



'Longkou' Brand Vermicelli Safe For Consumption

The Agri-Food & Veterinary Authority (AVA) monitors the world food health situation closely for potential health threats. AVA immediately launched an investigation into the issue once we were alerted to the report by China Central Television (CCTV) that harmful chemicals are used in "Longkou" vermicelli produced in Longkou and Yantai cities in Shandong, China.

2 Samples of the "Longkou" vermicelli imported from Shandong were taken for laboratory analysis. They have been found to be safe for consumption. The "harmful chemicals" quoted by the CCTV report were in fact benzoyl peroxide and ammonium bicarbonate. Both are safe additives which are approved in Singapore and internationally for use in food, particularly cereal products. They are not carcinogens and are not substances that can be readily converted into a carcinogen under natural or food manufacturing environments.

3 AVA monitors imported foods, including vermicelli, on a regular basis. Products which are found not in compliance with our food safety requirements will be removed or destroyed. Vermicelli available in Singapore is safe for consumption.

**Issued by Agri-Food & Veterinary Authority
Ministry of National Development
on 7 May 2004**

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