Reports on non-compliance with EU food law and agri-food fraud: June 2024

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

European Commission: June 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 June 2024 report includes notifications concerning the following 35 AGRINFO partner countries:

Afghanistan, Argentina, Bangladesh, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Egypt, Ghana, India, Iran, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, Namibia, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Rwanda, Serbia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Thailand, Türkiye, Uganda, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, 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 trade.

Impacted products

Alcoholic beverages; cereals and bakery products; cocoa, coffee, tea; confectionery; crustaceans and their products; dietetic foods; fats and oils; fish and fish products; food contact materials; food supplements and fortified foods; fruits and vegetables; herbs and spices; honey and royal jelly; ices and deserts; meat and its products; milk and milk products; non-alcoholic beverages; nuts, products and seeds; other food products/ mixed; poultry meat and its products; prepared dishes and snacks; soups, broths, sauces, condiments

Notifications

The June 2024 report includes notifications impacting the following AGRINFO partner countries:

Afghanistan, Argentina, Bangladesh, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Egypt, Ghana, India, Iran, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Lebanon, Malaysia,

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Mexico, Morocco, Namibia, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Rwanda, Serbia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Thailand, Türkiye, Uganda, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, 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).

See RASFF notifications in June 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 producer-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 (RASSF), 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

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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

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Tables & Figures

Table 1
Product non-compliance and tampering

Country	Products	Issue	Classification
Afghanistan	Dried apricots	Sulphites (E 220–E 228)	Unapproved process
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Croissants	Sorbic acid (E200)	Not compliant with EU maximum levels (MLs)
Brazil	Açai	Amaranth (E 123), Cochineal Red A (E 124)	Unapproved process
	Salted chicken	Water content	Adulteration (substitution)
China	Dried kiwi	Sorbic acid (E 200)	Unapproved process
	Miso paste	Genetically modified organism (GMO) (CrylAb/CrylAc)	Unauthorised ingredient
India	Rice	Other rice species than declared	Adulteration (substitution)
	Food supplements, *Coleus forskohlii* extract, masala powder, spices mix, tikka paste	Ethylene oxide	Unapproved process
	Food supplements	*Solanum nigrum*, iron oxide, sildenafil	Unauthorised ingredient
	Organic food supplements	*Azadirachta indica*	
	Snacks	Moth bean	
Malaysia	Food supplements	Sildenafil, tadalafil	Unauthorised ingredient
	Snacks	Monosodium glutamate (E621)	Not compliant with EU MLs
Mexico	Tequila	Butterfly pea	Unauthorised ingredient
Morocco	Pepper puree	Sulphites (E 220–E 228)	Not compliant with EU MLs
	Thyme	Undeclared almonds	Adulteration (substitution)
Philippines	Cheese flavoured snacks	Allura Red AC (E 129), Sunset Yellow FCF (E 110)	Unapproved process
	Coconut jelly	Tartrazine (E 102), Brilliant Blue FCF (E 133)	
South Africa	Monkfish	Pink cusk-eel	Adulteration (substitution)
Thailand	Flour	Benzoyl peroxide (E 928)	Unapproved process
	Teriyaki sauce	Sorbic acid (E 200)	
Türkiye	Dried apricots	Sulphites (E 220–228)	Not compliant with EU MLs
	Green tea	Sibutramine	Unauthorised ingredient
	Honey paste	Sildenafil, tadalafil	
	Pickled carrots	Sulphites (E 220–228)	Unapproved process
Ukraine	Food supplements	Lower than declared content of selenium and copper	Adulteration (substitution)
Vietnam	Noodles	Butterfly pea	Unauthorised ingredient

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Table 2
Record tampering, control, documentation, identification, origin, and traceability

Country	Products	Issue	Classification
Argentina	Hake	Identification marks mismatch	Traceability defects
Bangladesh	Biscuits	Lactose and milk ingredient	Unauthorised origin
Brazil	Beef	Traceability defects	'Others'
China	Alaska pollock	Illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing infringement	'Others'
	Fish oil capsules	Skipped border controls	
Colombia	Bovine hides for gelatine or collagen	Absence of identification marks	Traceability defects
Ghana	Palm oil	Falsification of origin to avoid checks	Diversion
India	Food supplement 'gluten-free'	Presence of gluten	Records and information
	Turmeric	Mismatch between consignment code and analytical report	
	Crushed chillies, peppers	Skipped border controls	'Others'
Jordan	Maize starch	Undeclared genetically modificed organisms (GMOs)	Records and information
Lebanon	'Blackberry' jam	Various labelling inconsistencies	Records and information
Namibia	Kingklip (*Genypterus capensis*)	Traceability defects	'Others'
Philippines	Sauces	Skipped border controls	'Others'
Thailand	Fish sauce, seasoning powder	Skipped border controls	'Others'
Ukraine	Mushrooms	Batch number mismatch	Traceability defect

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Table 3 Non-compliance with pesticide and veterinary medicine MRLs	
Country	Products
Argentina	Beans
Bangladesh	Tea
Brazil	Limes
China	Ginger, green tea, tea
Colombia	Bananas
Costa Rica	Bananas, pineapples
Ecuador	Bananas
Egypt	Clover seeds, grapefruits, lemons, mint, oranges, onions (organic), peppers, strawberries, tangerines
India	Coriander, cumin (incl. seeds), drumsticks (*Moringa*), mangoes, peppers, rice, tea
	Shrimps [V]
Iran	Dried coriander
Jordan	Peppers
Kazakhstan	Linseed
Kenya	Beans, green beans
Lebanon	Vine leaves
Morocco	Peppers
Pakistan	Rice
Peru	Coffee (organic), ginger (organic)
Rwanda	Peppers
Serbia	Potatoes
Sri Lanka	Beans, yardlong beans, tea
Tanzania	Bird's eye chilli peppers
Thailand	Coriander, longans, peppers, snake fruit, spring onions
Türkiye	Black pepper, grapefruits, lemons, nectarines, peppers, plums
Uganda	Chillies
Ukraine	Raspberries
Uzbekistan	Raisins
Vietnam	Chillies, durians, lychees, tea
	Catfish (*Clarias gariepinus*), frog legs (*Hoplobatrachus rugulosus*) [V]
All non-compliances are for pesticide residues except those marked [V] for Veterinary medicine. AGRINFO www.agrinfo.eu	

Source: European Commission: June 2024 Report on EU Agri-Food Fraud suspicions

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