

Frequency rates for plant import controls 2025

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EU updates frequency rates of import controls for certain plants

Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) [2025/355](#) of 21 February 2025 amending Implementing Regulation (EU) 2022/2389 concerning the establishment of frequency rates for identity checks and physical checks on consignments of plants, plant products and other objects entering the Union

Update

The EU has updated the frequency rates of import controls for certain plants, including food plants from Argentina, Cameroon, China, Egypt, Morocco, Thailand, and Türkiye; also for certain products from all European countries outside the EU.

Impacted products

Plants and plant products, including apples, avocados, blueberries, citrus, cranberries, strawberry, turmeric, stone fruits, peaches, pears

What is changing?

Frequency rates for identity and physical checks on plant-related consignments entering the EU have been updated for various food plant products from different regions.

Increased identity and physical checks for:

- Citrus from Morocco
- Apples (*Malus*) from Argentina
- Turmeric (*Curcuma longa*) from Thailand
- Strawberries (*Fragaria*) – despite a reduced frequency at 5% for most countries, strawberries from Egypt are now checked at 100% due to recent pest interceptions
- Avocado (*Persea americana*) – despite a low baseline rate of 1% for all countries, avocados from Cameroon are now checked at 100% due to recent pest interceptions.

Decreased identity and physical checks for:

- Apples (*Malus*), pears (*Pyrus*), and *Prunus* from European countries outside the EU (non-Member States)
- *Prunus* from Türkiye
- Pears (*Pyrus*) from China
- Citrus from Egypt and Türkiye.

Table 1 provides details of the changes.

Why?

Frequency rates are reviewed annually based on updates from the EU's Information Management System for Official Controls ([IMSOC](#)), the Trade Control and Expert System ([TRACES](#)), and EU Member States. These reviews are risk-based, taking into account pest biology (particularly the potential mobility of quarantine pests), compliance records, past interceptions, and trade volumes.

Timeline

The new Regulation and its amendments apply from **1 March 2025**.

Recommended Actions

Non-EU countries should ensure that their plant exports comply with EU phytosanitary requirements to reduce the likelihood of interceptions and the imposition of increased physical checks. This requires enhanced plant health measures and certification processes.

Background

Regulation (EU) [2022/2389](#) aims to standardise the frequency rates for identity and physical checks on plant-related consignments entering the EU. The frequency of checks is based on the risk level of each product and its origin.

Initially, all consignments must be checked at a rate of 100%. The frequency rates are reviewed yearly, and can be reduced for lower-risk items upon request by Member States.

However, high-risk items always remain subject to full checks (Regulation [2016/2031](#), Arts 28(1), 30(1), 49(1)). These include any plant or plant product susceptible to increased phytosanitary risk, and all plants intended for planting.

Regulation [2019/1715](#) lays down rules for the functioning of [IMSOC](#), which integrates the following information systems:

- Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (iRASFF)
- Animal Diseases Information System (ADIS)
- European Union Notification System for Plant Health Interceptions (EUROPHYT)
- Trade Control and Expert System for exchanging data, information, and documents (TRACES).

Resources

Regulation (EU) [2024/591](#) concerning the establishment of frequency rates for identity checks and physical checks on consignments of plants, plant products and other objects entering the Union

Regulation (EU) [2022/2389](#) establishing rules for the uniform application of frequency rates for identity checks and physical checks on consignments of plants, plant products and other objects entering the Union

Regulation (EU) [2019/1715](#) laying down rules for the functioning of the information management system for official controls and its system components

Regulation (EU) [2017/625](#) on official controls and other official activities performed to ensure the application of food and feed law, rules on animal health and welfare, plant health and plant protection products

Regulation (EC) [1756/2004](#) specifying the detailed conditions for the evidence required and the criteria for the type and level of the reduction of the plant health checks of certain plants, plant products or other objects listed in Part B of Annex V to Council Directive 2000/29/EC

Regulation (EU) [2016/2031](#) on protective measures against pests of plants

Information Management System for Official Controls ([IMSOC](#))

Sources

Regulation (EU) [2025/355](#) concerning the establishment of frequency rates for identity checks and physical checks on consignments of plants, plant products and other objects entering the Union

Visit the [AGRINFO website](#) to view the latest AGRINFO Update newsletters and [search](#) the database.

Table & Figures

Table 1
Changes to frequency rates of identity and physical checks
for certain food plant products*

Food plant products	Origin	Frequency rate (%)	
		Feb 2024 [1]	New ^[2]
Avocado (<i>Persea americana</i>)	Cameroon	1	100
Citrus	Egypt	75	50
Citrus	Morocco	3	5
Citrus	Türkiye	7	5
Strawberries (<i>Fragaria</i>)	Egypt	5	100
Turmeric (<i>Curcuma longa</i>)	Thailand	25	35
Stone fruits (<i>Prunus</i>)	European countries (excluding EU Member States) ^[3] , excluding Türkiye	5	3
Apples (<i>Malus</i>)	European countries (excluding EU Member States) ^[3]	15	10
Apples (<i>Malus</i>)	Argentina	35	75
<i>Prunus</i>	Türkiye	35	25
Pears (<i>Pyrus</i>)	European countries (excluding EU Member States) ^[3]	50	10
Pears (<i>Pyrus</i>)	China	100	50

* This table highlights *changes* between the previous and new frequency rates for food plant products. For a full list of frequency rates see Regulation 2024/591, Annex I

[1] Regulation (EU) 2024/591

[2] Regulation (EU) 2025/355

[3] European countries within AGRINFO scope are: Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, [Kosovo], Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, Türkiye, and Ukraine

Source: Regulations (EU) [2022/2389](#), [2024/591](#), and [2025/355](#)

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