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

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European Commission: Health and food audits – Programme July to December 2026

What is changing and why?

The European Commission performs "controls" (audits and remote assessments) of European Union (EU) Member States and non-EU countries to ensure they have systems in place to guarantee that food put on the EU market meets EU rules for food safety, and for plant and animal health. In relation to AGRINFO partner countries, the following audits are planned for July–December 2026.

EU enlargement

- Moldova – official controls in the agri-food chain; pesticides and contaminants; animal health, animal welfare, and animal by-products; food safety
- Montenegro – plant health

Animal health

- China – poultry (meat, eggs, and products)
- Paraguay – cattle meat products

Food safety

- Bangladesh – residues and contaminants in products of animal origin
- Cabo Verde – fishery products
- China – poultry and rabbit meat products; fishery products (fish oil only); food contact materials from recycled plastic
- India – food contact materials from recycled plastic
- Madagascar – pesticides in food of plant origin
- Malaysia – fishery products
- Nigeria – fishery products
- Panama – fishery products, including fish oil
- Papua New Guinea – fishery products
- Senegal – fishery products
- Solomon Islands – fishery products

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- Tunisia – residues and contaminants in animals and animal products
- Türkiye – contaminants in pistachios and dried figs; residues and contaminants in products of animal origin
- Viet Nam – live bivalve molluscs

Plant health

- China – planting materials
- Costa Rica – planting materials
- Uganda – plants and plant products
- Zimbabwe – plants and plant products (citrus fruits)

The audit process involves detailed pre-audit questionnaires and site visits. Audit reports give recommendations for addressing non-compliances.

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

The updated programme covers audits and controls planned from **July to December 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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