

Reports on non-compliance with EU food law and agri-food fraud: April–May 2024

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Latest EU overview of food found not to comply with EU law

European Commission: [April 2024 Report on EU Agri-Food Fraud Suspicions](#)

European Commission: [May 2024 Report on EU Agri-Food Fraud Suspicions](#)

Update

The European Commission publishes monthly overviews of foods that are not compliant with EU food law. The April and May 2024 reports include notifications concerning the following [AGRINFO partner countries](#): Albania, Argentina, Bangladesh, Bolivia, Brazil, Cambodia, China, Colombia, Congo DRC, Côte d'Ivoire, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Iran, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Libya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mauritius, Mexico, Moldova, Morocco, Myanmar, Nigeria, North Macedonia (Republic of), Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Senegal, Serbia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Syria, Thailand, Türkiye, Uganda, Ukraine, Venezuela, Vietnam.

These monthly overviews highlight ongoing and emerging risks of non-compliance that will help agri-food exporters and competent authorities in non-EU countries to monitor and respond to risks that may affect agri-food trade.

Impacted products

Cereals and bakery products; coffee and tea; confectionery; crustaceans and their products; dietetic foods; feed materials; fish and fish products; food additives and flavourings; food contact materials; food supplements and fortified foods; fruits and vegetables; herbs and spices; meat and its products; non-alcoholic beverages; nuts, nut products and seeds; poultry meat and its products; prepared dishes and snacks; soups, broths, sauces, and condiments

Notifications

The April and May 2024 reports include notifications impacting the following [AGRINFO partner countries](#):

Albania, Argentina, Bangladesh, Bolivia, Brazil, Cambodia, China, Colombia, Congo DRC, Côte d'Ivoire, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Iran, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Libya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mauritius, Mexico, Moldova, Morocco, Myanmar, Nigeria, North Macedonia (Republic of), Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Senegal, Serbia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Syria, Thailand, Türkiye, Uganda, Ukraine, Venezuela, Vietnam.

These notifications concern:

- product non-compliance and tampering (Table 1)
- record tampering, avoidance of control, false or deficient documentation (including mislabelling), identification, origin, and traceability defects (Table 2)
- non-compliance with maximum residue levels (MRLs) for pesticides and veterinary medicines (Table 3).

The April report includes 341 suspicions that were retrieved from 908 iRASFF notifications (access restricted to EU Member States' competent authorities).

The May report includes 281 suspicions that were retrieved from 727 iRASFF notifications (access restricted to EU Member States' competent authorities).

AGRINFO reports regularly on notifications to the EU's Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed ([RASFF](#)); see:

- RASFF notifications in April 2024
- RASFF notifications in May 2024

Timeline

These reports are issued every month.

Recommended Actions

Competent authorities in countries that are included in these monthly overviews should pay attention to any non-compliances identified in the reports. It is particularly important that the producers/export companies concerned are informed as soon as possible so that they can take action and prevent a recurrence. These incidents also potentially indicate a more widespread problem that may require a coordinated response by the food sector in the country concerned.

Background

These monthly reports compile information notified to the EU's Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed Network ([RASFF](#)), Administrative Assistance and Cooperation Network ([AAC](#)), and Agri-Food Fraud Network ([FFN](#)). The reports also include non-compliances with EU rules that do not present a risk, but have triggered investigations by the competent authorities of individual importing EU Member States.

Resources

[Monthly reports on EU Agri-Food Fraud suspicions](#)

Regulation [2019/1793](#) on the temporary increase of official controls and emergency measures governing entry into the EU of certain goods from third countries

Regulation [2019/1873](#) on the procedures at border control posts for a coordinated performance by competent authorities of intensified official controls on products of animal origin, germinal products, animal by-products and composite products

Sources

European Commission: [April 2024 Report on EU Agri-Food Fraud Suspicions](#)

European Commission: [May 2024 Report on EU Agri-Food Fraud Suspicions](#)

Table & Figures

| Table 1 Product non-compliance and tampering | | | |
|---|--|---|--|
| Country | Products | Issue | Classification |
| Brazil | Gelatine | Amaranth (E 123) | Unapproved process |
| Cambodia | Spices | <i>Crotalaria ternatea</i> | Unauthorised food/ingredient |
| China | Candies | Acesulfame K (E 950) | Not compliant with EU maximum levels (MLs) |
| | Squid | Water addition | Adulteration (dilution) |
| | Confectionery (jellies) | Konjac (E425) | Unapproved process |
| | Green tea flavour | Sodium erythorbate (E 316) | |
| | Lollipops, canned strawberries in syrup | Ponceau 4R/(E124); E110 | |
| | Coffee powder | Chaga, oyster plant, turkey tail mushroom, cordyceps, lion's mane | Unauthorised ingredient |
| | Food supplements | Cardarine | Unauthorised food/ingredient |
| Seeds | Job's tears seeds | | |
| Côte d'Ivoire | Drinks | Sildenafil | Unauthorised ingredient |
| | Palm oil | Sudan 3, Sudan 4 | Unapproved process |
| Egypt | Mango nectar, mixed-fruit nectar, tomato paste/concentrate | Benzoic acid (E210), sorbic acid (E200) | |
| India | Basmati rice | Presence of other species | Adulteration (substitution) |
| | Barbecue & curry sauces, chicken masala spices | 2-chloroethanol | Unapproved process |
| | Masala spice mix, chicken masala spices, chilli powder, food supplements | Ethylene oxide | |
| Iran | Dried apricots, raisins | Sulphites (E220-E228) | Undeclared process |
| Nigeria | Drinks | Sunset Yellow FCF (E 110) | Not compliant with EU MLs |
| Pakistan | Mango fruit drink | Benzoic acid (E 210) | |
| Philippines | Cheese snacks | Sunset Yellow FCF (E 110) | Unapproved process |
| Saint Lucia | Seaweed | <i>Eucheuma cottonii</i> | Unauthorised ingredient |
| Serbia | Cake decoration | Titanium dioxide (E171) | Unapproved process |
| | Preserved aubergines and sesame seeds | Sulphites (E220-E228) | Undeclared process |
| South Africa | Flavoured drink | Quinoline Yellow FCF (E104) | Not compliant with EU MLs |
| Sri Lanka | Tea | <i>Evolvulus alsinoides</i> , <i>Hedyotis corymbosa</i> | Unauthorised ingredient |
| Syria | Sugared almonds | Erythrosine (E 127) | Unapproved process |
| | Cheese powder substitute | Sudan I, Sudan 4, Sudan Red B | |
| | Flavoured instant drink | Titanium dioxide (E171) | |
| Thailand | Noodles | Tartrazine (E102) | |
| | Confectionery (jellies) | Carrageenan (E407), Konjac (E425) | |
| | Bamboo shoots | Yanang leaf extract | |
| Türkiye | Chicken stock | Absence of chicken | Adulteration (substitution) |
| | Food supplements | Sildenafil | Unauthorised food/ingredient |
| | Herbal tea | Sibutramine | Unauthorised ingredient |
| Ukraine | Popcorn | Erythrosine (E 127) | Unapproved process |
| | Cookies | Titanium dioxide (E 171) | |
| | Food supplements | DMAA (1,3-dimethylamylamine) | Unauthorised food/ingredient |
| Venezuela | Shrimps | Sulphites (E220-E228) | Not compliant with EU MLs |
| Vietnam | Flavoured drinks | Calcium disodium EDTA (ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid) (E385) | Unapproved process |
| | Rice noodles | Genetically modified organism (GMO) (p35S) | Unauthorised ingredient |

| Table 2 Record tampering, control, documentation, identification, origin, and traceability | | | |
|---|---|---|-------------------------|
| Country | Products | Issue | Classification |
| Brazil | Feed materials (maize) | Undeclared genetically modified organism (GMO) (p35S+) | Records and information |
| | Meat products | Label/document mismatch | Traceability defect |
| China | Food contact materials (ceramic bowls, kitchen ware, plastic box) | Absence of conformity declaration, traceability defects | Records and information |
| | Ice cream | Illegal import | Unauthorised origin |
| | Noodles | Bovine, poultry DNA | |
| | Peppers | Misleading indication "EU origin" | |
| | Squid rings | Unauthorised establishment | |
| | Xanthan gum | Smuggling | |
| | Sweeteners | Skipped border controls | 'Others' |
| Egypt | Candies with honey | Unauthorised placing on the market | Unauthorised origin |
| | Chocolate truffles with milk | Skipped border controls | 'Others' |
| India | Shrimp | Missing indication of drained weight | Records and information |
| | Chapati | Skipped border controls | 'Others' |
| Indonesia | Cookies | | |
| Iran | Dairy products | Smuggling | Illegal import |
| Jordan | Biscuits | Skipped border controls | 'Others' |
| Malaysia | Food supplement containing honey | Unauthorised placing on the market | Unauthorised origin |
| Moldova | Drinks, various food products | Absence of traceability/labelling | Traceability defect |
| Morocco | Berries, blueberries | Falsification of origin | Records and information |
| | Swordfish | Misdeclared weight | Illegal trade (IUU) |
| Myanmar | Fish products | Skipped border controls | 'Others' |
| Nigeria | Chocolate drink | | |
| | Sesame seeds | Documentation/container seal number mismatch | Traceability defect |
| Pakistan | Candies and biscuits | Skipped border controls | 'Others' |
| | Composite products | Unauthorised operator | Unauthorised origin |
| | Rice | Label/document mismatch | Traceability defect |
| Peru | Milk chocolate | Illegal import | Unauthorised origin |
| Philippines | Various products with ingredients of animal origin | Skipped border controls | 'Others' |
| Serbia | Sausages | Illegal import | Unauthorised origin |
| Türkiye | Composite products | Skipped border controls | 'Others' |
| | Olives | Absence of traceability | Traceability defect |
| | Trout | Absence of identification mark | |
| Vietnam | Corn snacks | GMO (p35S, tNos, pFMV, PAT/PAT) | Records and information |
| | Fish collagen peptides | Skipped border controls | 'Others' |

| Table 3 Non-compliance with pesticide and veterinary medicine maximum residue levels (MRLs) | |
|---|---|
| Country | Products |
| Albania | Peppers |
| Argentina | Sunflower seeds |
| Bangladesh | Lemons |
| Bolivia | Mung beans |
| Brazil | Atemoya, cinnamon apple, groundnut kernels, limes |
| Cambodia | Mint |
| China | Green tea, herbal infusion, mushrooms, peppers, pumpkin seeds, Sichuan pepper |
| Colombia | Mango, passion fruit |
| Congo DRC | Sweet potato leaves |
| Dominican Republic | Peppers |
| Ecuador | Bananas, plantains |
| Egypt | Beans, carrots, clover seeds, grapefruits, olive oil, oranges, peppers, potatoes, strawberries, tomatoes, vine leaves |
| Ghana | Okra |
| India | Ajwain, cardamom, coriander seeds, cumin (incl. seeds), curry leaves (incl. powder), drumsticks (<i>Moringa</i>), fennel seed powder, fenugreek leaves, grapefruits, guavas, okra, organic moringa powder, okra, pepper, raisins, rice, tea, turmeric |
| | Shrimps [V] |
| Iran | Orange juice |
| Jordan | Peppers |
| Kazakhstan | Buckwheat, linseeds |
| Kenya | Beans, green beans, peppers |
| Libya | Dates |
| Madagascar | Beans |
| Mauritius | Pineapples |
| Mexico | Eggplants |
| Morocco | Melons, mint, peppers, raspberries, tomatoes, watermelons |
| North Macedonia | Mixed salad |
| Pakistan | Rice |
| Paraguay | Herbal infusion |
| Rwanda | Peppers |
| Senegal | Beans |
| Serbia | Mushrooms |
| Sri Lanka | Beans |
| Syria | Vine leaves, vine leaves in brine |
| Thailand | Aubergines, coriander, longans, peppers, pitahayas |
| Tunisia | Olive oil |
| Türkiye | Apricots, grapefruits, greengages, lemons, mandarins, pears, peppers, pomegranates, tomatoes, vine leaves |
| Uganda | Peppers |
| Ukraine | Buckwheat, soya beans |
| Vietnam | Durians, instant noodle soup, peppers, okra, organic tea, pitahayas |
| | Pangasius, shrimps, yellow catfish [V] |
| All non-compliances are for pesticide residues except those marked [V] for Veterinary medicine. | |
|  www.agrinfo.eu | |

Sources: [April 2024 Report on EU Agri-Food Fraud Suspicions](#); [May 2024 Report on EU Agri-Food Fraud Suspicions](#)

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