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Report Highlights:

Bite size local news, Post reports and activity summaries wrapped by ATO Hong Kong. In this issue: Ginseng Board of Wisconsin Shares Ginseng Love at Festival's Press Event; China – U.S. Meeting Sends Positive Signals for Global Economic Recovery; Hong Kong Lowers Full-year Growth Forecast to 3.2 Percent; Macau Economy at 77 Percent of Pre-pandemic Levels; MICE Events to Increase by 50 Percent in 2023; Five of the Best Delicious USA Gourmet American Food Festival Restaurant Specials as Event Returns to Hong Kong and Macau for Fifth Time; Hong Kong's Japanese Restaurants Close as Patrons Take Off for Holidays; Macau Restaurant Takings Surge in September; Q3 Visitor Spending Above Pre-pandemic Levels; Hong Kong Suspends Imports of Poultry Meat and Products from 12 Counties in the United States.

Ginseng Board of Wisconsin Shares Ginseng Love at Festival's Press Event



Ginseng Noodles



Ginseng Soup



Ginseng Dessert

On November 10, 2023, ATO Hong Kong joined a visiting delegation from the Ginseng Board of Wisconsin at the Wisconsin Ginseng Love Festival Press Event. Twenty-six local influencers and five media representatives were introduced to a specially curated menu featuring different applications of Wisconsin Ginseng, a perfect ingredient for Cantonese cuisine. The Board also took the opportunity to recognize key Hong Kong traders for their longstanding partnership. Hong Kong has been a great customer of U.S. ginseng and the top export destination for many years. In fact, when the U.S. diplomatic relationship with Hong Kong began in 1843, the first U.S. Consul General helped introduce products like U.S. ginseng to the city. In 2022, U.S. ginseng exports to Hong Kong grew 13 percent compared to 2021 and valued at \$22 million. During the first nine months of 2023, U.S. ginseng exports grew 29 percent year-on-year. A special shout-out to our avid *Wonton* readers in Wisconsin!!

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ECONOMY



China - U.S. Meeting Sends Positive Signal for Global Economic Recovery [[The Standard](#), Nov 21]

Following the highly anticipated summit between President Xi Jinping and his U.S. counterpart, Joe Biden, there is growing optimism that increased communication, dialogue, and consultation between the world's two largest economies will strengthen cooperation, align common interests, and add much-needed certainty to the evolving global landscape. Bilateral economic and trade cooperation, long seen as the stabilizing force and driving factor in China-U.S. relations, is among the first to experience a thaw, as a series of dialogues and exchanges in this regard has sent a positive signal to both sides and the global economy. At the sixth China International Import Expo in Shanghai earlier this month, a total of \$505 million worth of deals were signed by exhibitors participating in the American Food and Agriculture Pavilion. The pavilion, co-hosted by the United States Department of Agriculture and AmCham Shanghai, marks the first U.S. government participation in the expo in six years.

Paul Chan Set to Attract U.S. Enterprises Doing Business in Hong Kong Amid APEC Meetings [[The Standard](#), Nov 12]

Financial Secretary Paul Chan Mo-po said that he hopes to attract American companies to develop business in Hong Kong when attending the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Finance Ministers' Meeting in San Francisco. He hopes to brief foreign leaders about the new opportunities in the city, such as finance and innovation technology development, while gaining a better understanding of the development situation, strategies, and global economic changes of different economies to make more friends. He added that Hong Kong will host the Hong Kong Monetary Authority-Bank of International Settlements High-Level Conference and the inaugural PRIORITY Asia Summit in November and December, respectively, showing the city as a bridge connecting China and the world under the One Country, Two System. Chan said that internationalization is Hong Kong's advantage and is also in the city's DNA, aiming to expand this advantage and its circle of friends.

Hong Kong Lowers Full-year Growth Forecast to 3.2 Percent, Government Economist Warns Geopolitical Tensions, High Interest Rates Affect Outlook [[SCMP](#), Nov 10; [HKSAR- Press Release](#), Nov 10]

The government has lowered its full-year forecast for Hong Kong's economic growth to 3.2 percent, warning that a worsening external environment, rising geopolitical tensions and high interest rates will continue to pose challenges. He explained a worsening external environment would continue to affect the city's economic outlook, but more visitors, increased household income and government initiatives such as the "Night Vibes Hong Kong" campaign could boost growth. In the third quarter, private consumption tapered off to 6.3 percent growth, year-on-year, compared with a 7.7 percent rise in the

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previous three-month period. The city's exports dropped by 8.6 percent due to weak external demand. Hong Kong's economy is closely linked to that of mainland China. In the third quarter, mainland's economy grew 1.3 percent compared to the previous three-month period, and 4.9 percent year-on-year amid a weakened property market. **ATO Notes:** The annual GDP estimate was lowered from 4 to 5 percent. Hong Kong's GDP growth grew 1.5 percent in the second quarter, down from a 2.9 percent increase in the first quarter.

Economy At 77 Percent of Pre-pandemic Levels [[Macau Daily Times](#), Nov 20]

In the third quarter of 2023, Macau's economy expanded 116.1 percent year-on-year, attributable to thriving services exports. Notably, growth in gaming services exports and other tourism services grew 781.4 percent and 255.4 percent, respectively. The city's GDP has been recovering since borders reopened in January after nearly three years of lockdown. Data from the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC) indicated imports of goods and services rose 25.7 percent and 58.2 percent, respectively. Conversely, exports of goods dropped 9 percent. For the first three quarters of 2023, GDP surged 77.7 percent year-on-year, and Macau's overall economic output returned to 77.4 percent of its 2019 level during the same period. Fitch Ratings had anticipated growth of up to 65 percent in Macau's economy this year driven by sustained recovery in the gaming and tourism sector. The ratings institution had anticipated it could take until at least end-2025 for GDP to return to 2019 levels, along with moderate non-gaming diversification.

Macau's Population is Now Bigger than Pre-pandemic Levels [[The Macau News](#), Nov 13]

At the end of the third quarter, Macau's population was estimated at 681,300 people or 1,700 more than there were in December 2019 – the last month before the pandemic struck. In a quarter-on-quarter comparison, the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC)'s latest figures show a jump of 2,500 people that the DSEC attributes to an increase in non-resident workers living in Macau. A massive hike that the DSEC attributed to an influx of non-resident workers outside of Macau rushing back to the city before pandemic-related entry restrictions started on February 20. **ATO Notes:** Macau has a very small population and continues to deal with labor shortages across sectors. In 2019, Macau's population was 679,600 people. During the pandemic, the city's population dropped significantly, hitting a low 671,900 people during the third quarter of 2022.

Casino Sector to “Unlikely” Reach \$23 Billion GGR [[Macau Daily Times](#), Nov 15]

Chief Executive Ho Iat Seng doubts that gross gaming revenue (GGR) will reach \$23 billion this year. The government's forecast for this year stands at only \$17 billion. However, Macau government's contracts with the six gaming concessionaires stipulated that an additional 20 percent of its pledge in the non-gaming investment will be required if gaming revenues recover to \$23 billion this year. Until October, the casino sector has already generated a GGR of \$19 billion. This comes after October figures hit another post-pandemic record high of \$2.5 billion, buoyed by the National Day Golden Week in early October. Meanwhile, Macau has recorded a slight slowdown in its casino floor revenues during the Grand Prix, with Citigroup analysts noting that “some big players avoided going to Macau” during the races over the weekend. **ATO Notes:** Although Macau is working to expand their tourism offerings, gaming still brings the most revenue to the city.

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Government: MICE Events to Increase by 50 Percent in 2023 [[Macau Daily Times](#), Nov 13]

The number of Meetings, Incentives, Conferences, and Exhibitions (MICE) events is projected to increase to 1,500, as efforts to return to pre-pandemic levels intensify. According to Sang from the Macau Trade and Investment Promotion Institute (IPIM), the convention and exhibition industry has experienced growing demand for venue rental and services for next year. He revealed that Macau will soon add direct flights to other ASEAN countries to foster this objective. The authorities continue to actively engage with international convention and exhibition industry organizations, participating in promotional activities in Barcelona, Spain later this month (November) and planning to attend special events of the International Association of the Exhibition Industry (UFI) in the Netherlands early next year. **ATO Notes:** The city continues to encourage the diversification of its economy. By running more MICE events, it aims to expand international customer sources and attract visitors from ASEAN countries.



HOTELS, RESTAURANTS, AND INSTITUTIONS

Five of the Best *Delicious USA* Gourmet American Food Festival Restaurant Specials as Event Returns to Hong Kong and Macau for Fifth Time [[SCMP](#), Nov 20]

Marking its fifth anniversary this year, *Delicious USA*, the gourmet food festival that celebrates the best of U.S. ingredients, is back in Hong Kong and Macau. The festival, which runs until the end of November, has partnered with 45 restaurants, with each one presenting one or more dishes that highlight the versatility and quality of U.S. ingredients. Participating restaurants run the gamut of cuisines, from Spanish and French to Filipino, Thai and Chinese, and the range of U.S. ingredients represented is equally diverse. As to be expected, plenty are showcasing USDA beef – there are more than 800,000 cattle operations across the United States – but plenty have also incorporated American seafood in their menus, with Boston lobster, and Alaskan cod being prime examples. **ATO Notes:** Check event highlights on our *Delicious USA* Chef Event LinkedIn [page](#). More highlights on the *Delicious USA* 2023 media launch [here](#).

Hong Kong's Japanese Restaurants Close as Patrons Take Off for Holidays [[SCMP](#), Nov 20]

Almost a third of Hong Kong's Japanese restaurants closed their doors permanently this year as the city's ban on imported seafood from Japan took its toll, on top of a slower than expected recovery in tourism, industry leaders have said. The cheap yen (\$0.07 for 100 yen) has meant more Hongkongers are travelling to Japan and finding that they can eat well for a fraction of what they would pay in the city. Ray Chui Man-wai, the president of catering body Institute of Dining Art, estimated at least 30 percent of Japanese restaurants had closed since the border with mainland China reopened at the beginning of the year. **ATO Notes:** Hong Kong has one of the largest Japanese restaurant sectors outside Japan, with

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1,400 restaurants last year. In the third quarter of 2023, total restaurant receipts dropped 1 percent to \$3.4 billion compared with previous three months. There is a significant hit on Japanese establishments after the Hong Kong government banned seafood imports from some Japanese prefectures in August. While local traders still believe that the impact of these bans will be temporary, cheaper regional currencies encouraging Hongkonger's latest craze to leisure travel is having a long-lasting impact on the city's food and beverage sector.

WestKowloon Nightscapes Bites Into The Vibe [[The Standard](#), Nov 17]

The West Kowloon Cultural District will organize WestK Nightscapes, providing visitors with delicious bites and free live music performances, accompanied by spectacular views of Victoria Harbor. For three weekends in November, the district will buzz until late with free live music fueling your nights. Visitors holding tickets to the M+ Museum and the Hong Kong Palace Museum can enjoy up to 20 percent discount offers at restaurants, cafes, food trucks and shops in West Kowloon Cultural District. Diners can have 20 percent off for any takeaway draught beer at Italian food restaurant Cafe Boheme and 10 percent off the whole menu at contemporary Chinese cuisine restaurant FAM. At Hooman by the Sea, a pet-friendly restaurant offering western food and coffee, visitors can enjoy 10 percent off or order a meal combo including a hot dog and a blue lemonade for \$13. **ATO Notes:** The WestK Nightscapes is one of many activities that city's private and public sector are undertaking to revive evening dining and other leisure spending.

Macau Restaurant Takings Surge in September [[Macau Daily Times](#), Nov 20]

Restaurant receipts went up 35.9 percent year-on-year in September 2023, according to the Statistics and Census Service. Leading the hike were Western Restaurants (+68.5 percent), followed by Chinese Restaurants (+46.5 percent), and Local Style Cafes, Congee & Noodle Shops (+35.3 percent), this increase was partially offset by the drop registered in Japanese & Korean Restaurant operations (-27.9 percent). **ATO Notes:** The drop in Japanese restaurant receipts can be partially attributed to the city government's ban on Japanese seafood (broader in scope than that imposed in Hong Kong). In addition, consumers are reportedly less interested in selecting food items from Japan or dining at Japanese restaurants.

Disney Concert to Sweep Audience Away with Nostalgia for Favorite Classic Songs [[Macau Daily Times](#), Nov 10]

Disney Princess – The Concert is coming to The Venetian Theatre to serenade Disney local audiences with Disney princesses' greatest hits. The concert features an award-winning cast of Broadway stars who have all performed in various Disney productions and will showcase such popular songs as "Let it Go," "A Whole New World," "How Far I'll Go," "Colors of the Wind," and "Almost There." **ATO Notes:** As mentioned in previous clips, Macau is looking to diversify its economy in many ways. Entertainments and MICE events are two offerings that the city is bringing to attract international tourists. The city is expected to host several events and shows in 2024. By offering more diverse leisure activities, Macau wishes to branch out beyond a gaming centric economy.

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Galaxy to Host 50 Concerts and 250 MICE Events in 2024 [[Macau Daily Times](#), Nov 15]

Gaming operator Galaxy Macau plans to host 50 concerts and 250 MICE events in 2024 as part of its pledge to diversify its non-gaming offerings. Following the enactment of the city’s largest gaming law overhaul, gaming concessionaires have pledged to invest \$15 billion in bold projects, the majority of which will be spent on non-gaming projects. The casino firms promised to spend \$14 billion – more than 90 percent of their total investment – on “exploring overseas customer markets and developing non-gaming projects.” For this reason, this year, gaming operators have begun holding international events, including sports events and large concerts. Galaxy alone will provide over 50 major concert nights and 250 MICE events in 2024. **ATO Notes:** During a keynote speech at the MGS Entertainment Show, Kevin Kelley, CEO – Macau at Galaxy, emphasized the need for industry stakeholders to align with the government’s objective of expanding non-gaming offerings and move away from gaming as the pillar of Macau’s economy.

Fritz, Griekspoor and Kasatkina Lead Star Lineup for The MGM Macau Tennis Masters [[Macau Daily Times](#), Nov 14]

MGM and IMG, a global leader in sports promotion and management, are excited to be bringing world-class tennis with an element of fun to Macau, attracting fans and visitors from all over the world to the city to this one-of-a-kind tennis fiesta. The MGM Macau Tennis Masters is set to unite six top international stars from the tennis world on the second and third of December at the Macau East Asia Games Dome, the largest indoor sports facility in the city. **ATO Notes:** After hosting F4 racing tournaments, Macau plans to continue to showcase itself as Asia’s leading destination for sports and entertainment by introducing their first organized tennis tournament.



RETAIL

First Food Stalls at the Lunar New Year Fairs Since the Pandemic Sold for Up To \$28,205 [[The Standard](#), Nov 13]

Four fast food stalls for the 2024 Victoria Park Lunar New Year Fair were auctioned as the sale of food is allowed at next year's fairs, for the first time since the pandemic. With an upset price of \$15,445 each, one of the stalls was sold with the highest bid reaching \$28,205. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) previously announced that stalls at the 2024 Lunar New Year fairs will be put up for open auction in batches. The fairs are to be held at 15 locations and will be open for seven days from February 4 to 10, 2024. A total of 902 wet goods stalls, 572 dry goods stalls, eight thematic stalls, and 25 fast food stalls will be provided. **ATO Notes:** Hong Kong Victoria Park is a hotspot for flower markets for Chinese New Year. Last year, 175 stalls were featured during the fair. This is the first year the fair will return to its normal operations since the pandemic, it is hoped that with active promotion, foot traffic will return to pre-pandemic levels.

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Louis Vuitton Teams Up With Hong Kong Tycoon to Host Debut Show [[The Standard](#), Nov 20]

Louis Vuitton will hold its first ever fashion show in Hong Kong, in partnership with the billionaire Cheng family, with the harbor-front event set to give a glimpse at the city's progress in reviving its status as a tourism and shopping hub. The high-profile event comes as Hong Kong struggles to claw back its appeal as a global luxury shopping hub. Years of harsh pandemic curbs battered its appeal for tourists, while visitors from mainland China — which account for about 80 percent of total inbound travel and are a core pillar of the city's retail landscape — are more cautious about how they splash their cash amid economic headwinds at home. The city still faces competitions from nearby gambling hub, Macau and China's tax-free island, Hainan. **ATO Notes:** Hong Kong's tourist arrivals in September had returned to 59 percent of 2018 levels. According to Hong Kong's Immigration Department, the total visitor arrivals in September 2023 contributed 2.7 million visitors (78 percent of travelers were from mainland). The latest air traffic review Hong Kong is also available in the news capture "Hong Kong Air Traffic to Make 'full recovery' Next Year as Passenger, Cargo Levels Rebuild" [[SCMP](#), Nov 21].

Wynn Sees Healthy Retail Sales, Narrowed Q3 Losses [[Macau Daily Times](#), Nov 14]

Net losses of Wynn Resorts Limited narrowed to \$116.7 million for the third quarter of 2023, compared to the \$142.9 million net loss attributable to Wynn Resorts Limited for the third quarter of 2022. In its financial statement for the third quarter of this year, Wynn's operating revenues were \$1.67 billion for the third quarter of 2023, an increase of \$782.2 million compared with the same quarter last year. On the non-gaming side, retail business continues to be incredibly strong, with tenant retail sales up 24 percent on Q3 2019 and hotel revenue up 20 percent relative to the third quarter of 2019. **ATO Notes:** Macau's city-wide gaming revenue during the first ten months of 2023 was \$19 billion. Retail sales for 2023 Jan to Sep accounted for \$6 million with a 50 percent increase year-on-year. Hotel occupancy at 78.6 percent in September 2023.

Q3 Visitor Spending Above Pre-pandemic Levels [[Macau Daily Times](#), Nov 17]

Total visitor spending (excluding gaming expenses) surged 576.7 percent year-on-year to \$1 billion in the third quarter of 2023, representing an increase of 28.9 percent compared to the same quarter in 2019. In the first three quarters of 2023, total visitor spending (including gaming) amounted to 6.7 billion, a jump of 290.3 percent year-on-year and an increase of 8.8 percent compared to the corresponding period in 2019. Per-capita visitor spending was \$335 in the first nine months, representing a fall of 14.5 percent year-on-year but a rise of 64.9 percent against the same period in 2019. In the third quarter, visitors spent primarily on shopping (44.3 percent), followed by accommodation (29.3 percent) and food & beverages (20.1 percent). **ATO Notes:** Echoing the report from Wynn hotel on retail performance and the data collected from DSEC, the overall visitor spending has been vastly improving compared to 2022. In addition to its gaming revenue, Macau's retail sales are increasing fueled primarily by the influx of visitors. It is worth noting that while the total spending per capita has not increased, the portion spent on retail shopping has expanded.

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TRADE

Liver-Damaging Aflatoxins Found in Peanut Butter, with Two Brands Exceeding the EU Limit [[The Standard](#), Nov 15]

A Consumer Council's test on 20 samples of peanut butter found that 60 percent of these contained aflatoxins. The test also found the aflatoxin B1 levels of two samples exceeded the upper limit of European Union standards. The consumer watchdog said the two samples found with aflatoxin B1 levels exceeding the EU limit are Fuyuan's Peanut Butter and YOWE's Peanut Butter Creamy. Gilly Wong Fung-han, the watchdog's chief executive, said the current legislation in Hong Kong stipulates that food should not contain more than 10 µg of aflatoxin per kilogram. **ATO Notes:** The United States is the second largest peanut butter supplier to Hong Kong after China. In recent years, Hong Kong consumers are opting for what they view as healthier food options, this has slowed demand and global imports of peanut butter. In the first 3 quarters of 2023, global imports dropped 11 percent to \$17 million.

DHL Express Unveils \$410 Million Expansion of Hong Kong Hub, Bets on City's International Logistics Center Status and New Three-runway System [[SCMP](#), Nov 14]

Total warehouse space at Central Asia Hub, one of DHL's three global hubs and its only such facility in Asia-Pacific, has increased to 49,500 square meters from 31,400 square meters in 2019. The expansion was initiated to complement the launch of Hong Kong airport's three-runway system, which is expected to be completed next year. The expansion of DHL Express's Central Asia Hub comes on the heels of Chief Executive John Lee Ka-chiu's policy address on October 25, in which he highlighted logistics development, saying it is "vital to our status as an international trade center." DHL is eager to strengthen their role as an air cargo transshipment hub for the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau Greater Bay Area, one of the world's largest manufacturing clusters and home to over 86 million potential customers. The company recorded more than 30 percent growth in throughput between Asia and other regions in the first three quarters of 2023, when compared with the same period in 2019, far exceeding pre-pandemic levels. **ATO Notes:** Hong Kong's airport is expected to reach a target of handling 10 million tons of cargo a year by 2035 with the full opening of its third runway, expected to more than double the amount of 2022. In 2022, under the pandemic restrictions, the total cargo handled was 4.2 million tons. From January to September 2023, the provisional cargo handled has already reached 3.1 million tons.

Hong Kong Customs seizes suspected smuggled dried seafood [[HKSAR- Press Release](#), Nov 13]

Hong Kong Customs mounted an anti-smuggling operation at the Shenzhen Bay Control Point and detected a suspected smuggling case involving a cross-boundary private car. A batch of suspected smuggled dried seafood, including about 57 kilograms of dried sea cucumber, 28kg of dried fish maw and 2.2kg of bird nest, with a total estimated market value of about \$144,872 was seized. **ATO Notes:**

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In 2022, Hong Kong imported \$1.8 billion worth of dried seafood. In the first three quarters of 2023, imports grew 11 percent to \$1.4 billion year-on-year. Dried seafood is popularly used in Canton cuisine, Hong Kong consumers use dried seafood for dishes and soups as they believe the taste and essence are well captured in the dehydration process. Consumers also appreciate the products' long shelf-life.

Customs Busts \$50,000 Worth of Suspected Smuggled Hairy Crabs [[The Standard](#), Nov 20]

Hong Kong Customs announced that they busted the smuggling of hairy crabs at the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge Hong Kong Port. Officers found a batch of suspected smuggled hairy crabs inside the cargo compartment of the vehicle. They seized a total of 6,400 hairy crabs weighing 920 kilograms, with a market value of \$50,000. **ATO Notes:** Hairy crab is a seasonal but popular dish in Hong Kong local during the fall months. As the crabs are only available for two-three months a year, Hong Kong locals are overwhelmed with promotions during this time. Due to its scarcity, hairy crabs tend to be expensive, costing around \$100 per kilogram and restaurant will feature hairy crab feast which cost around \$100 per set where consumers will get two crabs per meal. Crabs are mostly imported from Yangcheng Lake in Jiangsu Province.

Pig Disposal Procedure on Yuen Long Pig Farm with Pigs Found with ASF Virus Completed [[HKSAR - Press Release](#), Nov 21]

Regarding the incident announced on November 7 where samples of pigs from a local pig farm were detected with African Swine Fever (ASF), the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) launched a disposal operation on November 9. According to the contingency plan on ASF, the AFCD has sent staff to dispose of and handle a total of 5,624 pigs on the licensed farm in Lau Fau Shan, Yuen Long, since November 9. The operation was completed today. The AFCD will continue to investigate and trace the source of the ASF virus with international experts and keep local pig farms under close surveillance as well as conducting tests if necessary. **ATO Notes:** Hong Kong has very limited agricultural production and about 15 percent of live pig are locally raised. Most of Hong Kong's live pigs (for slaughter) are supplied by mainland China due to the easiness of inland transport.

Hong Kong Suspends Imports of Poultry Meat and Products from 12 Counties in the United States [[HKSAR - Press Release](#), Nov 13; [HKSAR - Press Release](#), Nov 20]

The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department that in view of a notification from the World Organization for Animal Health (WOAH) about outbreaks of highly pathogenic H5N1 avian influenza, it has suspended imports from Stearns, Wright and Steele County of the State of Minnesota; Hamilton, Kossuth, and Taylor County of the State of Iowa; Benton and Jasper County of the State of Missouri; Charles Mix and Roberts County of the State of South Dakota; Marshall County of the State of Alabama; and Madison County of the State of Arkansas in the United States (US). **ATO Notes:** As of this report, a total of 29 U.S. counties in eight states are currently banned from exporting poultry meat and products to Hong Kong due to AI. However, the reinstatement of imports from various other U.S. counties have spurred the value of U.S. poultry exports to the city to recover significantly, reaching \$64 million in the first nine months of 2023 and already exceeding the total value of exports in 2022. Conversely, the situation for U.S. eggs exports has not improved, during the same period, U.S. egg exports declined 63 percent compared to last year. Importers who turned to

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other suppliers as a result of higher U.S. prices last year have not returned to procure U.S. eggs despite improvements in price.

Hong Kong Suspends Imports of Poultry Meat and Products from South Holland District of Lincolnshire County of the United Kingdom, Areas in Canada, Province of Padua of Veneto Region in Italy and Areas in Hungary and Netherlands [[HKSAR - Press Release](#), Nov 10; [HKSAR - Press Release](#), Nov 15; [HKSAR - Press Release](#), Nov 16; [HKSAR - Press Release](#), Nov 20]

The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department announced that in view of a notification from the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) about outbreaks of the highly pathogenic H5N1 avian influenza, it has suspended imports from Rural Municipality of Fertile Valley No. 285 of Saskatchewan Province and Arthabaska Regional County of Quebec Province in Canada, Csongrád-Csanád County in Hungary, Utrecht Province in the Netherlands, Province of Padua of Veneto Region in Italy and South Holland District of Lincolnshire County of the United Kingdom. **ATO Notes:** The affected countries mentioned in this story are not top suppliers to Hong Kong. Last year, Hong Kong’s global imports of poultry meat were \$935 million while global imports of eggs and egg products were \$302 million. During the first ten months of 2023, imports of these products have increased.

IAM Warns Against Eating HK-Imported ‘Dried Lily Bulb’ [[The Macau Daily Post](#), Nov 13]

The Municipal Affairs Bureau (IAM) said in a statement that it was recently notified by Hong Kong’s Centre for Food Safety that a prepackaged “dried lily bulb” product was found to be affected by excessive cadmium contamination, urging the public to stop consuming it. The statement pointed out that the product was found to contain a cadmium content of 0.80 parts per million, exceeding the food safety standards of Macau’s maximum levels of heavy metals in food.

Hungry for more information about the Hong Kong and Macau markets?

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No Attachments.