered Species – Controlled Food (Bilingual)  
Protect Endangered Species – Wild Animals and Plants Souvenirs (Bilingual)  
Protect Endangered Species – Protected Plants (Bilingual)  
Protect Endangered Species – Marine Species (Bilingual)  
Licence is required for Importation and exportation of Orchids (Chinese version only)  
Prevention of Hill Fires During Grave Sweeping (Bilingual)  
Code of Practice for Mountain Bike Tracks in Country Park (Bilingual)  
Conserve Hong Kong's Corals (Bilingual)  
Do not collect or damage corals (Bilingual)  
Hard Corals of Hong Kong (Bilingual)  
Stranded Marine Mammals (Bilingual)  
Hoi Ha Wan Marine Park – Visitor's Code of Conduct (Chinese version only)  
Tung Ping Chau Marine Park – Visitor's Code of Conduct (Chinese version only)  
Prohibition of Collection of Marine Organisms or Their Parts in Marine Parks (Bilingual)  
Marine benthic communities in Hong Kong (Bilingual)  
Don't anchor in "No Anchoring Area" of Port Island (Bilingual)  
Don't anchor in "No Anchoring Area" of Sharp Island (Bilingual)  
Don't anchor in "No Anchoring Area" of Ung Kong Wan (Bilingual)  
Report Illegal Felling of Trees (Bilingual)  
Visiting coral areas – Codes for SCUBA divers and snorkelers (Bilingual)  
World Wetlands Day 2008 (Bilingual)  
Wetland Model Creation Activity (Bilingual)  
Hong Kong Wetland Park Year of the Frog and Animal Star of the Month (Bilingual)  
Please Do Not Bring In Plant with Pest (Bilingual)

### **Bookmarks**

Mangroves Bookmark (one set of 3) (Bilingual)  
Hard Corals of Hong Kong (one set of 20) (Bilingual)  
Exploration thru Nature Bookmark (Chinese Only)  
Winning Entries of Endangered Species Protection Logo Design Competition Bookmark  
(One set of 6) (Bilingual)  
Hong Kong Wetland Park Bookmark (one set of 30) (Bilingual)

### **Field Guides**

Mangroves Habitats in Marine Parks of Hong Kong Field Guide (Bilingual)

### **Souvenir Cards**

Marine Parks Visitor Code Card (one set of 4) (Bilingual)  
Chinese White Dolphin Card (Bilingual)

### **Audio/ Video CD**

Hong Kong Red Tide Information Network (Bilingual)  
Encyclopedia of Hong Kong Dolphins (English and Chinese versions)  
Hong Kong Wetland Park – An introductory video guide (Cantonese, Mandarin, English, Japanese and Korean)

### **Calendar**

"Healthy Wetlands, Healthy People" Hong Kong Wetland Park Calendar 2008 (Bilingual)

### **Stickers**

Codes for visiting coral areas for the public (Bilingual)  
Codes for visiting coral areas for divers (Bilingual)  
Codes for visiting coral areas for boaters (Bilingual)

### **Notebook**

Protect the Marine Environment and the Chinese White Dolphin (Bilingual)

### **Postcard**

Chinese White Dolphin – Code of Conduct (Photos) (Bilingual)  
Chinese White Dolphin – Code of Conduct (Portraits of Dolphin – Art Competitions) (Bilingual)



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**Appendix 14**  
**AFCD WHOLESALE MARKETS THROUGHPUT AND VALUE 2005-07**

Year	Cheung Sha Wan Wholesale Food Market						Western Wholesale Food Market								Cheung Sha Wan Temporary Wholesale Poultry Market		North District Temporary Wholesale Market for Agricultural Products		Total	
	Vegetable		Freshwater Fish		Egg		Fruit		Freshwater Fish		Egg		Vegetable		Poultry		Vegetable			
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value		
	Tonne	\$M	Tonne	\$M	Tonne	\$M	Tonne	\$M	Tonne	\$M	Tonne	\$M	Tonne	\$M	Tonne	\$M	Tonne	\$M		
2005	169 057	815	18 112	359	29 898	210	107 113	923	4 752	114	23 122	139	33 941	152	40 800	793	84 223	378	511 018	3 883
2006	131 948	717	31 917	582	30 871	210	104 338	958	14 348	251	22 466	134	34 388	155	29 969	687	77 285	348	477 530	4 042
2007	124 241	887	34 019	598	33 071	283	100 975	916	15 547	245	16 254	143	70 843	476	27 986	761	85 105	433	508 041	4 742

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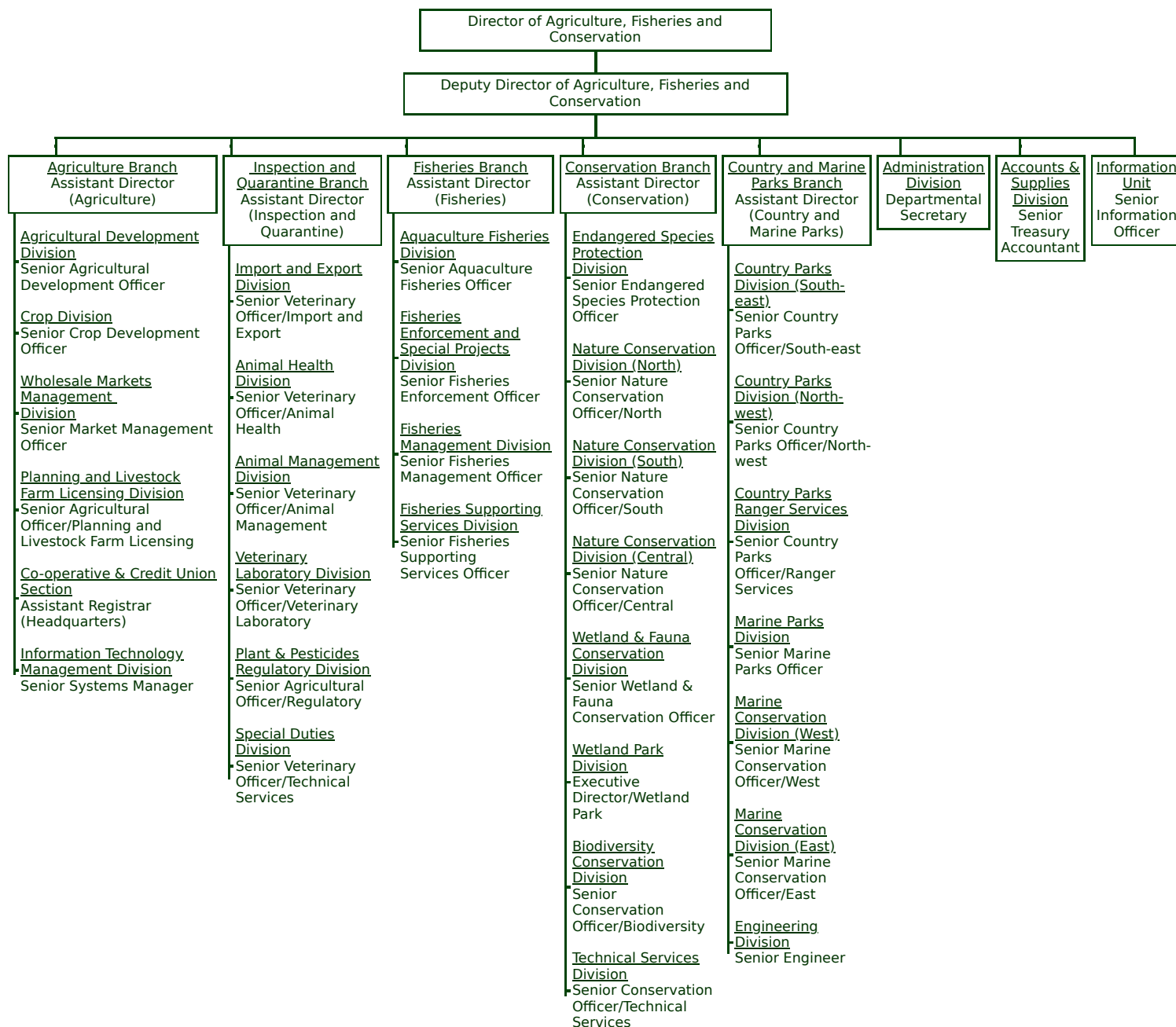




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**Appendix 15**  
**ORGANISATION CHART OF THE AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT (March 31, 2008)**





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### Appendix 16 ESTABLISHMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT AS AT MARCH 31, 2008

Rank	March 31, 2008
<b>Directorate Staff</b>	
Director	1
Deputy Director	1
Assistant Director	5
<b>Professional Staff</b>	
Senior Agricultural Officer	5
Agricultural Officer	11
Senior Fisheries Officer	7
Fisheries Officer	19
Senior Forestry Officer	11
Forestry Officer	32
Senior Veterinary Officer	6
Veterinary Officer	12
Senior Engineer	1
Engineer	4
Geotechnical Engineer	1
Land Surveyor	1
<b>Technical staff</b>	
Senior Co-operative Officer I	1
Senior Co-operative Supervisor	3
Co-operative Supervisor I	3
Co-operative Supervisor II	11
Senior Field Officer	53
Field Officer I	151
Field Officer II	150
Senior Fisheries Supervisor	7
Fisheries Supervisor I	17
Fisheries Supervisor II	26
Fisheries Craft Technician I	4
Fisheries Technical Officer I	8
Fisheries Technical Officer II	9
Veterinary Technologist	5
Veterinary Laboratory Technician I	13
Veterinary Laboratory Technician II	25

Agricultural Laboratory Technician I	1
Senior Field Assistant	72
Field Assistant	321
Senior Technical Officer (Architecture)	1
Technical Officer (Architecture)	3
Senior Technical Officer (Cartographic)	1
Technical Officer (Cartographic)	5
Technical Officer (Civil)	2
Senior Technical Officer (Geotechnical)	1
Technical Officer (Geotechnical)	2
Senior Survey Officer (Engineering)	1
Survey Officer (Engineering)	3
Inspector of Works	4
Assistant Inspector of Works	4
Clerk of Works	2
Assistant Clerk of Works	2
Works Supervisor I	6
Works Supervisor II	7
<b>Administrative Support</b>	
Chief Executive Officer	1
Senior Executive Officer	3
Executive Officer I	4
Executive Officer II	3
Senior Official Languages Officer	1
Official Languages Officer I	1
Official Languages Officer II	2
Senior Systems Manager	1
Systems Manager	1
Analyst/Programmer I	1
Senior Treasury Accountant	1
Treasury Accountant	1
Accounting Officer I	1
Accounting Officer II	1
Supplies Officer	1
Assistant Supplies Officer	1
Supplies Supervisor II	4
Senior Clerical Officer	5
Clerical Officer	12
Assistant Clerical Officer	39
Clerical Assistant	53
Office Assistant	10
Senior Personal Secretary	1
Personal Secretary I	5
Personal Secretary II	8
Supervisor of Typing Services	1
Typist	6
Calligraphist	2
Confidential Assistant	2

**Minor Staff**

Photographer I	1
Photoprinter II	1
Senior Artisan	6
Artisan	175
Laboratory Attendant	10
Chainman	6
Forest Guard	8
Tracer	2
Special Driver	4
Motor Driver	35

**Model Pay Scale Staff**

Workman I	282
Workman II	145
Supplies Attendant	1
Car Park Attendant II	2
Property Attendant	1
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>1 892</b>





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### Appendix 17 STATUTORY/ADVISORY COMMITTEES AND BOARDS

- (1) Advisory Committee on Agriculture and Fisheries
- (2) Country and Marine Parks Board
- (3) Endangered Species Advisory Committee
- (4) Marketing Advisory Board
- (5) Fish Marketing Advisory Board
- (6) Animal Welfare Advisory Group
- (7) Fisheries Development Loan Fund Advisory Committee
- (8) Kadoorie Agricultural Aid Loan Fund Committee
- (9) Marine Fish Scholarship Fund Advisory Committee
- (10) Agricultural Products Scholarship Fund Advisory Committee
- (11) Veterinary Surgeons Board
- (12) Dogs and Cats Classifications Board

#### **Sub-committees formed under the Statutory/Advisory Committees and Boards**

- (A) Under the Advisory Committee on Agriculture and Fisheries :
  - (i) Aquaculture Sub-committee
  - (ii) Capture Fisheries Sub-committee
  - (iii) Crop Farming Sub-committee
  - (iv) Livestock Sub-committee
  - (v) Marketing Sub-committee
- (B) Under the Country and Marine Parks Board :
  - (i) Country Parks Committee
  - (ii) Marine Parks Committee
  - (iii) Public Relations Committee
- (C) Under the Veterinary Surgeons Board :
  - (i) Registration Committee
  - (ii) Ethics Committee
  - (iii) Preliminary Investigation Committee

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### Appendix 18 CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES AS AT MARCH 31, 2008

Type	No.	Membership	Share Capital (\$)	Deposit (\$)
<b>PRIMARY PRODUCERS</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>7 297</b>	<b>381,505</b>	<b>467,371</b>
Agriculture	54	5 522	331,250	136,409
Federation of Vegetable Marketing Societies*	1	26	5,200	--
Federation of Pig Raising Societies*	1	9	56,050	--
Agricultural Credit	1	34	25,380	--
Farmers Irrigation	1	23	115	--
Pig Raising	9	407	178,210	27,858
Vegetable Marketing	28	3 918	47,035	5,277
Better Living	13	1 105	19,260	103,274
<b>Fisheries</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>1 775</b>	<b>50,255</b>	<b>330,962</b>
Federation of Fishermen Societies*	4	34	4,000	49,656
Fishermen Credit	43	634	9,490	280,160
Credit and Housing	1	16	145	1,146
Better Living	15	1 091	36,620	--
<b>NON-PRODUCERS</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>4 638</b>	<b>1,327,815</b>	<b>1,306,401</b>
Thrift and Loan	1	368	14,720	1,306,401
Federation of Co-operative Building Societies	1	30	3,000	--
* Building	78	1 536	1,041,000	--
Consumers	10	2 582	136,035	--
Workers	8	122	133,060	--
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>11 935</b>	<b>1,709,320</b>	<b>1,773,772</b>

\* Societies as Members

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### Appendix 19 CREDIT UNIONS AS AT MARCH 31, 2008

Common Bond	No.	Membership	Share Capital (\$)	Reserve Fund (\$)
<b>Associational</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>2 946</b>	<b>102,208,615</b>	<b>8,181,369</b>
Churches	14	2 440	38,625,847	3,381,458
Social Centres / Services	2	398	7,383,678	429,154
Benevolent Association	1	52	1,474,739	72,750
Credit Union*	1	56	54,724,351	4,298,007
<b>Employment</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>64 445</b>	<b>4,681,202,984</b>	<b>244,956,814</b>
Civil Servants	11	45 146	3,268,758,264	178,402,309
Company Employees	4	16 595	1,126,688,078	59,214,721
Industrial Employees	2	127	1,834,938	276,300
Association Employees	3	545	17,846,452	1,538,967
University Employees	1	2 032	266,075,252	5,524,517
<b>Residential</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>933,479</b>	<b>71,410</b>
Housing Estates	2	128	933,479	71,410
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>67 519</b>	<b>4,784,345,078</b>	<b>253,209,593</b>

\* Hong Kong League Central Credit Union

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## Appendices

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### Appendix 20 ENDANGERED SPECIES CONTROL STATISTICS 2007-08

Licences/Certificates issued	
Import Licence	1 054
Export Licence	15 490
Possession Licence	2 301
Re-export Certificate	6 334
Others	29
Inspections	
Import consignment	16 017
Export consignment	1 345
Transshipment	679
Inspection of local shops	783
Enforcement	
Investigation	310
Seizure	279
Successful prosecution	119
Education and Publicity	
Seminar/talk organised	46
Exhibition organised	18
Visitor to Endangered Species Resource Centre	6 387

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