EU Food and Veterinary Audits Programme 2027

Published by AGRINFO on 11 Sep 2026

European Commission: Food and Veterinary Audits Programme 2027

The 2027 programme

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

For 2027, the European Commission plans 144 controls for the agri-food chain worldwide, of which around 55% will be conducted in non-EU countries wishing to export, or already exporting, to the EU. Among these non-EU countries, 58 controls will take place on the ground, and eight audits are planned for border control posts in EU Member States. Twelve further audits will be conducted in countries that are candidates to join the EU. In addition, about 30 desk-based (remote) assessments of residue control plans will be carried out.

Planned audits of non-EU countries by sector and topic are listed in Table 1. For planned audits of EU candidate countries, see Table 2. Note that audits for non-EU countries not covered by the scope of the AGRINFO programme are not covered in this report.

Further audits are planned in the areas of animal health (one audit of a non-EU country), food safety in animal products (two audits of non-EU countries), and plant health (two audits of non-EU candidates looking to join the EU), with the countries to be audited still to be decided.

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

In addition, about 30 remote (desk-based) assessments are planned on residues of pharmacologically active substances in food of animal origin.

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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 AGRINFO report highlights the audits and remote assessments planned for 2027.

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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Tables & Figures

Table 1: Audits of non-EU countries planned for 2027

	Scope			
Country	Food safety	Antimicrobial resistance	Animal health	Plant health
Argentina	Residues and contaminants (animals and animal products; aflatoxins in peanuts); plant products (notably berries); meat (poultry)			
Bolivia	Irradiation			
Brazil	Residues and contaminants (pesticides in fruit and vegetables); meat (poultry)			
China	Plant products; irradiation			
Ecuador	Fishery products (tuna); residues and contaminants (pesticides in fruit and vegetables)			
Fiji	Fishery products			
Guatemala	Fishery products			
Honduras	Residues and contaminants (animals and animal products)			
India	Residues and contaminants (animals and animal products; pesticides in fruit and vegetables)			
Indonesia	Fishery products; residues and contaminants (animals and animal products)			

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	Scope			
Morocco	Residues and contaminants (pesticides in fruit and vegetables)	Veterinary medicinal products (prohibition of use)		Plants and plant products
Namibia	Fishery products; residues and contaminants (animals and animal products); meat (beef)		Bovine (foot and mouth disease)	
Nicaragua	Residues and contaminants (animals and animal products)			
North Macedonia			Poultry (meat)	
Paraguay	Plant products (notably sesame seeds)			
Peru	Residues and contaminants (pesticides in fruit and vegetables)			Plant products (bacterial wilt in ginger)
South Africa	Fishery products (highly and ultra-processed); food contact materials (from recycled plastic)			
Suriname	Fishery products			
Tanzania	Fishery products			
Thailand	Live bivalve molluscs; meat (poultry)	Veterinary medicinal products (prohibition of use)		Plant products (bacterial wilt; curcuma and ginger)
Türkiye	Live bivalve molluscs			
Uganda	Fishery products			
Venezuela	Fishery products			
Viet Nam	Fishery products (highly and ultra-processed); plant products (notably black pepper)		Animal by-products: feed of insect origin	
Zambia				Planting material (quality of seeds)

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Table 2: Audits of EU candidate countries planned for 2027 (EU enlargement)

	Scope				
Country	Food safety	Plant protection (sustainable use of pesticides; residues)	Animal health	Plant health	Import controls (live animals, plants and their products)
Albania	X		+ Animal welfare and animal by-products		X
Moldova				X	X
Montenegro	X	X	X		X
Ukraine		X			

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