

# Reports on non-compliance with EU food law and agri-food fraud – March 2024

*Published by AGRINFO on 11 May 2024*

Latest overview of foods found not to comply with EU law

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

## Update

The European Commission has published its latest monthly overview of foods that are not compliant with EU food law.

The March 2024 report includes notifications concerning Albania, Bangladesh, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, China, Colombia, Ecuador, Egypt, Ghana, Georgia, India, Indonesia, Iran, Jordan, Kenya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, Nigeria, Namibia, North Macedonia, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Senegal, Serbia, Sri Lanka, Syria, Thailand, Türkiye, Uganda, Ukraine, Venezuela, Vietnam.

## 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

## What is changing?

The March 2024 report includes notifications concerning:

### Product tampering

- Additives not compliant with EU maximum levels (MLs) (Table 1)
- Adulteration and unapproved process; concealment, enhancement, ingredient dilution/substitution (Table 1)

## Record tampering

- Nutrition and health claims (Table 2)
- Product-related dates, records, and information (Table 2)

## Implicit claim violations

- Unauthorised origin, border control, documentation, identification, traceability (Table 2)
- Non-compliance with pesticide maximum residue levels (MRLs) (Table 3)
- Non-compliance with veterinary medicine MRLs (Table 3)
- Food, food contact materials, ingredients not authorised in the EU (Table 4)

There are notifications concerning the following [AGRINFO partner countries](#):

Albania, Bangladesh, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, China, Colombia, Ecuador, Egypt, Ghana, Georgia, India, Indonesia, Iran, Jordan, Kenya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, Nigeria, Namibia, North Macedonia, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Senegal, Serbia, Sri Lanka, Syria, Thailand, Türkiye, Uganda, Ukraine, Venezuela, Vietnam.

## Why?

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.

## Timeline

A report is 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

The European Commission publishes monthly overviews of foods that are not compliant with EU food law. 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](#)).

## Resources

[February 2024 report on EU Agri-Food Fraud suspicions](#)

[January 2024 Report 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: [March 2024 Report on EU Agri-Food Fraud Suspicions](#)

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


## Table & Figures

| Table 1<br>Product non-compliance and tampering   |                         |  |   |
|---|-------------------------|--|---|
| Country   | Products                | Issue  | Classification                          |
| Bangladesh  | Shrimps                 | Sulphites (E220–E228)  | Not compliant with maximum levels (MLs) |
| Brazil  | Soft drink              | Benzoic acid (E210)  | Not compliant with MLs                  |
| China   | Organic mushrooms       | Sulphites (E220–E228)  | Not compliant with MLs                  |
|   | Plums                   | Health claim   | Nutrition and health claims             |
| Ecuador   | Shrimps                 | Sulphites (E220–E228)  | Not compliant with MLs                  |
| Egypt   | Mango nectar            | Benzoic, sorbic acid (E210, E200)                              | Not compliant with MLs                  |
|   | Artichokes              | Sulphites (E220–E228)  | Undeclared process                      |
| Georgia   | Blackberry juice        | Grape juice (tartaric acid)                                    | Adulteration (dilution)                 |
| India   | Spice mix               | Ethylene oxide   | Unapproved process                      |
| Malaysia  | Candies                 | Carrageenan (E407)   | Unapproved process                      |
| Namibia   | Monkfish, pink cusk-eel | Identity defects   | Adulteration (substitution)             |
| Philippines   | Snacks                  | Sunset yellow (E110)   | Unapproved process                      |
| Sri Lanka   | Cinnamon sticks         | Sulphites (E220–E228)  | Undeclared process                      |
| Syria   | Tomato paste            | Benzoic acid (E210)  | Undeclared process                      |
| Thailand  | Tea                     | Brilliant blue (E133); sunset yellow (E110); tartrazine (E102) | Unapproved process                      |
| Türkiye   | Herb leaves, snacks     | Ethylene oxide; sunset yellow, tartrazine (E110, E102)         | Unapproved process                      |
| Venezuela   | Shrimps                 | Sulphites (E220–E228)  | Not compliant with MLs                  |
| <br><a href="http://www.agrinfo.eu">www.agrinfo.eu</a> |                         |  |   |

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

| Country   | Products                         | Issue  | Classification           |
|---|----------------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| Bosnia and Herzegovina  | Blueberry jam                    | Identification code mismatch                           | Traceability defects     |
| Brazil  | Various food products            | Document fraud   | Records and information  |
| China   | Plums                            | Health claim   | Nutrition, health claims |
|   | Sausage                          | Presence of pork                                       | Unauthorised origin      |
|   | Noodles, prepared dishes, snacks | Presence of poultry, pork, bovine DNA                  |                          |
|   | Prepared dishes, soup            | Illegal import   |                          |
|   | Food contact materials           | Skipped border controls, absence of sanitary documents | Control, documentation   |
| Egypt   | Oranges                          | Documentation – shipment mismatch                      | Traceability defects     |
| India   | Food supplements                 | Document fraud   | Records and information  |
|   | Herbs and spices                 | Identification code mismatch                           | Traceability defects     |
|   | Soy sauce                        | Skipped border controls                                | Control                  |
| Senegal   | Sole fish                        | Identification code mismatch                           | Identification           |
| Syria   | Herbal infusion                  | Health claim   | Nutrition, health claims |
| <br><a href="http://www.agrininfo.eu">www.agrininfo.eu</a> |                                  |  |                          |

| Table 3<br>Non-compliance with pesticide and veterinary medicine MRLs |   |  |                     |
|---|---|--|---------------------|
| Country   | Products  | Issue  | Classification      |
| Albania   | Cabbage   | Metalaxyl  | Pesticide residues  |
| Bangladesh  | Beans   | Chlorfenapyr, fenpropathrin  | Pesticide residues  |
| Brazil  | Apples, carambolas, dragon fruits, groundnuts   | Acetamiprid, azoxystrobin, chlorpyrifos, lambda-cyhalothrin, phosmet, thiamethoxam, thiophanate-methyl, triflumuron  | Pesticide residues  |
| China   | Cumin, peppers, pomelos, tea  | Acetamiprid, carbendazim, chlorpyrifos, ethiofencarb, imidacloprid, myclobutanil, propamocarb, pyraclostrobin, tebuconazole, thiamethoxam, tolfenpyrad, tricyclazole   | Pesticide residues  |
| Colombia  | Avocados, passion fruits  | Chlorfenapyr, cypermethrin, lambda-cyhalothrin   | Pesticide residues  |
| Egypt   | Faba beans, onions, oranges, peppers, potatoes, spring onions   | Carbofuran, chlorpropham, chlorpyrifos, chlorpyrifos-ethyl, dimethoate, imidacloprid, iprodione, lufenuron, propargite   | Pesticide residues  |
| Ghana   | Okra  | Flonicamid   | Pesticide residues  |
| India   | Cardamom, cumin, curry, okra, peppers, rice   | Acetamiprid, anthraquinone, azoxystrobin, carbendazim, chlorpyrifos, clothianidin, cypermethrin, ethion, fipronil, flonicamid, hexaconazole, imidacloprid, iprobenfos, kresoxim-methyl, metalaxyl, nicotine, orthophenylphenol, picoxystrobin, propamocarb, propargite, propiconazole, pyraclostrobin, thiamethoxam, tolfenpyrad, tricyclazole, trifloxystrobin  | Pesticide residues  |
| Indonesia   | Pitahaya  | Acephate, methamidophos, pyraclostrobin, triazophos  | Pesticide residues  |
| Iran  | Vine leaves   | Chlorpyrifos, dithiocarbamates, fenpropathrin, penconazole   | Pesticide residues  |
| Jordan  | Peppers   | Formetanate  | Pesticide residues  |
| Kenya   | Beans, chilli peppers, peppers  | Acephate, carbendazim, methamidophos   | Pesticide residues  |
| Madagascar  | Cowpeas   | Carbaryl, chlorpyrifos, dimethoate   | Pesticide residues  |
| Mexico  | Beans, blackberries   | 6-benzyladenine, acephate, bifenthrin, methamidophos   | Pesticide residues  |
| Morocco   | Peppers   | Imidacloprid   | Pesticide residues  |
| Nigeria   | Sesame seeds  | Chlorate, chlorpyrifos   | Pesticide residues  |
| North Macedonia   | Lettuce   | Chlorpyrifos   | Pesticide residues  |
| Pakistan  | Rice  | Acetaprimid, chlorpyrifos, imidacloprid  | Pesticide residues  |
| Peru  | Grapefruits   | Glufosinate  | Pesticide residues  |
| Serbia  | Cherries, corn  | Dimethoate, pirimiphos-methyl  | Pesticide residues  |
| Sri Lanka   | Beans   | Carbofuran   | Pesticide residues  |
| Thailand  | Dried chillis   | Ethion, fenpropathrin, fipronil, profenofos, tolfenpyrad   | Pesticide residues  |
|   | Chicken skewer  | Dimetridazole  | Veterinary medicine |
| Türkiye   | Chestnuts, cucumbers, grapefruits, kiwis, lemons, mandarins, oranges, pears, peppers, pomegranates, vine leaves | Acetamiprid, buprofezin, chlormequat, chlorpyrifos, chlorpyrifos-methyl, cypermethrin, cyprodinil, didecyldimethylammonium chloride (DDAC), emamectin, etoxazole, fenbutatin oxide, fenvalerate, flutriafol, fludioxonil, fluxapyroxad, imazilil, malathion, pirimiphos-methyl, phosmet, prochloraz, pyraclostrobin, pyrimethanil, pyriproxyfen, spirotetramat, sulfoflaxor, tebufenpyrad, triadimenol | Pesticide residues  |
| Uganda  | Peppers   | Carbendazim, cypermethrin, lambda-cyhalothrin  | Pesticide residues  |
| Ukraine   | Buckwheat   | Glyphosate   | Pesticide residues  |
| Vietnam   | Shrimps   | Ternidazole  | Veterinary medicine |

| Table 4<br>Unauthorised foods, feed, contact materials, additives, ingredients                        |                         |   |  |
|---|-------------------------|---|--|
| Country   | Products                | Issue   | Classification                           |
| China   | Mushroom coffee         | <i>Clavaria militaris</i> , <i>Cordyceps</i> , <i>Inonotus obliquus</i> , <i>Chaga</i> , <i>Trametes versicolor</i> | Unauthorised novel food ingredients      |
|   | Bento box               | Wheat   | Unauthorised food contact material (FCM) |
|   | Rice noodles            | Genetically modified organism (GMO)   | Unauthorised ingredients                 |
|   | Food supplements, seeds | <i>Castanea mollissima</i> , Job's tears seeds, sibutramine   | Unauthorised species, substance          |
| Egypt   | Pickled turnips         | EDTA (ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid)  | Unauthorised additive                    |
| India   | Spice mix               | Clove leaf  | Unauthorised novel food                  |
| Jordan  | Tea                     | <i>Althaea officinalis</i>  | Unauthorised novel food                  |
| Mexico  | Food supplements        | Sibutramine   | Unauthorised substance                   |
| Thailand  | Tea                     | <i>Pandanus amaryllifolius</i>  | Unauthorised novel food                  |
|   | Papayas                 | GMO   | Unauthorised food                        |
| Türkiye   | Tea                     | Sibutramine   | Unauthorised substance                   |
| Ukraine   | Soybean meal            | GMO   | Unauthorised feed material               |
| Vietnam   | Rice noodles            | GMO   | Unauthorised ingredients                 |
| <br>www.agrinfo.eu |                         |   |  |

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

**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.*