

31 JUL 1987

# 20 beaches get top marks in new EPD grading scheme

By Tonny Chan

THE Environmental Protection Department (EPD) yesterday announced a grading scheme where the quality of water found at all beaches used by the public will be categorised regularly.

Principal environmental protection officer Mr Paul Holmes said the purpose of the grading system was to inform the public about the water quality of the beaches they might use.

Starting this week the grading — consisting of grades A, B and C — will be announced every two weeks during the summer.

Two beaches have got 'C' ratings which mean they are unsuitable for swimming. The two are Silvermine Bay beach on Lantau Island and Castle Peak Bay in Tuen Mun.

A hundred millilitres of seawater was found to contain at least 1000 units of a bacteria called Median E Coli at these two beaches which was 10 times higher than the "good" beaches, an EPD spokesman said.

Of the 45 beaches on the list, 20 were classified grade A and

## How the beaches rate:

BEACH	GRADE	BEACH	GRADE
Hongkong South		Sai Kung District	
Big Wave Bay	A	Campers	A
Chung Hom Kok	B	Clear Water Bay 1st Beach	B
Deep Water Bay	B	Clear Water Bay 2nd Beach	A
Hairpin	A	Hap Mun Bay	A
Middle Bay	B	Kiu Tsui	A
Repulse Bay	B	Pak Sha Chau	A
Shek O	A	Silverstrand	A
South Bay	B	Trio (Hebe Haven)	A
St. Stephen's	B	Tsuen Wan District	
Turtle Cove	A	Anglers'	B
Stanley Main	B	Approach	B
Rocky Bay, Shek O	B	Casam	B
To Tei Wan*	A	Gemini	B
Islands District		Hoi Mei Wan	B
Cheung Sha Upper	A	Lido	B
Cheung Sha Lower	B	Ting Kau	B
Discovery Bay*	A	Tung Wan, Ma Wan	A
Hung Shing Yeh	A	Tuen Mun District	
Kwun Yam Wan	A	Old Cafeteria	B
Tong Fuk	B	New Cafeteria	B
Lo So Shing	A	Castle Peak	C
Pui O	B	Kadoorie Beach	B
Silvermine Bay	C	Butterfly	B
Tung Wan, Cheung Chau	A		
Tung O*	A		

23 grade B.

Under the grading system, grade A indicates a bacteria count of between zero and 99

per 100 millilitres and good water. Grade B indicates a count between 100 and 999 and acceptable water.