Violation Risk of Illegal Animal Products Carried by Air-Passengers

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ABSTRACT The aim of this study was to evaluate the violation risk of illegal carrying animal products by air-passengers at international airport. Violation data were retrieved from the Bureau of Animal and Plant Health Inspection and Quarantine (BAPHIQ) in Taiwan. The data of Chiang Kai-Shek International Airport (CKS) are during 2003/10/1 to 2005/9/30, and those of Kaohsiung International Airport (KHH) are during 2004/10/1 to 2005/9/30. The violation data were classified according to types, origins, weights of animal products, month of violation, passenger’s age, gender and nationality. Monte Carlo simulations with 5000 iterations were applied to estimate the predicted violation numbers considering each risk factor. The results showed that BAPHIQ at CKS improved its inspection efficiency during 2004/10/1 to 2005/9/30 than the previous year by showing a relative lower violation risk. During the period of Chinese Lunar New Year, CKS and KHH are both had higher violation risks than those of other month period. The simulation results showed that male Taiwanese passengers have the greatest violations, but Non-Taiwanese-related females have the highest risk. Passengers at CKS from South East Asia countries showed the highest violation risk, but it was Chinese-related passengers at KHH. Animal-quarantine authority in Taiwan should focus on passengers of the above two nationalities in each international airport. [Shih TH, Shen LC, Hsu CY, Chang YH, Chou CC. Violation Risk of Illegal Animal Products Carried by Air-Passengers. Taiwan Vet J 32(3): 210-216, 2006. * Corresponding author TEL: 886-2-2363 0495, FAX: 886-2-2363 0495, E-mail: chouchin@ntu.edu.tw]

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