

2026 food audit programme: non-EU countries targeted for controls

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European Commission: [Health and food audits and analysis programme – 2026](#)

What is changing and why?

The European Commission performs controls (audits and remote assessments) of European Member States and non-EU countries to ensure they have systems in place to guarantee that food put on the European Union (EU) market meets EU rules for food safety and plant and animal health.

In 2026, the following audits are planned.

- Albania – pre-accession to the EU: import controls; food safety; pesticides and contaminants; plant health.
- Argentina – poultry meat; wild hares.
- Bangladesh – pesticides in food of plant origin; residues of pharmacologically active substances, pesticides, and contaminants in animals and animal products.
- Bosnia and Herzegovina – pre-accession to the EU: residues of pharmacologically active substances, pesticides, and contaminants in animals and animal products; public health control system (beef, sheep, and goats).
- Brazil – beef.
- Cambodia – fishery products; residues of pharmacologically active substances, pesticides, and contaminants in animals and animal products.
- China – animal health (poultry meat); plant health; food safety (eggs, fish oil); food contact materials with (or containing) recycled plastic.
- Costa Rica – plant health.
- India – food contact materials with (or containing) recycled plastic.
- Kenya – pesticides in food of plant origin.
- Madagascar – pesticides in food of plant origin.
- Montenegro – pre-accession to the EU: plant health; import controls.
- Moldova – pre-accession to the EU: agri-food chain; food safety; animal health (pork); public health (pork heat-treated meat products); residues of pharmacologically active substances, pesticides, and contaminants in animals and animal products.
- Panama – fishery products, including fish oil; residues of pharmacologically active substances, pesticides, and contaminants in animals and animal products.

- Peru – plant health.
- Senegal – certification of seed.
- Serbia – microbial safety of food of non-animal origin.
- Sri Lanka – pesticides in food of plant origin.
- Thailand – animal health (poultry and eggs); plant health; pesticides in food of plant origin.
- Tunisia – residues of pharmacologically active substances, pesticides, and contaminants in animals and animal products.
- Türkiye – pre-accession to the EU: control mycotoxins in pistachios and dried figs; food contact materials with (or containing) recycled plastic; fishery products; food irradiation facilities; residues of pharmacologically active substances, pesticides, and contaminants in animals and animal products.
- Uganda – plant health.
- Ukraine – animal health (pork); public health (porcine heat-treated meat products).
- Viet Nam – live bivalve molluscs.

The audit process involves detailed pre-audit questionnaires and site visits, and the audit reports give recommendations for addressing non-compliances. In addition, the EU uses questionnaires to assess compliance with EU standards, particularly regarding residue control plans.

In 2026, the following remote assessments are planned.

On fishery products:

- Cabo Verde
- Malaysia
- Nigeria
- Papua New Guinea
- Senegal
- Solomon Islands

On **residues of pharmacologically active substances – food of animal origin**: about 30 remote assessments are planned. All residue control plans of non-EU countries must be checked at least once every 5 years. A new 5-year cycle starts in 2026.

Actions

Exporting countries must prepare for audits by maintaining detailed and organised records. This means documenting all procedures, controls, and corrective actions taken to meet EU requirements, and collecting clear evidence of system improvements, training logs, health and safety checks, and traceability.

Timeline

This programme highlights the audits and remote assessments planned for 2026.

For more information see the [full record](#) on the AGRINFO website – where you can also view the latest [AGRINFO Update](#) newsletters and [search](#) the database.

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