Reports on non-compliance with EU food law and agri-food fraud: March 2025

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

European Commission: March 2025 Report on Agri-Food Fraud Suspicions

Update

The European Commission publishes monthly overviews of foods that are not compliant with EU food law. The March 2025 report includes notifications concerning the following AGRINFO partner countries: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bangladesh, Bosnia and Herzegovina, China, Colombia, Egypt, El Salvador, India, Iran, Jordan, Kenya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mauritius, Mexico, Moldova, Morocco, Pakistan, Philippines, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Syria, Thailand, Türkiye, Ukraine, Uganda, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Vietnam.

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

Impacted products

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

Latest notifications

The March 2025 report includes notifications involving the following 30 AGRINFO partner countries:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Bangladesh, Bosnia and Herzegovina, China, Colombia, Egypt, El Salvador, India, Iran, Jordan, Kenya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mauritius, Mexico, Moldova, Morocco, Pakistan, Philippines, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Syria, Thailand, Türkiye, Ukraine, Uganda,

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Uzbekistan, 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).

See also RASFF notifications in March 2025.

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

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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

European Commission: March 2025 Report on Agri-Food Fraud Suspicions

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Tables & Figures

Table 1
Product non-compliance and tampering

Country	Products	Issue	Classification
Afghanistan	Dried apricots	Sulphur dioxide (E 220)	Undeclared enhancement
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Wine	Sulphur dioxide (E 220)	Not compliant with EU maximum levels (MLs)
China / Mexico	Various food products	Titanium dioxide (E 171), Allura Red (E 129), Sunset Yellow FCF (E 110), tartrazine (E 102), BHT [butylated hydroxytoluene] (E 321)	Unauthorised enhancement
China	Chrysanthemum extract	*Chrysanthemum morifolium*	Unauthorised food ingredient
	Kitchenware	Bamboo	Unauthorised food contact material
	Biscuits	Lower content of carbohydrates than declared; higher content of fat than declared	Adulteration (substitution)
	Chilli powder	Sudan 1	Unauthorised enhancement
	Paprika powder	Sudan 3	
	Soft drinks	Amaranth (E 123)	
	Sweets	Sorbic acid (E 200), potassium sorbate (E 202)	Unauthorised ingredients
India	Papayas (fresh, preparation)	Genetically modified organism (GMO)	Unauthorised food
	Senna extract	Ethylene oxide	Unauthorised enhancement
Iran	Pickled garlic	Sulphur dioxide (E 220)	Not compliant with EU MLs
Malaysia	Honey	Tongkat ali (*Eurycoma longifolia*)	Unauthorised food ingredient
Mauritius	Pineapples	Perchlorate	Unauthorised process
Pakistan	Orange juice (from concentrate)	Lower content of fruit than declared (<50%), sugar addition	Adulteration (substitution)
Philippines	Dried mangoes	Sulphur dioxide (E 220)	Not compliant with EU MLs
	Dried pineapples	Higher content of sugar than declared	Adulteration (addition)
Syria	Red pepper (powder)	Sudan 1, Sudan 2, Sudan 3, Sudan 4	Unauthorised enhancement
Thailand	Wheat flour	Benzoyl peroxide (E 928)	
Türkiye	Chocolates	Sildenafil	Unauthorised ingredient
	Cream	Potassium sorbate (E 202)	Unauthorised enhancement
	Food supplements	Sibutramine, sildenafil	Unauthorised ingredients
	Poppy seed paste	Peanuts, sesame seeds	Adulteration (substitution)
Venezuela	Shrimps	Sulphites (E 220–E 228)	Not compliant with EU MLs
Vietnam	Aloe vera drink	Benzoic acid (E 210), tartrazine (E 102)	Unauthorised enhancement

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

Country	Products	Issue	Classification
Algeria	Whipped cream powder with milk	Illegal import	Unauthorised origin
China	Sauces	Skipped border controls	Product related dates, records, and information
El Salvador	Tuna (*Katsuwonus pelamis*)	Skipped border controls	
India	Ashwagandha extract	Health certificate issued after shipment	
Jordan	Cookies	Illegal import	Unauthorised origin
Moldova	Products of animal origin	Lack of traceability, absence of labelling	Product related dates, records, and information
Pakistan	Sweets	Misleading picturing of the product	
Syria	Tomato (organic) and pepper pastes	Unregistered operators, organic claim	Organic claims
Türkiye	Olive oil	Quality classification (lampante olive oil)	Product related dates, records, and information
Uzbekistan	Raisins	Absence of expiry date, misleading weight information (different values)	

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Table 3 Non-compliance with pesticide and veterinary medicine MRLs	
Country	Products*
Bangladesh	Rice (puffed)
China	Tea, nashi pears, pears
Colombia	Mangoes, passion fruits
Egypt	Carrots, clover seeds (feed), lemons, marjoram, oranges, peppers, potatoes, strawberries, tomatoes, vine leaves
India	Cumin (ground, seeds), drumsticks, okra, rice, rice flour, rose petals (dried), sorghum
	Feed materials (palmitic acid, rice protein)
Kenya	Beans
Madagascar	Beans, black pepper
Malaysia	Peppers
Morocco	Olives
Pakistan	Rice
Philippines	Milkfish (*Chanos chanos*) [V]
Senegal	Peppers (other than sweet)
Sri Lanka	Beans (yardlong)
Thailand	Chilli sauce, parsley, peppers (other than sweet), tea
Türkiye	Grapefruits, lemons, pears, peppers, tomatoes, vine leaves
Uganda	Soursop
Ukraine	Birdseed (feed)
Uzbekistan	Dill
Vietnam	Frog legs, shrimps (*Litopenaeus vannamei*) [V]

* All non-compliances are for pesticide residues except those marked [V] for Veterinary medicine.

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