

## **Tips to purchase the goods and food for New Year**

Chinese New Year is coming more and more variety of food into the market. Miaoli County Public Health Bureau is taking randomly inspection for 132 pieces of different food product among the county, 87 of them had been taken, and 2 of them is having too much sulphur dioxide. The county bureau will not only force the retailer withdraw the product, but also to tract the source of these product and giving the punishment.

The Miaoli County Public Health Bureau will randomly inspect the food for Chinese New Year from January to February 2007, including product made by fish, meat, rice cake, dry food, etc. The inspect category are the artificial color, artificial flavors and preservatives. The bureau will give advice and inspect the food manufacturer in the county to protect the health and security of consumers. The Bureau will also enhance more inspection to the wholesalers, supermarkets, convenient stores, and traditional market where the consumer will go for the food and product for New Year. The product with individual packing and unrecognizable source will be the focus.

When purchasing the food for holiday, the consumers should stop, watch and listen, and be aware of the following:

1. To buy those products with complete pack from big brand manufacturer, don't buy the product with unclearly source.
2. To buy those products with clear product name, ingredient, net weight, capacity or quantity, the name of extra additive, the name, address and

phone number of manufacturer, the expired date. Don't buy those products with unclear introduction.

3. When purchasing the frozen food, buy those with CAS tag and complete packing without damage. Don't buy those products with unfrozen or frost on the surface. After buying frozen product, consumer should shorten the time between purchase and get back to home, and to keep them frozen storage based on the introduction by manufacturer (below the temperature of 7 degree Celsius to keep it cool, below the temperature of minus 18 degree Celsius to keep it froze.) Try not to buy too much each time to keep the freshness.

Executive director of Miaoli County Public Health Bureau Dr. Lo

encourage all the citizen not to buy the product without clear source, especially for those with bright color or extra whiten food products, such as daylily with unnatural yellow color, sausage, ham, dry shrimp and preservative dry meat with special red color, dry radish and dry fish with special white color. These kind of food may have too much of additive, therefore consumers should be careful about the product they purchase, or to buy those product with GMP or CAS tag on them to protect the health of family and have a happy Chinese New Year.