

5 Nov. 1988

Animal trade permits to cost more next year

FEES for two licences and one permit issued under the Public Health (Animals and Birds) Ordinance will increase by 14 to 50 percent next year, the Agriculture and Fisheries Department announced yesterday.

The revised fees, which will take effect on January 1, involve animal trader licences, dairy licences and temporary exhibition permits.

It is the first time in 14 years that the fees would be raised, a department official said.

The animal trader licence fee will increase from \$700 to \$800 per year, and from \$350 to \$400 per half year, marking a 14 percent increase.

The dairy licence fee will go up by 20 percent, from \$25 to \$30 per cow per year, and from \$1,000 to \$1,200 per dairy per year.

The fee for temporary

exhibition permits will increase from \$200 to \$300 per exhibition.

Dr Norman Cheng, AFD senior veterinary officer, said the fee revision was the second phase in the recovery of costs required for administering the various licence and permit requirements under the ordinance.

"The levels of fees charged for the issue of these licences and permits had not been increased for more than 14 years," Dr Cheng said.

He said the Government had decided to raise the fees to cover the full cost of providing the services by phases on April 1, January 1 next year and January 1, 1990.

The decision was reached after the Government examined carefully the prevailing fee levels and the nature and success rate of the businesses involved.