



MoniQA Melamine News Update 30/11/2008

China: More eggs found containing melamine

(29 October 2008)

Health authorities in Hong Kong have found more eggs contaminated with the chemical melamine. Contaminated eggs were found in a batch produced by Jingshan Pengchang Agriculture Product Company, located in Hubei province, about 430 miles (695 km) east of Shanghai, the center said in a statement Tuesday.

Although much lower in melamine content than contaminated eggs produced by Hanwei Eggs that were discovered last week in Hong Kong, the Jingshan eggs were still above the legal limit. Health officials in Zhejiang City also found melamine in Ciyunxiang-brand eggs produced by Changzhi City Green Biological Development Center, from Shanxi Province.

The concern is that melamine has now entered the animal feed chain more widely than originally believed and a much wider range of animal produce will need to be assessed for possible contamination.

Fears widen over melamine contamination

(28 October 2008)

A UN agency is calling on China to immediately disclose if an industrial chemical found in dairy products has been used in livestock feed and contaminated the wider food chain. The recent discovery of melamine in mainland chicken eggs sold in Hong Kong has triggered worries that the chemical was present in a wide range of foods such as farm-raised meats and fish, a UN official said. Zhang Zhongjun, program officer with the UN Food and Agricultural Organisation, said China's agriculture ministry was investigating the possibility that melamine had been mixed into farming feed. "But we do not know the details of the investigation... we want them to immediately report to us the results of their findings," Zhang said.

For more information paste the following link into your browser:
<http://news.brisbanetimes.com.au/world/fears-widen-over-melamine-contamination-20081028-5ae9.html>

Melamine contamination spreads to Chinese eggs

(27 October 2008)

Levels of melamine up to 4.7 parts per million have been found in Chinese eggs in Hong Kong at the weekend. This has prompted the Hong Kong authorities to expand health tests to include meat products imported from China, a senior



official said Sunday. The legal limit for melamine in foodstuffs in Hong Kong is 2.5 ppm.

Hong Kong Secretary for Food and Health York Chow said the melamine may have come from feed given to the chickens that laid the eggs. "The preliminary opinion experts have given us is that there is a problem with the (chicken) feed," Chow told reporters Saturday.

In an earlier egg-related food safety scare in Hong Kong and China the banned cancer-causing industrial dye, Sudan Red, was used to color egg yolks.

UN issues paper on food safety in China

(23 October 2008)

The United Nations system yesterday launched a paper on food safety in China. The paper sets out recommendations for where China can focus energy in making improvements in the food safety system. This paper was released a day before the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress (NPC) was to review the draft law on food safety.

For more information, paste this link into your browser:

<http://www.un.org.cn/cms/p/news/27/842/content.html>

News items compiled by Dr. Miles Thomas, CSL

About MoniQA – www.moniqa.org

MoniQA ("Monitoring and Quality Assurance in the Food Supply Chain") is a Network of Excellence (NoE) funded by the European Commission under the 6th Framework Programme. The Network aims to make food safer by harmonising methods for food analysis. The project is coordinated by the Vienna-based International Association for Cereal Science and Technology (ICC). More than 155 researchers and scientist from 33 international partners from 20 countries are involved in MoniQA.

For further information please take a look at the MoniQA website (www.moniqa.org) and/or contact:

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