

Director's Message

I am delighted to introduce this report which offers a snapshot of the vast array of activities undertaken by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department in the year 2009-10. As the Director, I take great pride in our achievements over the year, in particular the setting up of the Hong Kong National Geopark.

The Hong Kong National Geopark, which covers about 50 square kilometres, was opened on November 3, 2009. It includes two regions covering eight geo-areas, each with its unique geological features. The Sai Kung Volcanic Rock Region displays spectacular hexagonal volcanic rock columns, which are considered world class both in terms of size and coverage. The Northeast New Territories Sedimentary Rock Region represents the most comprehensive stratigraphy of sedimentary rocks in Hong Kong, ranging from Devonian sandstone and conglomerate of about 400 million years of age to Tertiary siltstone of 65 million years old. With the setting up of the geopark, Hong Kong's valuable geological resources will be better preserved and protected. The Department will continue with its publicity and educational programmes to raise public understanding and awareness of geoconservation.



During the year, the Department also carried out a brand new programme "Nature In Touch" to strengthen the educational resources on nature conservation in country parks. The programme, covering five parts – Enjoy Hiking, Country Park Volunteer Scheme, Field Experience, Geoconservation and Field Study, aims at promoting a better understanding of country parks, biodiversity, plant conservation and geological characteristics in Hong Kong, thus enhancing public awareness of protecting the

natural environment.

The Genetically Modified Organisms (Control of Release) Ordinance was enacted by the Legislative Council in March 2010. The ordinance enables the Government to implement the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety in Hong Kong, and regulates the import and export of living genetically modified organisms (GMOs) as well as their release into the environment. Implementation of the Protocol can better ensure protection of the local biological diversity from possible adverse impact of GMOs.

Safeguarding animal welfare is one of our main work objectives. Pet shops selling animals in Hong Kong must be licensed by the Department which inspects these shops regularly to ensure they do not contravene any of the licence conditions to safeguard public health and animal welfare. To tighten control on the sources of dogs offered for sale, additional conditions for animal traders have been implemented since February 2010 to ensure that dogs for sale at pet

shops are obtained from approved sources, namely, legal importation into Hong Kong, or breeding by licensed dog breeders, other licensed pet shops or bona fide private dog owners.

The Department continues to promote the development of organic farming and advocate the adoption of sustainable technologies in resolving technical problems relating to pest and disease control, horticultural practices, soil management and seed saving. To help farmers meet the demand for quality food and develop the market for organic products, six improved varieties including one variety of small watermelon with yellow flesh, one variety of rockmelon with reddish orange flesh, and four varieties of cherry tomatoes were introduced to farmers for production in the year.



On fisheries, the Department has launched hatchery trials in collaboration with fish farmers by setting up an experimental hatchery and promoted the use of a small-scale raft system for hatchery among fish farmers. The Department will continue to conduct studies on local fry hatching techniques, enhance cooperation with fish farmers in hatchery trials, and invite experts from the Mainland and overseas to provide technical support and training to local fish farmers.

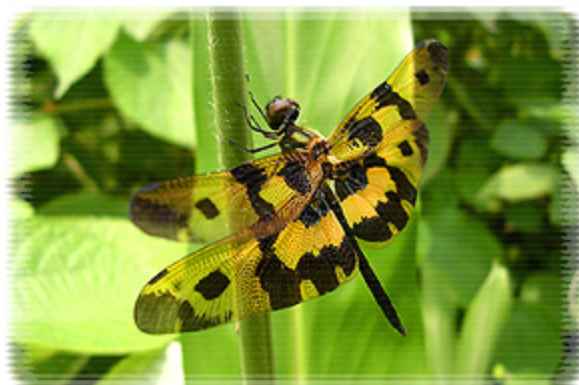
Here I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to my colleagues for their professional support and contribution throughout the year. Despite the ever-increasing pressure, they all have performed their duties with dedication and a high level of professionalism. I am also grateful to other Government departments, advisory committees and boards, non-governmental organisations, professional bodies and volunteers for their support and collaboration. With their continuous support, I am confident that we can rise up to the challenges ahead to serve the community with quality service.

Alan Wong Chi-kong
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, geopark, 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 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 and regulate livestock farms; 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 4,700 farmers, about 0.13 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 2008 and 2009 were valued at about \$690 million and \$560 million respectively. Statistics on agricultural production, fresh foodstuff consumption and agricultural land utilisation are at [Appendices 1, 2 and 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. Six improved varieties including one variety of small watermelon with yellow flesh, one variety of rockmelon with reddish orange flesh and four varieties of cherry tomatoes were introduced to farmers for production in the year.

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 2010, 1,952 farms covering a total area of 413 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 2010, 235 local farms covering a total area of 79 hectares and 34 vegetable farms operated by Hong Kong farmers in Guangdong covering 1,730 hectares had been accredited. There were 285 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 shift 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 2010, 142 farms covering a total area of 60.7 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, 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, 72 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, rockmelon, 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 2009-10, the Department processed 20 applications covering 59 agricultural structures.

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 2009-10, about 5.6 hectares of such rehabilitated agricultural land were serviced. The Department responded to 3,522 technical inquiries related to agricultural production or development and conducted 2,137 field investigations in connection with irrigation and other agricultural matters.

Agricultural Credit

The Department manages 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 \$15.39 million was lent to farmers during 2009-10, including 55 loans (\$3.62 million) to crop farmers and 44 loans (\$11.77 million) to livestock farmers.



A total of \$2.99 million was lent to fish farmers, including 6 loans (\$0.58 million) to pond fish farmers and 21 loans (\$2.41 million) to mariculturists.

Emergency Relief

Emergency relief grants are issued to needy farmers who suffer from natural disasters to help them rehabilitate their farming operations. Grants totalling \$3.25 million were distributed to 1,595 farmers during 2009-10.

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 36.6% 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 organisation 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. In addition, the VMO has set up the VMO Loan Fund to provide credit assistance to farmers, and the Agricultural Products Scholarship Fund to promote 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.

To reduce the public health and environmental pollution problems associated with livestock keeping, the Government introduced a voluntary surrender scheme for poultry and pig farms in 2005 and 2006 respectively as well as a buyout scheme for poultry farms in 2008. These schemes encourage livestock keepers to surrender their LKLs and cease their farm operation permanently in return for ex-gratia payments. There remains now 43 pig farms and 30 chicken farms operating with the maximum rearing capacity of 74,640 pigs and about 1.3 million chickens respectively.



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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 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 2009, the capture fisheries and mariculture sectors accounted for about 30% of all seafood consumed in Hong Kong, whereas pond fish farms produced about 4% of the total consumption of freshwater fish.



Capture Fisheries

In 2009, the number of fishing vessels was about 3,700 and that of local fishermen was about 7,600. The main fishing methods are trawling, long-lining, hand-lining, gill-netting and purse-seining, with about 83% of the total catch obtained through trawling. The number of fishing vessels by type is at [Appendix 4](#). In 2009, the industry produced an estimated 159,000 tonnes of fisheries produces, of which about 54,000

tonnes were consumed in Hong Kong.

Mariculture

Mariculture involves rearing marine fish in cages suspended by floating rafts in sheltered coastal areas. In 2009, there were about 1,040 licensed operators in the 26 fish culture zones designated under the Marine Fish Culture Ordinance (Cap 353) (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 2009 was 1,437 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 1,120 hectares, produced 2,105 tonnes of freshwater fish in 2009. 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.

Capture Fisheries

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. Nine cases of illegal fishing were successfully prosecuted in 2009.

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 179,000 cubic metres of artificial reefs have been deployed at suitable locations including Marine Parks, and important fish spawning and nursery grounds in Port Shelter and Long Harbour. Over 220 species of fish, including many high-value ones such as grouper, bream, snapper and sweetlip, have been found using the reefs for feeding and shelter, as well as spawning and nursery. To improve the water quality and seabed condition of fish culture zones, artificial reefs used as biofilters were deployed in the Kau Sai, Sham Wan and Lo Tik Wan fish culture zones.



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 other sustainable fisheries operations, and disseminate it to fishermen. Technical advice was also given to fishermen to help formulate their development proposals.

To help some 1,200 fishing vessels affected by the annual two-and-a-half-month fishing moratorium in the South China Sea implemented by the Mainland authorities in 2009, fishing moratorium and extra loans were made available to the affected vessels' owners under the Fish Marketing Organisation Loan Fund. Some 500 fishing moratorium loans and some 320 extra loans totaling \$76.3 million were issued to affected fishermen in 2009. Vocational training courses and seminars were also organised for fishermen to raise their awareness of fisheries management and conservation, and to upgrade their knowledge and skills in fisheries related operations.

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 auditing programmes to ensure that the potential 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

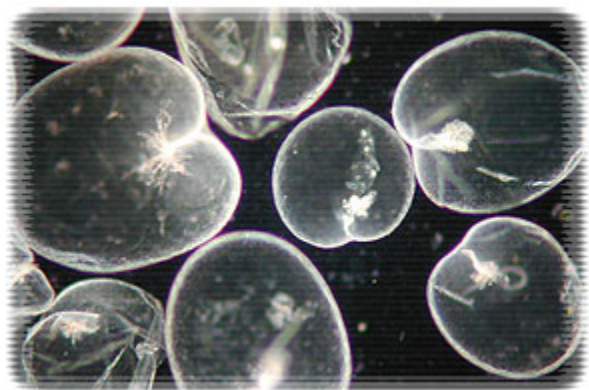
Proper Management of Marine Fish Culture Activities

Under the Marine Fish Culture Ordinance (Cap 353), all marine fish culture activities in Hong Kong are required to be operated under licence in designated fish culture zones. The Department conducts regular patrols in these fish culture zones to ensure that fish culture activities comply with the Ordinance and the licence conditions.

To meet the public demand for recreational fishing facilities and to help mariculturists diversify their business, the Department has implemented a scheme to allow mariculturists to operate recreational fishing business on licensed fish culture rafts. As at March 2010, 38 licensees in 9 fish culture zones have been given the permission to conduct such business.

Safeguarding Aquaculture Environment

To minimise the impact of red tides and water quality deterioration on mariculture, the Department regularly monitors water quality of fish culture zones and implements a red tide monitoring and management programme. 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 was 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 various fish culture zones, press releases and the Red Tide website (www.hkredtide.org).



Sixteen red tide incidents were recorded in Hong Kong waters in 2009. No associated fish kills were reported from these incidents.

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. Under the "Good Aquaculture Practices Programme", the Department visits fish farms regularly to collect water and fish samples for analysis to monitor conditions of the farms. Seminars, on-farm demonstrations and advisory booklets are given to farmers on new techniques and good management practices.



Accredited Fish Farm Scheme

A voluntary Accredited Fish Farm Scheme has been implemented since mid 2005 to enhance the competitiveness of the local aquaculture industry. Participating fish farms 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 March 2010, a total of 88 fish farms (27 fish ponds and 61 mariculture farms), representing 17% of the total area of local fish farms, have registered under the scheme. In collaboration with the FMO, the Department continued 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 assisted fish farmers to conduct trials on the hatching of fertilised eggs and rearing of fish fry, and induced spawning of jade perch with a view to helping them 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. Jade perch has been marketed as an accredited produce 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 implements a voluntary registration scheme for local pond fish farms. As at March 2010, 276 pond fish farmers have registered under the scheme.



Promoting Development of Local Fish Hatchery

The Department has been conducting fish hatchery trials in Ta Kwu Ling since 2008. A training workshop on large-scale production of live feed for grouper larvae was organised jointly with the Daya Bay Fisheries Development Centre in September 2009 to help local farmers acquire knowledge and techniques of live feed production and grouper larval rearing.

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 chaired and provided supporting services to the Committee. The Committee 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.

Marketing

Ensuring Orderly Wholesale Marketing

The Department provides technical and administrative support to the FMO, a statutory organisation established under the Marine Fish (Marketing) Ordinance (Cap 291) to ensure that orderly fish marketing services are provided to fishermen and fish traders through the wholesale fish markets operated by the FMO. The Department also undertakes enforcement actions against illegal wholesale marketing of marine fish in accordance with Cap 291.



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



PREVENTION OF AVIAN INFLUENZA



To safeguard the population against Avian Influenza (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 birds were collected and tested on a daily basis. During the year, 41,670 carcasses and faecal swab samples were collected at various locations and tested for the virus. Except for 3 wild birds found dead at various locations, the highly

pathogenic H5N1 AI virus was not detected in any of the other samples.

Unauthorised keeping of backyard poultry (chickens, ducks, geese, pigeons and quails) is an offence with a fine of up to \$100,000. To enforce the ban, two blitz operations were conducted during the year. Departmental staff patrolled 1,380 villages and 157,500 households in rural areas and seized 33 poultry. Seven offenders were brought to trial, convicted and fined.

To enhance public awareness of the prevention of AI, promotional programmes were held on Mid-autumn Festival 2009 and before Lunar New Year 2010. AFCD staff visited villages to disseminate messages about AI prevention. Leaflets and posters were put up onto the village information boards. Seminars were held for primary school students; leaflets and souvenirs were distributed to members of the public.

All imported pet birds must be tested negative for AI prior to entry and are tested immediately after arrival in Hong Kong. We also deploy Quarantine Detector Dogs at control points to detect people smuggling live animals, including live birds, into Hong Kong.

LIVESTOCK FARM INSPECTIONS

To protect the general population from AI, the Department has imposed stringent biosecurity requirements on local poultry farms in addition to the obligatory AI vaccination programme. Every batch of local farm chickens was tested for AI and was allowed to be sold for consumption only if the test results were negative.

During the year, AFCD staff conducted more than 2,400 inspections of local livestock farms and quarantined 1,493 pigs imported for breeding purposes.



VETERINARY DIAGNOSTIC LABORATORY

The Laboratory provides veterinary diagnostic support services including testing of animal pathogens and chemical residues in pre-slaughter food animals etc. During the year, over 7,900 requests were received for animal, bird and fish disease investigation. About 269,800 and 123,600 tests for AI and chemical residues were conducted respectively.

ANIMAL AND PLANT QUARANTINE CONTROL

As the animal export and import 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 2009-10, a total of 5,002 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. A total of 3,240 applications were processed by the Department during the year.

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 and QDDs are now deployed at various control points including Lok Ma Chau, Shenzhen Bay and the Airport.

Under the Plant (Importation and Pest Control) Ordinance (Cap 207), any plant imported into Hong Kong must be accompanied by a Plant Import Licence issued by the Department and a valid Phytosanitary Certificate issued by the competent authority in the place of its origin.

Statistics on plant import controls and phytosanitary certification services are at [Appendix 7](#).

CONTROL ON PESTICIDES

The 4th meeting of the "Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants" held in May 2009 decided to list, among others, Perfluorooctane sulphonic acid (PFOS), its salts and Perfluorooctane sulphonyl fluoride (PFOSF) as restricted persistent organic pollutants. The registration status of two related pesticides in Hong Kong, namely sulfotone and sulfluramid, was reviewed. The trade was consulted in relation to the proposed cancellation and their registration was subsequently cancelled on 31 December 2009.

During the year, the Department has approved the registration of several environmentally friendly pesticides including methyl nonyl ketone for use as a mosquito repellent patch.

Statistics on pesticide control are at [Appendix 8](#).

PLANT VARIETIES PROTECTION

The Plant Varieties Protection Ordinance (Cap 490) provides plant breeders (or the owners of the variety) with the legal means to apply for proprietary rights over cultivated plant varieties they have bred and developed. Grantees shall have the exclusive rights to import, export, produce and sell reproductive materials of the protected variety for a term of 20 or 25 years. During the year, a new pineapple variety 'Dole-14' was granted a provisional protection.



PREVENTION OF RABIES

In 2009-10, around 64,000 dogs were licensed and vaccinated against rabies. To safeguard the public from aggressive dogs and cats and to improve environmental hygiene, some 7,300 stray dogs and 4,800 stray cats were caught or handled during the year. Healthy animals with good temperaments would be selected for re-homing. About 790 animals were re-homed through animal welfare organisations.

Under the law, all animal traders are requested to obtain Animal Trader Licences (ATLs) issued by the Department, they should also strictly observe the corresponding licensing conditions. During the year, some 420 ATLs were issued, covering the trade of dogs, cats, birds, and reptiles etc. To enhance the protection of public health and animal welfare, additional conditions for animal traders have been implemented since February 2010 to ensure that dogs for sale at pet shops are obtained from approved sources. All dogs for sale in pet shops must be sourced from legal import, licensed dog breeders, licensed pet shops or private pet owners only.

Statistics on animals control and management, and the relevant permits/licences issued are at [Appendix 6](#).

ANIMAL WELFARE

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 5 successful prosecutions relating to animal cruelty.

The Department promotes kindness to animals through its continued public education and publicity campaigns. An Announcement in the Public Interest was launched to educate and appeal to the public to report any cases of animal cruelty. To further promote animal welfare and responsible pet ownership, six roving exhibitions, public awareness programmes on respecting animal life covering both the media and transport system were conducted during the year.



Nature Conservation

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 control the release into the environment of genetically modified organisms, as well as their import and export;
- 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 place.

In Hong Kong, there are more than 3,100 species of vascular plants, of which about 2,100 are native; 56 species of mammals; 502 species of birds; 185 species of freshwater fish; 83 species of reptiles and 24 amphibian species. Insect diversity is also very high with some 240 species of butterflies and 116 species 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 2010, there were two MA projects at Long Valley and Fung Yuen priority sites. The increase in the number and diversity of birds and butterflies suggested 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.



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 feng shui woods, as well as the distribution and abundance of selected animal groups. As at March 2010, more than 74,000 records of over 4,000 species of plants and animals had been

collected, verified, and stored in the database.

The survey findings confirmed that Hong Kong has a rich biodiversity, including species new to Hong Kong and even new to science. The findings further indicated that our protected areas encompass a very significant portion of this biodiversity. For the species groups surveyed and analysed, over 98% of the terrestrial and freshwater species 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 arouse public awareness of nature conservation through its online database on representative species and habitats at [Hong Kong Biodiversity Online](#). The Department also developed a central database using the Geographical Information System which incorporated 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 Baseline Ecological Monitoring Programme. This long-term monitoring programme aims to collect ecological baseline information on the benthic communities and the extent of wetland habitats at the Ramsar Site.



Commissioned by the Department, the Hong Kong Bird Watching Society has been carrying out a Monthly Waterbird Monitoring Programme for the Deep Bay area since 1997. From October 2009 to March 2010, the highest winter count of waterbirds at the Ramsar Site was about 87,380, including some 33,700 ducks and grebes, some 27,300 shorebirds, some 11,330 gulls and terns, some 10,760 cormorants, some 3,360 egrets and herons, and some 520 rails and coots. These figures were similar to that of the same period

last year, which were also close to the record high since the programme was introduced.

BLACK-FACED SPOONBILLS

The Black-faced Spoonbill is a globally endangered species that can only be found in the East Asia region. In 2009-10 winter, the global population survey recorded 2,346 individuals. The highest count for wintering population in the Deep Bay area, which was recorded in January 2010, was 496 individuals, i.e. about 21% 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 is an important aspect of the territory's conservation plan. Other parts of the plan include safeguarding the site; species and habitat management; monitoring and research; education and training as well as regional cooperation.



GREEN TURTLES

Green Turtle (*Chelonia mydas*) is the only sea turtle species that regularly breeds in Hong Kong. From July to October 2008, female turtle "Hong Kong 2" laid seven nests of eggs in Sham Wan. Artificial incubation was carried out for four nests of eggs as the weather prediction then would be cool and not suitable for hatching. The incubation rates of the eggs were generally over 90%. Most

of the baby turtles were released back in Sham Wan. Due to low temperature, the last batch of baby turtles had been kept in the Hong Kong Wetland Park and they were subsequently released at Sham Wan in August and September of 2009 when weather conditions permitted.

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). It strictly regulates the trade in endangered species.

Efforts in combating illegal trade in endangered species continued. During the year, 338 seizures were made, including a shipment of 300 live Central Asian Tortoise from Pakistan, 121 live Leopard Tortoise from Tanzania, 1,006 kg of ivory from Nigeria, and 189 live Radiated Tortoise from Thailand.



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. Co-organised with a local newspaper, the "Endangered Species Protection 4-Panel Comic Drawing Competition" received good response with more than 2,000 entries. Regarding the joint education and publicity efforts between the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region and Guangdong Province, a trade seminar as well as a training course for CITES enforcement officials were organised.

CONTROL OF GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISMS

The Genetically Modified Organisms (Control of Release) Ordinance (Cap 607) was enacted in March 2010. The Ordinance gives effect to the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (Protocol) and regulates the import and export of living genetically modified organisms (GMOs), as well as their release into the environment. Implementation of the Protocol can better ensure protection of the local biological diversity from possible adverse impacts of GMOs. Under the Ordinance, prior approval has to be sought from the Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation before a GMO could be released or imported into Hong Kong for release into the local environment.

Public consultation on the proposed GMOs (Documentation for Import and Export) Regulation was conducted from February to March 2010. The Ordinance and the proposed Regulation are scheduled to commence by early 2011.



THE HONG KONG WETLAND PARK

Opened in 2006, the Hong Kong Wetland Park 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 Park combines the natural beauty of 60 hectares of re-created wetland with a visitor centre of over 10,000 square metres showcasing sophisticated

exhibits on wetlands. During the year, the Park attracted about 440,000 visitors.

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

In 2009-10, the Park conducted some 8,000 guided visits for more than 156,000 students and visitors. Four leaflets and one education pack were produced to help teachers and the public to understand more about wetland ecology as well as our conservation work. In addition, a total of 13 public seminars and 7 thematic activities of different scales were held at the Park, which attracted over 1,500 and 117,000 visitors respectively. The Park recruited more than 1,900 volunteers under the Wetland Park Volunteers Scheme during the year. 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. The number of man-days served by the volunteers had exceeded 6,500.



During the year, the Park organised various thematic events to arouse public interest in wetland conservation, including Dragonfly Festival, Bird Watching Festival and Wetland Cultural Festival.

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 Hong Kong Wetland Park continues to maintain the WLI-Asia Website (www.wli-asia.org) to provide the most up-to-date information and to facilitate communication among wetland centres.



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 230. Waterbirds or birds dependent on wetlands which make up approximately 36% of all species recorded. 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 49, 9 and 23 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 41,000,

more than 290 of which are type specimens, making the Herbarium regionally important.

The Hong Kong Herbarium collaborated with the South China Botanical Garden in compiling the *Flora of Hong Kong*. It is a definitive technical reference aiming 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 botanical drawings and colour photographs. Volumes 1, 2 and 3 of the *Flora of Hong Kong* were published in 2007 - 2009. They have been well received by local and overseas academics as well as plant workers. Editing of Volume 4 of the *Flora of Hong Kong*, covering 40 families, 313 genera and 752 species and varieties of plants, is in progress.

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. Butterfly host plants were planted at Fung Yuen Valley SSSI to enhance the butterfly habitat. 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 2010, the Sam Mun Tsai Egretty SSSI was de-listed from the SSSI Register as the egretty was no longer used for breeding.

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. The department also conducted field study to explore the feasibility of controlling Mikania with biological agents.

In addition, the Department 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](#).



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 population increase in the long term, the Department stepped up the field trial of contraceptive treatment. In 2009-10, the Department carried out such treatment on 637 monkeys. The Department also strengthened the enforcement of feeding ban in specific country parks to minimise monkey nuisance to visitors. During the year, a total of 131 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, geopark, 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 2010, 44,004 hectares (about 40 % of Hong Kong's total land area) had been designated as country parks and special areas. The Department continued to manage all 24 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 13.4 million visitors in 2009-10.



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 an abundance of interesting marine fauna and flora, providing ideal opportunities for diving, snorkelling, canoeing and underwater photography. Some 209,400 visitors to marine parks were recorded in 2009-10.

HILL FIRES

During the year, 34 hill fires occurred over an area of 275 hectares with 23,000 trees damaged within or adjacent to country parks. The number of hill fires was slightly less than that of the past

two years. However, there were a few major fires in Tai Lam Country Park and Pat Sin Leng Country Park. Rehabilitation planting programme in areas damaged by hill fires and various fire prevention measures have been implemented.

TREE PLANTING

Some 700,000 seedlings were planted in 2009-10. To enrich local plant diversity, the Department continued to produce and plant seedlings of native tree species. Major native species planted included *Aquilaria sinensis*, *Castanopsis fissa*, *Celtis sinensis*, *Gordonia axillaris*, *Liquidambar formosana*, *Machilus chekiangensis*, *Machilus pauhoi* and *Schima superba*. Among all seedlings planted, 66% were native species.

Seedlings of uncommon species like *Aphananthe cuspidata*, 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 in the Tai Tong Nursery, Yuen Long for planting in country parks.



COUNTRY PARK PLANTATION ENHANCEMENT SCHEME



Several decades ago, trees mainly of exotic species were planted in the country park plantation schemes. The key planting objectives were to restore vegetation to the badlands, cover the eroded scars with trees, prevent further soil erosion and rejuvenate soil vitality. To achieve these objectives, fast growing, hardy and exotic pioneer species were adopted in the plantation scheme. The most commonly used species were Taiwan Acacia (*Acacia confusa*), Brisbane Box (*Lophostemon confertus*) and Slash Pine (*Pinus*

elliottii). Other fast growing species, such as Horsetail Tree (*Casuarina equisetifolia*), Eucalyptus trees (*Eucalyptus species*), Paper-bark Tree (*Melaleuca quinquenervia*), Earleaf Acacia (*Acacia auriculiformis*) and *Acacia mangium* etc were commonly planted as well. At present, these exotic plantations are widely established in country parks.

However, many of the existing plantations in country parks are facing problems such as aging, withering and overgrowing. Trees species found within the plantations are monotonous comprising of mainly exotic species, making it difficult for them to fully satisfy the need of native wildlife for food and shelters, thus considered unattractive to local wildlife. In addition, the trees aged simultaneously in the plantations, hindering the sustainable development of the woodland habitats. The dense canopies of the trees, as a result of the rapid growth, have blocked the natural propagation and growth of native trees. The landscape of the plantations also appears to be monotonous. The ecological value of the plantations, which are in lack of vitality, could hardly be further enhanced. Therefore, the Department launched the Country Park Plantation

Enhancement Scheme (the Scheme) at the end of 2009 to enrich the overall value of country park plantations. The objectives of the Scheme are as follow:

- (i) To improve the ecological habitat of the plantation areas;
- (ii) To increase the biodiversity of both local flora and fauna;
- (iii) To allow healthy growth and sustainable development of the woodlands;
- (iv) To provide seeds of native trees;
- (v) To enhance the landscape of the country park plantation areas, and
- (vi) To reduce the chance of pest outbreaks.



During the dry season of 2009, 21 sites were engaged under the Scheme and about 10,000 exotic trees in poor conditions were removed. Suitable native tree seedlings were in-planted in the plantation areas in the following planting season of 2010. It is expected that the newly-planted seedlings would gradually establish in the thinned woodland, and eventually replace all the exotic species in the long run. The Department will continue to carry out the Scheme in the coming years to improve all plantations in country parks systematically with an aim to enhance overall ecological value of the country parks.

HONG KONG NATIONAL GEOPARK

A geopark is a unique natural area with special geological significance, as well as natural and cultural landscapes, serving the three objectives of conservation, education and sustainable development. To protect the rich geological resources of high academic research, tourism and scenic value in Hong Kong, the Department has set up the Hong Kong National Geopark which was officially opened on 3 November 2009 by the Chief Executive, Mr Donald Tsang, together with other distinguished guests, including the Vice-



Minister of the Ministry of Land and Resources, Mr Wang Min. On the same occasion, it was also announced that Hong Kong National Geopark had established a sister relationship with four overseas and Mainland global geoparks: Yandangshan Geopark of China, Itoigawa Geopark of Japan, English Riviera Geopark of the United Kingdom and Kanawinka Geopark of Australia. The sister relationship is intended to help strengthen the network of information exchange and publicity among geoparks.

Hong Kong National Geopark is made up of eight Geo-Areas distributed across the Sai Kung Volcanic Rock Region and Northeast New Territories Sedimentary Rock Region, covering a total area of 49.85 square kilometres. The Geo-Areas are High Island, Sharp Island, the Ung Kong Group, the Ninepin Group, Tung Ping Chau, Double Haven, Tolo Channel and Port Island-Bluff Head.



To introduce the Geopark to the public, a visitor centre and three geoheritage centres were set up: the Geopark Visitor Centre in Tsiu Hang, Sai Kung, the Sai Kung Geoheritage Information Centre, the Tai Po Geoheritage Centre and the Lai Chi Wo Geoheritage Centre. These centres provide an overview of the Hong Kong geological environment and information about the culture, history and diverse natural environment of the local areas with an aim to promote greater interest in earth sciences and raise the

awareness of the importance of preserving our geological heritage.

To enhance visitors' experience at the Geopark, eight land-based tour routes and two boat tour routes in different Geo-Areas have been set up. The routes were planned and designed according to the specific characteristics and geological features of each scenic area.

With a view to fostering the public's understanding and appreciation of landforms in Hong Kong, a series of publications, including a set of geopark field guides, a photo album and a number of children's books, were launched to help readers learn more about and protect the magnificent rock features of Hong Kong.

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 codes 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.



NATURE CONSERVATION EDUCATION



Nature Appreciation Activities

The Department continued to produce a series of publications and conduct numerous conservation activities for nearly 280,000 local students, teachers and nature lovers. In 2009-10, the Department carried out a brand new programme "Nature In Touch" to strengthen the educational resources on nature conservation in country parks. The programme included a series of educational activities for students to learn about

subjects related to environmental science and sustainable development in the syllabus of liberal studies and to engage in "Other Learning Experience", which is required in the New Senior Secondary Curriculum, in country parks. "Nature In Touch" aimed at promoting a better

understanding of country parks, biodiversity, plant conservation and geological characteristics in Hong Kong, thus enhancing public awareness of protecting the natural environment. It covered five parts, namely Enjoy Hiking, Country Park Volunteer Scheme, Field Experience, Geoconservation and Field Study.

Enjoy Hiking comprised "CAS Hiking Safety Promotion Day", "Great Outdoor Hong Kong!" and "Country Parks Geo-wonder Hike". This wide-variety of activities served to introduce the fun of hiking to public, and to equip public members with safety knowledge in mountaineering activities. Co-organised with Hong Kong Tourism Board, "Great Outdoor Hong Kong!" highlighted the various facets of MacLehose Trail. The route was the same as that of the annual charity walking event Oxfam Trailwalker. In addition, "Country Parks Geo-wonder Hike" was held in Sai Kung and Double Haven. Interpretation was provided in selected sightseeing spots to introduce to the participants the geological attractions and features of Hong Kong National Geopark. These three activities attracted about 14,600 participants.



Country Park Volunteer Scheme was launched by the Department in January 2010, aiming to arouse public awareness of nature conservation through public involvement in country park conservation and education. The scheme started to recruit volunteers online in January 2010 and received about 550 applications from retirees, working adults to students. To enrich public knowledge in ecology and nature management, so as to facilitate conservation work at country parks, the Department provided all volunteers with trainings and practices.

Field Experience comprised a number of educational activities such as Country Park Orienteering, Nature Appreciation – Practice and Kindergarten Visit. The Department also organised the "Country Parks Reporter Inter-School Competition" to offer students the opportunities to take part and gain insight in various jobs on site at country parks. Throughout the process, students were inspired to reflect on the challenges in country park management, as well as the strategies in nature conservation. Field Experience drew 117 schools and 6,200 students to participate.



Geoconservation covered four series of activities: "Hong Kong National Geopark Geo-tour", "Rock Academy", "Sai Kung Geo-heritage Festival" and "North District Flowers, Birds, Insects and Fishes Exhibition" with some 82,000 participants. These activities introduced to public and students the unique geological features of Hong Kong.



Last but not least, "Field Study" included "Seminar on Field Trip Routes of Hong Kong Geopark", public seminars and a number of public guided-tours. The activities all served to raise public awareness of geo-conservation and nature appreciation.

Marine Conservation Education Programme

The Department organised a variety of marine conservation education activities targeting various sectors of the community. During the year, 119 public eco-tours, 7 public seminars, 3 beach clean-up activities, 28 school lectures, 63 exhibitions and 39 other kinds of educational activities were held, benefiting over 74,000 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 2009-10, 888 offenders were prosecuted or given a fixed penalty notice with fines totaling \$817,010. Among these, a total of 391 offenders were given a fixed penalty notice for littering or spitting. Statistics are at [Appendix 12](#). Park

wardens and nature 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, enforcing prohibition of feeding wild animals and assisting the Police in search-and-rescue exercises. Regular joint operations with the Police were undertaken to combat crimes, such as illegal felling of Buddhist Pines and Incense Trees.

In our marine parks and reserve, 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 2009-10, 62 prosecutions were instituted with fines totaling \$49,850.

MARINE CONSERVATION

Reef Check

The Department coordinated the annual Reef Check in collaboration with the Reef Check Foundation. During the year, 33 coral sites were surveyed with the assistance of over 410 volunteer divers. Twenty-three of these 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 status of corals so that appropriate action could be taken to protect them.



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 these areas. The results to date are encouraging. There has been an overall increase in live coral cover in the marker buoy area and



damaged corals have shown signs of recovery.

Conservation of Marine Mammals

There are at least 2,500 dolphins living in the Pearl River Estuary including about 1,300-1,500 dolphins living in the eastern part of the Pearl River Estuary and Hong Kong waters. 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 indicated that the abundance of dolphins in Hong Kong waters has stayed generally stable over the years.



Every reported dolphin stranding in Hong Kong was investigated by the Department in collaboration with the Ocean Park Conservation Foundation. Tissue samples from the carcasses were collected for further studies. The Department continued to hold exhibitions and seminars as well as to distribute 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 gradually deepened their understanding of marine mammals.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT STUDIES

The Department regularly provides comments and advice on development proposals and projects as well as Environmental Impact Assessment studies to ensure that potential impacts of development projects on the marine environment and ecology would be adequately addressed, evaluated and minimised through effective mitigation.



Appendices

1. SUMMARY OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION - ESTIMATED QUANTITIES AND VALUE 2007-09
2. FRESH FOOD - PRODUCTION, EXPORTS, IMPORTS, RE-EXPORTS AND CONSUMPTION 2007-09
3. AGRICULTURAL LAND UTILISATION 2007-09
4. NUMBER OF FISHING VESSELS BY TYPE IN 2009
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6. IMPORT CONTROL, LIVESTOCK QUARANTINE, EXPORT CERTIFICATION STATISTICS 2009-10
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17. STATUTORY/ADVISORY COMMITTEES AND BOARDS
18. STATISTICS ON CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES AS AT MARCH 31, 2010
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Appendices

Appendix 1 SUMMARY OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION - ESTIMATED QUANTITIES AND VALUE # 2007-09

Item	Unit	2007		2008		2009	
		Quantity	\$'000	Quantity	\$'000	Quantity	\$'000
Crop							
Flowers*			216,810		176,214		161,068
Fruits	Tonne	1,617	11,650	1,395	12,985	864	8,431
Vegetables	Tonne	18,900	72,500	16,400	73,785	16,000	65,828
Field Crops	Tonne	200	363	210	605	190	448
Sub-total:			301,323		263,589		235,775
Livestock							
Pigs	Head	269,810	487,260	87,240	207,665	84,655	145,302
Cattle	Head	35	289	6	84	4	55
Fresh Milk	Tonne	106	1,485	48	666	27	375
Sub-total:			489,034		208,415		145,732
Poultry							
Chickens	Head	7,273,100	295,187	4,662,032	208,992	3,510,164	170,072
Hatching Hen Eggs	Thousand	3,439	6,879	2,734	5,469	2,929	5,858
Table Hen Eggs	Thousand	131	211	160	258	325	488
Pigeons	Pair	21,770	837	0	0	0	0
Sub-total:			303,114		214,719		176,418
Grand Total			1,093,471		686,723		557,925

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

* Including pot plants and blossom trees



Appendices

Appendix 2 FRESH FOOD - PRODUCTION, EXPORTS, IMPORTS, RE-EXPORTS AND CONSUMPTION 2007-09

Item	Source	2007	2008	2009
FRESH VEGETABLES (Tonne)	Local production	18,900	16,400	16,000
	Exports	0	0	0
	Imports	639,720	645,720	648,836
	Re-exports	9,960	7,270	6,944
	Consumption	648,660	654,850	657,892
	Contribution by local production	2.9%	2.5%	2.4%
LIVE PIGS (Head)	Local production (Head)	269,810	87,240	84,655
	(Dressed weight in tonne)	23,200	7,500	7,280
	Exports	0	0	0
	Imports	1,503,210	1,494,570	1,597,373
	Re-exports	0	0	0
	Consumption (Dressed weight in tonne)	126,630	110,330	117,180
	Contribution by local production	18.3%	6.8%	6.2%
LIVE POULTRY (Tonne)	Local production	12,830	8,520	6,417
	Exports	0	0	0
	Imports	15,240	10,140	5,527
	Re-exports	0	0	0
	Consumption	28,080	18,660	11,944
	Contribution by local production	45.7%	45.7%	53.7%
MARINE FISH (Live / Fresh / Frozen) (Tonne)	Local production	33,440	39,020	43,904
	Exports	130	150	18
	Imports	103,900	99,080	70,045
	Re-exports	61,630	28,120	21,481
	Consumption	75,580	109,830	92,450
	Contribution by local production	44.2%	35.4%	47.5%
FRESHWATER FISH (Live / Fresh / Frozen) (Tonne)	Local production	1,930	2,270	2,095
	Exports	0	0	0
	Imports	36,660	43,470	48,582
	Re-exports	2,110	2,680	2,335
	Consumption	36,480	43,060	48,342
	Contribution by local production	5.3%	5.3%	4.3%



Appendices

Appendix 3 AGRICULTURAL LAND UTILISATION 2007-09 (hectare)

Year	Market garden crops#	Field Crops	Orchard	Fish Pond*	Abandoned / fallow	Total
2007	500	20	280	1,100	4,190	6,090
2008	496	22	280	1,100	4,188	6,086
2009	470	22	266	1,103	4,141	6,002

vegetables and flowers

* including ponds that have been resumed but not yet filled





Appendices

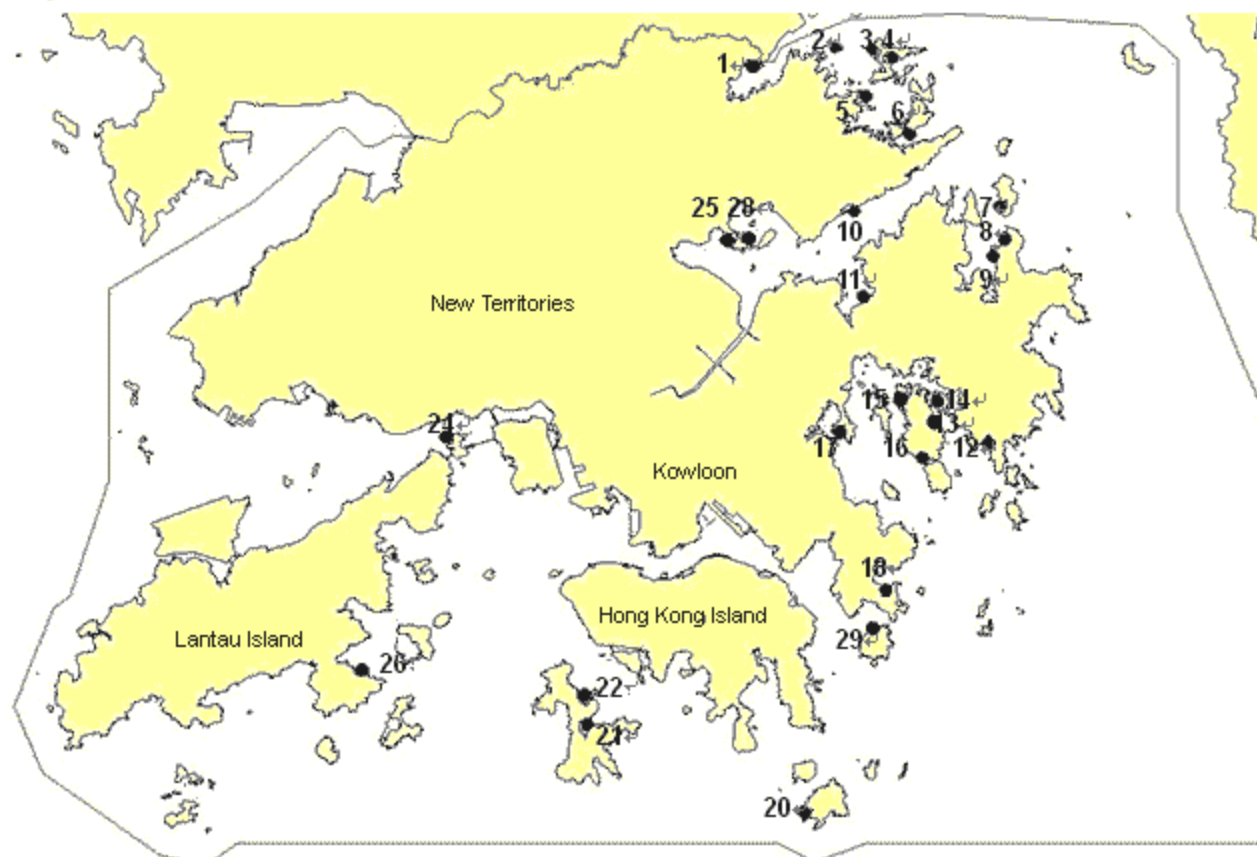
Appendix 4 NUMBER OF FISHING VESSELS BY TYPE IN 2009

Type of vessel	Quantity
Pair Trawler	562
Stern Trawler	126
Shrimp Trawler	355
Hang Trawler	43
Gill Netter	212
Long Liner	116
Hand Liner	50
Purse Seiner	93
Fishing Sampan	2,102
TOTAL	3,659



Appendices

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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Appendices

Appendix 6 IMPORT CONTROL, LIVESTOCK QUARANTINE, EXPORT CERTIFICATION STATISTICS 2009-10

Certificates, Permits, Authorisations and Licences Issued

Certificates Issued	
- Official Animal Health Certificates (for export of live animals)	823
- Official endorsement of Animal Health Certificates (for export of live animals)	2,417
- Sanitary Certificates (for export of animal products)	717
Permits/Licences Issued	
- Permits (Import/Transit)	5,002
- Authorisations (Import/Transit) (Permits for multiple use were introduced to replace the single use permits)	125
- Quarantine Centre Licences	0
- Animal Trader Licences	420
- Exhibition Licences	56
- Temporary Exhibition Permits	20
- Boarding Establishment Licences	29
- Riding Establishment Licences	13
- Dairy Licences	2

Inspections

Imported animals inspected at air/sea/land entry points	
- Breeding Pigs	1,493
- Day-old-chickens	1,503,780
- Dogs requiring quarantine	96
- Cats requiring quarantine	78
- Dogs exempted from quarantine	3,884
- Cats exempted from quarantine	1,153
- Imported Horses	494
- Horses transhipped	284
Animals control and management	
- Stray dogs caught	7,279
- Dogs admitted for observation following biting incidents	532
- Prosecution cases	1,012

Enforcement Actions Taken

Imported animals and plants inspected at air/sea/land entry points	
--	--

- Number of seized animals, birds, reptiles and plants, etc	6,341
- Seized animals, birds, reptiles and plants' parts/derivatives	1,439 (kg)
- Number of voluntary surrender of animals, birds, reptiles and plants, etc	1,487
- Voluntary surrender of animals, birds, reptiles and plants' parts/derivatives	472 (kg)
- Warnings issued	22
- Prosecutions	105





Appendices

Appendix 7 PLANT IMPORT CONTROL STATISTICS 2009-10

Documents Issued	
Plant Import Licences	1,393
Import Authorisations	761
Phytosanitary Certificates	1,523
Phytosanitary Certificates for Re-export	725
Inspections	
Number of imported consignments	1,088
Number of exported consignments	2,293
Confiscations	
Number of plants	418
Number of plant consignments	27
Live pests (number of consignments) - Crickets, butterflies pupae and grasshoppers	14



Appendices

Appendix 8 PESTICIDE CONTROL STATISTICS 2009-10

Enforcement Summary		
Pesticide registration	Part I	5
	Part II	9
Pesticide licences issued	Part I	109
	Part II	12
Pesticide licences renewed	Part I	1,325
	Part II	267
Pesticide permits	Issued for re-export	0
	Issued for other purposes	7
	Extended for re-export	41
	Extended for other purposes	55
Pesticide import licences (Cap. 60) issued		3,009
Pesticide export licences (Cap. 60) issued		2,364
Premises inspections		3,445
Labels reviewed		299
General Summary		
Total number of Part I pesticides registered		191
Total number of Part II pesticides registered		317
Total number of Part I licencees		1,458
Total number of Part II licencees		283
Total number of permittees for re-export		20
Total number of permittees for other purposes		30



Appendices

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

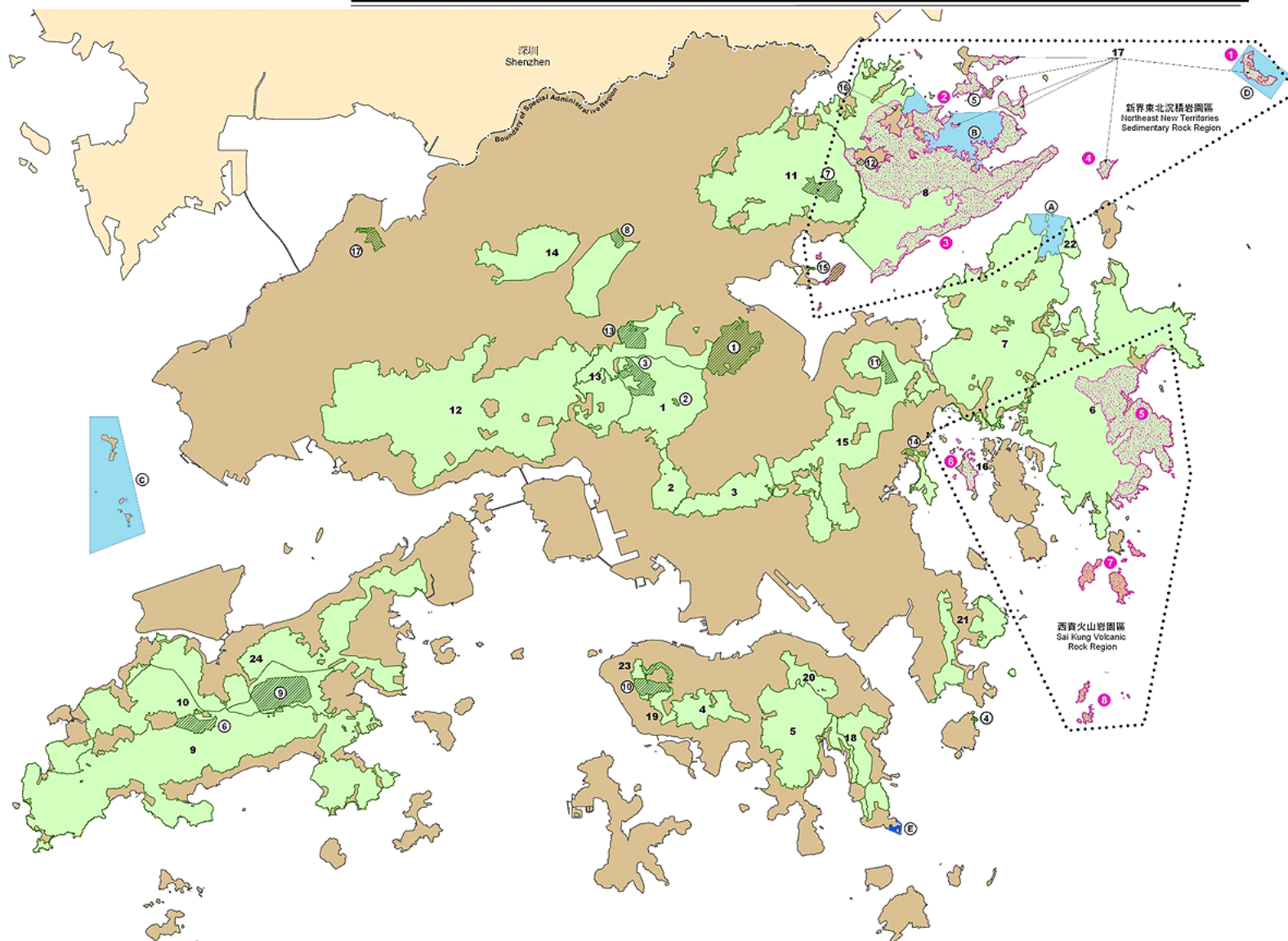


Appendices

Appendix 10 PROSECUTIONS MADE UNDER LEGISLATION ADMINISTERED BY AFCD 2009-10

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	Monthly total	Fines (\$)	Estimated value of goods confiscated (\$)
April / 2009	1	0	1	0	1	18	0	1	33	1	0	63	8	21	8	156	295,600	152,186
May	0	0	6	8	1	30	1	1	16	0	0	62	8	42	18	193	176,100	186,100
June	1	0	1	5	0	16	0	0	43	0	0	101	3	27	15	212	130,300	3,750
July	1	0	0	6	0	18	0	3	29	1	0	93	4	23	21	199	138,600	814,738
August	1	0	0	5	1	4	0	0	13	1	0	76	6	3	14	124	102,500	721,045
September	0	2	3	8	0	14	4	1	20	1	0	63	3	29	8	156	139,250	321,830
October	0	0	5	4	1	9	1	0	29	1	0	83	0	13	10	156	114,900	41,249
November	0	4	2	2	1	1	0	0	29	0	0	61	6	78	7	191	191,300	223,400
December	2	2	1	9	0	2	1	0	15	1	0	59	3	31	5	131	126,150	150,854
January / 2010	0	0	2	9	0	4	0	1	22	0	0	123	3	3	6	173	126,450	141,550
February	2	0	1	10	0	7	0	0	27	0	0	75	1	47	4	174	185,940	7,422
March	0	0	3	4	0	14	2	0	48	0	0	87	4	41	10	213	157,120	19,650
Total	8	8	25	70	5	137	9	7	324	6	0	946	49	358	126	2,078	1,884,210	2,783,774

Appendix 11
COUNTRY PARKS, GEOPARK, SPECIAL AREAS, MARINE PARKS AND MARINE RESERVE



- | | | |
|----------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1 | 郊野公園
Country Park | |
| 1 | 城門 | Shing Mun |
| 2 | 金山 | Kam Shan |
| 3 | 獅子山 | Lion Rock |
| 4 | 香港仔 | Aberdeen |
| 5 | 大潭 | Tai Tam |
| 6 | 沙嘴東 | Sai Kung East |
| 7 | 沙嘴西 | Sai Kung West |
| 8 | 船灣 | Plover Cove |
| 9 | 南大嶼 | Lantau South |
| 10 | 北大嶼 | Lantau North |
| 11 | 八仙嶺 | Pai Sin Leng |
| 12 | 大鵬 | Tai Lam |
| 13 | 大帽山 | Mai On Shan |
| 14 | 林村 | Lam Tsuen |
| 15 | 馬鞍山 | Ma On Shan |
| 16 | 桃樹 | Kiu Tsui |
| 17 | 船灣(擴建部分) | Plover Cove (Extension) |
| 18 | 石澳 | Shek O |
| 19 | 潭林 | Pok Fu Lam |
| 20 | 大潭(擴建部分) | Tai Tam (Quarry Bay Extension) |
| 21 | 沙嘴西 | Clear Water Bay |
| 22 | 沙嘴東(擴建部分) | Sai Kung West (Nan Tsai Extension) |
| 23 | 龍鼓山 | Lung Fu Shan |
| 24 | 北大嶼(擴建部分) | Lantau North (Extension) |
| 2 | 特別地區
Special Area | |
| 1 | 大埔自然護理區 | Tai Po Kau Nature Reserve |
| 2 | 城門風水樹林 | Shing Mun Fung Shui Woodland |
| 3 | 大帽山原區灌木林區 | Mai On Shan Forest Scrub Forest |
| 4 | 東龍潭炮台 | Tung Lung Fort |
| 5 | 古澤澳 | Kat O Chau |
| 6 | 西貢山 | Lantau Peak |
| 7 | 八仙嶺 | Pai Sin Range |
| 8 | 北大嶼 | Pak Tai To Tan |
| 9 | 大帽山 | Sunset Peak |
| 10 | 潭林 | Pok Fu Lam |
| 11 | 馬鞍山 | Ma On Shan |
| 12 | 新渡津 | Chiui Keng Tam |
| 13 | 媽廟壩 | Ng Tung Chai |
| 14 | 龍坑 | Tsui Hang |
| 15 | 馬屋埗 | Ma Shi Chau |
| 16 | 荔枝窩 | Lai Chi Wo |
| 17 | 香港濕地公園 | Hong Kong Wetland Park |
| 3 | 海岸公園
Marine Park | |
| A | 落下灣 | Hei Ha Wan |
| B | 印洲港 | Yan Chau Tong |
| C | 沙洲及鼓洲 | Sha Chau & Lung Kuu Chau |
| D | 東平洲 | Tung Ping Chau |
| 4 | 海岸保護區
Marine Reserve | |
| E | 藍洞 | Cape D'Aguiar |
| 5 | 地質公園/園區
Geo-Area | |
| 1 | 東平洲 | Tung Ping Chau |
| 2 | 印洲港 | Double Haven |
| 3 | 赤門 | Tide Channel |
| 4 | 沙洲—蒼竹角咀 | Port Island—Bluff Head |
| 5 | 龍鼓澳 | High Island |
| 6 | 橘洲 | Sharp Island |
| 7 | 鼓紅礁石 | Ung Kong Group |
| 8 | 東洲群島 | Ninepin Group |

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Appendices

Appendix 12 PROSECUTIONS IN RELATION TO OFFENCES IN COUNTRYSIDE 2009-10

Cap.	Sect.	Reg.	Nature of Offence	No. of Persons Involved*	No. of concluded prosecution cases**	Total Fines***
96	3(2)		Possession of protection plants	1	0	\$0
96	16(1)(a)		Illegal lighting of fire in countryside	3	3	\$2,300
96	21(a)		Cutting grass without lawful authority or excuse	0	1	\$0
96	21(d)		Illegal felling of plants in countryside	6	6	\$30,250
170	7(2)		Possession of any hunting appliance	1	0	\$0
170	8(1)(a)		Possession of protected wild animal	1	1	\$1,200
170	13(1)(a)		Entering into/being within restricted area without permit	6	3	\$1,700
170	17C(3)		Illegal feeding of wild animal	118	131	\$73,150
208	26	4(1)	Illegal possessing/driving of vehicle/bicycle	310	277	\$102,460
208	26	6	Possession of any trapping appliance	2	2	\$800
208	26	7(1)(c)	Illegal use of fire	4	4	\$1,900
208	26	8(1)(a)	Illegal picking of plants	6	7	\$4,500
208	26	8(1)(b)	Illegal digging of soil	4	2	\$1,300
208	26	9(1)(b)	Illegal hawking	1	1	\$300
208	26	11(3)	Illegal camping within country park or special area	33	31	\$9,150
208	26	12(1)(c)	Littering	387(i)	387(iii)	\$580,500
208	26	12(1)(e)	Spitting	5(ii)	5(iv)	\$7,500
Total:				888	861	\$817,010

(i) Number of Fixed Penalty Notices issued (littering offence under regulation 12(1)(c) of Cap. 208A) = 386

(ii) Number of Fixed Penalty Notices issued (spitting offence under regulation 12(1)(e) of Cap. 208A) = 5

(iii) Number of Fixed Penalty Notices processed (littering offence under regulation 12(1)(c) of Cap. 208A)
= 386

(iv) Number of Fixed Penalty Notices processed (spitting offence under regulation 12(1)(e) of Cap. 208A)
= 5

* "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.





Appendices

Appendix 13 PUBLICATIONS FOR FREE DISTRIBUTION TO THE PUBLIC 2009-10

Fact Sheets

Agriculture and Fisheries (Chinese & English versions)
Country Parks and Conservation (Chinese & English versions)
Code of Conduct for Dolphin Watching Activities (Bilingual)

Newsletters

Newsletter on Controlled-Environment Greenhouse (Issues 28-29) (Bilingual)
Hong Kong Biodiversity (Issues 17-18) (English version only)
Hong Kong Wetland Park Newsletter Issue 13 (May 2009) (Bilingual)
Hong Kong Wetland Park Newsletter Issue 14 (November 2009) (Bilingual)
Hong Kong Wetland Park, Marine Parks, Country Parks e-newsletter (April to October/December 2009)(Bilingual)
Hong Kong Wetland Park, Marine Parks, Country Parks, Hong Kong National Geopark e-newsletter (February 2010) (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 Product Pick Your Own Guide 2010 (Chinese version only)
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)
2010 Fishermen Training Courses (Course information booklet) (Chinese version only)
Rodent Control Guide for Pest Control Personnel (Chinese version only)
Quarantine Detector Dog Leaflet (Bilingual)
Protect Our Countryside, Prevent Hill Fire (Bilingual)
Hiking on Lantau Country Trails (Chinese, English, Japanese & Korean versions)
Hong Kong Landmarks (Bilingual)
Venturing Hong Kong Country Parks series (Revised version) (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 (Chinese & English versions)
Horse Shoe Crabs in Hong Kong (Bilingual)
Chinese White Dolphins (Bilingual)
"Portraits of Marine Life – Art Competition" Collection Booklet (Bilingual)
"Portraits of Marine Life – Save the Marine Environment" Sketch Booklet (Bilingual)
Stop Feeding Wild Monkeys (Bilingual)
Brief Guide for Import and Export of Animals, Plants & Endangered Species (Bilingual)
Booklet of Winning Entries of "Protect Endangered Species 4-panel Comic Competition" (Chinese version only)
Hong Kong Wetland Park Volunteer Handbook (Chinese version only)
My Dragonfly Snapshot Photo Album (Bilingual)

Books

Leaflets

Plant (Importation and Pest Control) Ordinance, Chapter 207 of the Laws of Hong Kong – Introduction to Import Control (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)

Kadoorie Agricultural Aid Loan Fund (Bilingual)

J.E. Joseph Trust Fund (Bilingual)

Accredited Fish Farm Scheme (Bilingual)

Accredited Fish – Jade Perch (Chinese version only)

Accredited Fish – Grey Mullet (Chinese version only)

Code of Practice for recreational fishing (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)

Hong Kong Wetland Park Leaflet (English, Simplified Chinese & Traditional Chinese 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)

Strangers (Bilingual)

The Aristolochiaceae Plants in Hong Kong (Bilingual)

Does 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)

Sandy Shore Plants of Hong Kong (Bilingual)

Melastomas of Hong Kong (Bilingual)

Shing Mun Arboretum (Chinese & English versions)

Web Site of the Hong Kong Herbarium (Bilingual)

Endangered Species Protection (Bilingual)

Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance (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)

Protect Endangered Marine Species (Bilingual)

Going Abroad? Don't Bring Back Souvenirs of Endangered Species Without a Licence (Bilingual)

Wild animal calls (Chinese version only)

Wild pig in Hong Kong (Chinese version only)

Appreciate the Beauties of Waterside Plants (Bilingual)

Visiting the Aquatic Plants (Bilingual)
 Caring for Wetlands – An Answer to Climate Change (Bilingual)
 Dragonfly Festival (Bilingual)
 Hong Kong Wetland Park Leaflet (English, Simplified Chinese & Traditional Chinese versions)
 Genetically Modified Organisms (Control of Release) Bill (Bilingual)
 Genetically Modified Organisms (Control of Release) Bill – Genetically Modified Organisms for Food, Feed or Processing (Bilingual)
 Genetically Modified Organisms (Control of Release) Bill – Live Recombinant Veterinary Vaccines (Bilingual)
 Genetically Modified Organisms (Control of Release) Bill – Genetically Modified Crops (Bilingual)
 Genetically Modified Organisms (Control of Release) Bill – Seeds of Genetically Modified Crops (Bilingual)
 Genetically Modified Organisms (Control of Release) Bill – Genetically Modified Aquarium Fish (Bilingual)
 Genetically Modified Organisms (Control of Release) Bill – Genetically Modified Flowers (Bilingual)
 Genetically Modified Organisms (Control of Release) Bill – Genetically Modified Organisms in Research Institutes and Laboratories (Bilingual)
 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)
 Seaweeds in Tung Ping Chau Marine Park (Bilingual)
 Hoi Ha Wan Marine Park Ecotour (Bilingual)
 Portraits of Marine Life – Art Competition (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)
 Safety Guidelines for Country Parks Visitors (Chinese version only)
 9 Points to Note While Hiking in Hot Weather (Bilingual)
 Getting to Know Hong Kong Geopark (Bilingual)
 Code For Visiting Geosites in Hong Kong (Bilingual)
 Hong Kong National Geopark Geotour Routes (English, Simplified Chinese & Traditional Chinese versions)
 Sharp Island Geo Trail (Bilingual)
 Friends of the Country Parks Lai Chi Wo Geoheritage Centre (Bilingual)
 High Island Geo Trail (Bilingual)
 Tai Po Geoheritage Centre & Ma Shi Chau Nature Trail (Bilingual)
 Boat Tour of Sai Kung Islands (Bilingual)
 Boat Tour of the Northeast New Territories (Chinese, English & Japanese versions)
 Appreciating the High Island Hexagonal Rock Columns (Bilingual)
 Code for Driving in Sai Kung Man Yee Road and Sai Wan Road (Chinese version only)

Posters

Requirements for Importation of Animals and Birds (Bilingual)
 Rabies Prevention – Don't bring Cats and Dogs into HK without An Import Permit (Bilingual)
 Avian Influenza Prevention – Don't bring Poultry or Birds into HK without a Valid Health Certification (Bilingual)
 Accredited Fish Farm Scheme Products (Bilingual)
 Voluntary Registration Scheme for Local Pond Fish Farms (Chinese version only)
 2010 Fishermen Training Courses (Chinese version only)

Prevent Avian Flu – Apply Proper Biosecurity Measures (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)
Protect Endangered Marine Species (Bilingual)
Licence is required for importation and exportation of Orchids (Chinese version only)
Endangered Species Protection 4-panel Comic Competition (Chinese version only)
Endangered Species Protection Wallpaper Design Competition (Chinese version only)
World Wetlands Day 2010 – Bird Watching Festival (Bilingual)
Searching For Birds (Bilingual)
Wetland Cultural Festival (Bilingual)
Christmas with Black-faced Spoonbill (Bilingual)
Cultural Festival (Bilingual)
Dragonfly Festival (Bilingual)
Report Illegal Felling of Trees (Bilingual)
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)
The Underwater World in Marine Parks of Hong Kong (Marine Fishes) (one set of 5) (Bilingual)
The Underwater World in Marine Parks of Hong Kong (Crabs and other Marine Invertebrates) (one set of 3) (Bilingual)
Portraits of Marine Life – Art Competition (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)
Visiting coral areas – Codes for SCUBA divers and snorkelers (Bilingual)

Bookmarks

Mangroves Bookmark (one set of 3) (Bilingual)
Hard Corals of Hong Kong (one set of 20) (Bilingual)
Exploration thru Nature Bookmark (Chinese version only)
Hong Kong Wetland Park Bookmark (one set of 30) (Bilingual)
Marine Parks Bookmark (one set of 7) (Bilingual)
Marine Parks Visitor Code Magnetic Bookmark (one set of 4) (Chinese version only)

Field Guides

Mangroves Habitats in Marine Parks of Hong Kong Field Guide (Bilingual)
A Photographic Guide to the Birds of Hong Kong (Bilingual)

Souvenir Cards

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

Notepad

Audio/Video CDs

Hong Kong Red Tide Information Network (Bilingual)

Encyclopedia of Hong Kong Dolphins (Chinese & English versions)

Protect Endangered Species (Bilingual)

Endangered Species Protection Liberal Studies Reference Materials (Chinese version only)

Hong Kong Wetland Park - An Introductory Video Guide (Cantonese, Putonghua, English, Japanese & Korean versions)

A Glimpse to the Breeding Black-faced Spoonbill (Cantonese, Putonghua & English versions)

Calendars

Protect Endangered Species Year Planner 2010 (Bilingual)

Protect Endangered Species Calendar Card 2010 (Bilingual)

Hong Kong Wetland Park Calendar Card 2010 (Bilingual)

Hong Kong Wetland Park Calendar 2010 (Bilingual)

Hong Kong Marine Parks Calendar 2010 (Bilingual)

Do Not Keep Backyard Poultry Calendar Card 2010 (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)

Postcards

Highlights of Islands (Bilingual)



Appendices

Appendix 14 AFCD WHOLESALE MARKETS THROUGHPUT AND VALUE 2007-09

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	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
	Tonne	\$M	Tonne	\$M	Tonne	\$M	Tonne	\$M	Tonne	\$M	Tonne	\$M	Tonne	\$M	Tonne	\$M	Tonne	\$M	Tonne	\$M	Tonne	\$M
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		
2008	159,652	1,356	31,287	703	35,945	350	96,598	939	15,140	249	21,081	203	65,987	553	18,665	558	80,859	497	525,214	5,408		
2009	165,790	1,323	32,430	717	39,324	388	95,400	944	12,540	215	22,400	237	47,000	357	11,944	369	67,460	379	494,288	4,929		



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Appendix 15 ORGANISATION CHART OF THE AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT (AS AT MARCH 31, 2010)



Senior Systems Manager

Executive Director/
Wetland Park

Biodiversity Conservation
Division

▪ Senior Conservation Officer/
Biodiversity

Technical Services Division

▪ Senior Conservation Officer/
Technical Services

Marine Conservation Division
(East)

▪ Senior Marine Conservation
Officer/ East

Engineering Division
▪ Senior Engineer





Appendices

Appendix 16 ESTABLISHMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT AS AT MARCH 31, 2010

Rank	Number
Directorate Staff	
Director	1
Deputy Director	1
Assistant Director	5
Professional Staff	
Senior Agricultural Officer	5
Agricultural Officer	13
Senior Fisheries Officer	7
Fisheries Officer	20
Senior Forestry Officer	12
Forestry Officer	36
Senior Veterinary Officer	6
Veterinary Officer	12
Senior Engineer	1
Engineer	4
Geotechnical Engineer	1
Land Surveyor	1
Technical staff	
Senior Co-operative Officer I	1
Senior Co-operative Officer II	1
Senior Co-operative Supervisor	2
Co-operative Supervisor I	3
Co-operative Supervisor II	11
Senior Field Officer	54
Field Officer I	158
Field Officer II	164
Senior Fisheries Supervisor	7
Fisheries Supervisor I	19
Fisheries Supervisor II	30

Fisheries Craft Technician I	4
Fisheries Technical Officer I	10
Fisheries Technical Officer II	11
Veterinary Technologist	5
Veterinary Laboratory Technician I	13
Veterinary Laboratory Technician II	25
Agricultural Laboratory Technician I	1
Senior Field Assistant	73
Field Assistant	347
Senior Technical Officer (Architectural)	1
Technical Officer (Architectural)	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
Administrative Support	
Chief Executive Officer	1
Senior Executive Officer	3
Executive Officer I	4
Executive Officer II	4
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	13
Assistant Clerical Officer	41
Clerical Assistant	53
Office Assistant	9
Senior Personal Secretary	1
Personal Secretary I	5
Personal Secretary II	8
Supervisor of Typing Services	1
Typist	5
Calligraphist	2
Confidential Assistant	2
Minor Staff	
Photographer I	1
Photoprinter II	1
Senior Artisan	6
Artisan	175
Laboratory Attendant	10
Chainman	5
Forest Guard	7
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
TOTAL:	1,959



Appendices

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



Appendices

Appendix 18 STATISTICS ON CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES AS AT MARCH 31, 2010

Type	No.	Membership	Share Capital (\$)	Deposit (\$)
PRIMARY PRODUCERS	117	7,225	618,986	767,128
Agriculture	54	5,490	568,411	47,135
Federation of Vegetable Marketing Societies*	1	26	5,200	--
Federation of Pig Raising Societies*	1	9	56,050	--
Agricultural Credit	1	34	25,000	--
Farmers Irrigation	1	23	115	--
Pig Raising	9	400	415,780	27,858
Vegetable Marketing	28	3,892	47,026	5,277
Better Living	13	1,106	19,240	14,000
Fisheries	63	1,735	50,575	719,993
Federation of Fishermen Societies*	4	34	4,000	25,328
Fishermen Credit	43	597	9,815	694,665
Credit and Housing	1	15	140	--
Better Living	15	1,089	36,620	--
NON-PRODUCERS	88	4,378	1,346,815	1,458,368
Thrift and Loan	1	339	13,560	1,458,368
Federation of Co-operative Building Societies	1	9	900	--
*	67	1,178	1,005,200	--
Building	10	2,728	161,845	--
Consumers	9	124	165,310	--
Workers				
GRAND TOTAL	205	11,603	1,965,801	2,225,496

* Societies as Members;



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Appendix 19 STATISTICS ON CREDIT UNIONS AS AT MARCH 31, 2010

Common Bond	No.	Membership	Share Capital (\$)	Reserve Fund (\$)
Associational	18	2 918	103,241,211	6,306,749
Churches	14	2 393	44,731,673	3,674,153
Social Centres / Services	2	420	8,841,149	430,729
Benevolent Association	1	50	1,536,387	45,212
Credit Union*	1	55	48,132,002	2,156,655
Employment	25	69 660	5,893,860,759	174,617,574
Civil Servants	11	47 428	4,254,650,952	127,980,272
Company Employees	4	19 106	1,333,714,473	23,737,427
Industrial Employees	2	149	2,497,018	271,954
Association Employees	6	709	14,585,101	1,425,861
University Employees	2	2 268	288,413,215	21,202,060
Residential	2	121	1,148,547	63,053
Housing Estates	2	121	1,148,547	63,053
GRAND TOTAL	45	72 699	5,998,250,517	180,987,376

* Hong Kong League Central Credit Union





Appendices

Appendix 20 ENDANGERED SPECIES CONTROL STATISTICS 2009-10

Licences/Certificates issued	
Import Licence	1,035
Export Licence	12,993
Possession Licence	291
Re-export Certificate	4,347
Others	32
Inspections	
Import consignment	18,130
Export consignment	1,196
Transshipment	529
Inspection of local shops	1,307
Enforcement	
Investigation	377
Seizure	338
Successful prosecution	126
Education and Publicity	
Seminar/talk organised	40
Exhibition organised	34
Visitor to Endangered Species Resource Centre	6,883