

MEDIA RELEASE

Importer fined \$4,600 for illegal import of fresh and processed vegetables

Neo Teck Yong, licensee of He Sheng Vegetable Supplier, was fined \$4,600 by the Court today for illegally importing fresh and processed vegetables for sale on two occasions.

2 On 13 July 2021, officers from Singapore Food Agency (SFA) detected 351kg of undeclared fresh vegetables and 24.8kg of undeclared processed vegetables in the consignments imported from Malaysia by Neo. On 2 June 2022, 47.4 kg of undeclared processed vegetable was detected in a consignment imported from Malaysia by Neo.



A total of about 376kg of undeclared fresh and processed vegetables were detected and seized on 13 July 2021.
(Photo: SFA)

3 In Singapore, food imports must meet SFA's requirements. Fruits and vegetables can only be imported by licensed importers, and every consignment must be declared and accompanied with a valid import permit. Illegally imported vegetables are of unknown sources and can pose a food safety risk (e.g. if unregulated or high level of pesticides are used). The long-term ingestion of excessive pesticide residues through the consumption of vegetables that have been subjected to pesticide abuse could lead to adverse health effects.

4 Offenders who illegally import fresh fruits and vegetables shall be liable on conviction to a maximum fine of \$10,000 and/or imprisonment for a term not exceeding three years. Offenders who illegally import processed fruits and vegetables shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$1,000 and in the case of a subsequent conviction, to a fine not exceeding \$2,000.

Issued by the Singapore Food Agency

30 Aug 2022