Frequency rates for plant import controls 2025

Published by AGRINFO on 06 Mar 2025

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:

Copyright © **COLEAD 2026,** *AGRINFO is funded by the European Union and implemented by COLEAD.*

- 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.

Copyright © **COLEAD 2026,** *AGRINFO is funded by the European Union and implemented by COLEAD.*

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

Copyright © **COLEAD 2026,** *AGRINFO is funded by the European Union and implemented by COLEAD.*

Visit the AGRINFO website to view the latest AGRINFO Update newsletters and search the database.

Tables & 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 (*Persea americana*)	Cameroon	1	**100**
Citrus	Egypt	75	**50**
Citrus	Morocco	3	**5**
Citrus	Türkiye	7	**5**
Strawberries *(Fragaria)*	Egypt	5	**100**
Turmeric (*Curcuma longa*)	Thailand	25	**35**
Stone fruits (*Prunus*)	European countries (excluding EU Member States) [3], excluding Türkiye	5	**3**
Apples (*Malus*)	European countries (excluding EU Member States) [3]	15	**10**
Apples (*Malus*)	Argentina	35	**75**
Prunus	Türkiye	35	**25**
Pears (*Pyrus*)	European countries (excluding EU Member States) [3]	50	**10**
Pears (*Pyrus*)	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

AGRINFO
www.agrinfo.eu

Copyright © **COLEAD 2026,** *AGRINFO is funded by the European Union and implemented by COLEAD.*

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

Disclaimer: *Under no circumstances shall COLEAD be liable for any loss, damage, liability or expense incurred or suffered that is claimed to have resulted from the use of information available on this website or any link to external sites. The use of the website is at the user's sole risk and responsibility. This information platform was created and maintained with the financial support of the European Union. Its contents do not, however, reflect the views of the European Union.*

Copyright © **COLEAD 2026,** *AGRINFO is funded by the European Union and implemented by COLEAD.*