

EUROPHYT interceptions in February 2024

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European Commission (2024) [Number of occurrences of harmful organism\(s\) in commodities imported into the EU or Switzerland \(February 2024\)](#)

What is changing and why?

This report summarises [EUROPHYT](#) interceptions of products entering the European Union from low- and middle-income countries that occurred in February 2024.

There were 70 EUROPHYT interceptions due to harmful organisms affecting 17 countries (see Table 1), and 330 interceptions due to other non-conformities affecting 38 partner countries (see Table 2).

A shipment is intercepted at EU border controls when products do not comply with the EU's phytosanitary requirements. EUROPHYT reports the presence of harmful organisms and other non-conformities found during inspections. Interceptions due to "other non-conformities" are usually caused by an inaccurate or missing phytosanitary certificate.

EUROPHYT interceptions can have significant impacts on importers, exporters and producers. Those affected may face delayed shipments, additional costs of testing and inspection, and potential rejections or destruction of their products as well as reputational damage.

Actions

Producers and exporters must take proactive measures to ensure their products comply with EU phytosanitary requirements to avoid the risk of interceptions. This can include implementing effective pest management strategies, using certified seeds and planting material, and complying with regulations and standards.

Timeline

February 2024

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.

Tables & Figures

Table 1
EUROPHYT interceptions due to harmful organisms on
fruit and vegetables, leafy vegetables, and leaves – February 2024

Country of origin	N*	Intercepted products	Harmful organisms
Brazil	11	Limes	Fungus, citrus canker
		Passion fruit	Fruit flies
Cambodia	1	Peppers	Fruit flies
China	1	Grapefruit	Fungus
Colombia	8	Limes	Fungus
		Tamarillos	Tomato fruit borer
		Physalis	Tobacco budworm
Congo	11	Solanaceae	Nematodes, whiteflies, leaf-miner flies, moths
		Amaranths	Whiteflies
		Cassava	Whiteflies
		Chicory	Leaf-miner flies
		Onions	Leaf-miner flies
		Spinaches	Moths
		Non-specified vegetables	Moths, whiteflies
Ecuador	1	Asparagus	Fall armyworm
Egypt	1	Guava	Fruit flies
India	2	Gourds	Fruit flies
Kenya	19	Beans	Moths
		Basil	Fall armyworm, whiteflies, leaf-miner flies
		Brassica vegetables	Moths
		Sweet corn	Moths
		Peas	Moths
		Gourds	Fruit flies
Mexico	3	Asparagus	Fall armyworm, yellow-striped armyworm
Peru	2	Asparagus	Tobacco budworm, fall armyworm
Senegal	2	Eggplants	Moths
Sri Lanka	1	Gourds	Fruit flies
Suriname	2	Celery	Moths
Thailand	3	Asparagus	Thrips
		Curcuma	Bacterial disease (<i>Ralstonia</i>)
		Coriander	Whiteflies
Vietnam	1	Rambutan	Fruit flies
Zimbabwe	1	Peppers	False codling moth

*N = number of interceptions.

Source: [EUROPHYT monthly report](#)

Table 2
EUROPHYT interceptions due to other non-conformities on
fruit and vegetables, leafy vegetables, and leaves – February 2024

Country of origin	N*	Intercepted products	Country of origin	N*	Intercepted products
Algeria	1	Sweet and chili peppers	Egypt	62	Celery
Argentina	2	Garlic			Sweet and chili peppers
Bolivia	1	Potatoes			Mandarin
Brazil	3	Persian limes, mango			Sweet oranges
Cameroon	3	Garlic, sweet and chili peppers, ginger			Potatoes
China	2	Peanut			Potatoes
		Ambarella and other <i>Spondias</i> species	Equatorial Guinea	3	Sweet potato
Colombia	6	Palm hearts			Cassava
		Papaya			Ginger
		Mango			Sweet and chili peppers
		Peruvian groundcherry	Ghana	6	Okra
		Potatoes			Sweet and chili peppers
					Sweet potato
Congo	18	Amaranths	India	7	Cassava
		Courgettes, pumpkins, and other <i>Cucurbita</i> species			Sweet and chili peppers
		Sweet potato			Mango
		Potatoes, tomatoes, peppers, eggplants, and other Solanaceae species			Moringa
		Chives			Curry tree, orange jessamine, and other <i>Murraya</i> species
		Cassava			Ginger
		Amaranths	Iran	2	Chicory roots
					Water spinach
					Spinach
Cuba	8	Mango	Kenya	4	Asparagus
		Avocado			Basil
Democratic Republic of the Congo	7	Ethiopian eggplants	Laos	32	Sweet corn
		Amaranths			Soursop
		Roselle, chinese hibiscus, and other <i>Hibiscus</i> species			Sweetstop
		Sweet potato and other <i>Ipomoea</i> species			Chili pepper
		Spinach			Mango
		Vegetable plants			Common guava
					Eggplant
Dominican Republic	4	Sweet and chili peppers	Ecuador	7	Turkey berry
		Mango			Culantro
		Avocado			Basil
		Potatoes			Culantro
					Rice paddy herb and other <i>Limnophila</i> species
Ecuador	7	Mediterranean mandarin	Mali	2	Basil
		Loquats/Japanese medlars			Holy basil
		Mango			Peanut
		Peaches, plums, and other <i>Prunus</i>	Mexico	2	Mango
		Common plum			Asparagus
		Tomato			Chili pepper

*N = number of interceptions.

Continued...

Source: [EUROPHYT monthly report](#)

Table 2 Continued

Country of origin	N*	Intercepted products	Country of origin	N*	Intercepted products
Morocco	50	Onions	Philippines	1	Ginger
		Garlic	Senegal	8	Okra
		Celery			Watermelon
		Peanut			Key limes
		Beet			Mango
		Sweet and chili peppers			Bay laurel
		Clementines			Horticultural plants
		Lemons	South Africa	7	Chili pepper
		Sweet oranges			Lemons
		Cucumber			Nectarine
		Courgettes, pumpkins, and other <i>Cucurbita</i> species			Japanese plum
		Artichoke			European pear
		Carrots	Sri Lanka	20	Sweet and chili peppers
		Walnuts			Papaya
		Apple			Courgettes, pumpkins, and other <i>Cucurbita</i> species
		European olive			Mangosteen
		Common beans			Mango
		Date palm			Rambutan
		Sweet cherry			Passion fruit, sweet granadilla, and other <i>Passiflora</i> species
		Almond			Passion fruit (purple)
		Tomato			Avocado
		Potatoes			Common guava
		Ginger			Basil and edible flowers
		Jujube			Laurel/bay leaves
		Spearmint			Spinach
Nigeria	1	Horticultural plants	Suriname	1	Cowpea, yardlong bean, and other <i>Vigna</i> species
		Basil	Thailand	3	Litchi
		Parsley			Apple
		Thyme and other thyme species			Mango
		Sweet and chili peppers	Türkiye	7	Sweet and chili peppers
		Sweet and chili peppers			Cucumber
		Mango			Mango
		Peanut			Tomato
Peru	33	Asparagus	Uganda	1	Curry tree, orange jessamine, and other <i>Murraya</i> species
		Sweet and chili peppers	Uzbekistan	8	Turnip
		Citrus fruits (oranges, lemons, etc.)			Carrots
		Artichoke	Venezuela	1	Avocado
		Fennel	Vietnam	1	Chili pepper
		Pacay – legume vegetable	Zimbabwe	2	Sweet and chili peppers
		Sweet potato			
		Apple			
		Mango			
		Horticultural plants			
		Passion fruit, sweet granadilla, and other <i>Passiflora</i> species			
		Passion fruit (yellow)			
		Avocado			
		Potatoes			
		Ulluco			
		Sweet corn			
		Bay laurel			

*N = number of interceptions.

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