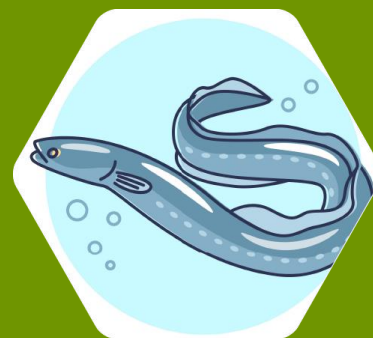


Monthly Summary of Articles on Food Fraud and Adulteration

Retrieved mainly from the JRC tool Medisys (<http://medisys.newsbrief.eu>)



Disclaimer: The presentation of articles reflects their media coverage. In any case, it does not reflect the frequency of food fraud in a particular country and/or concerning a specific food product. The European Commission does not take any responsibility for the validity of the information extracted from the media channels scanned. The views expressed shall not be regarded as stating an official position of the European Commission.

Food Fraud Cases




Between May 2021 and April 2022 the authorities seized 1 254 tons of rice meant for the public distribution system but instead offered for sale.

[Times of India](#) [The Hindu](#) [Times of India](#)

-  India
-  Cereals and bakery products
-  Grey market

The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Food Safety Authority seized 5 000 litres of counterfeit drinks adulterated with unhealthy chemicals and counterfeit labels from famous brands.

[Urdu Point](#)

-  Pakistan
-  Alcoholic beverages
-  Adulteration/ Product tampering
- Counterfeit

The authorities dismantled a criminal organisation involving the largest U.S. importer and wholesale distributor of eel meat. Large quantities of European eels have been smuggled out of Europe and processed in China, ultimately imported into the USA mislabelled as “American eels” for sushi. The market value of such fraud has been valued around 152 million Euros over a four-year period. European eels are protected under the CITES Convention.

[Seafood source](#) [Yahoo](#) [Ni](#)

-  USA
-  Fish and fish products
-  Grey market
- Misdescription/
Mislabelling/ Misbranding

The authorities unveiled a criminal group illegally selling veterinary medicines to farmers in order to increase milk production (up to +100%). The prescriptions were falsified in order to retroactively cover the illegal transactions. The authorities seized as well veterinary medicines for a total value of 16 000 Euros.

[Blog Sicilia](#) [News Sicilia](#) [Corriere di Ragusa](#)

-  Italy
-  Milk and milk products
-  Adulteration/ Product tampering
- Document forgery

The authorities seized 2.85 tons of salami without traceability documentation (total value of 22 000 Euros).

[Irpinia24](#) [Otto pagine](#) [Radio Azzurra](#) [Corriere Irpinia](#)

The authorities seized 7 tons of pork products with no labels or documentation (total value of 59 000 Euros).

[Ansa](#) [Il Dolomiti](#) [La voce del Trentino](#) [Trento today](#) [Giornale Trentino](#)
[L'Adiqetto](#) [La voce del Nord-Est](#)

A UK-based company is under investigation by the FSA's National Food Crime Unit (NFCU) for having falsified the country of origin claims on some of their smoked salmon products.

[The grocer](#) [Intrafish](#)

In the "Operation Verum et Oleum", the authorities found 2 300 000 litres of non-compliant extra-virgin olive oil (27.2% of analysed samples). The most recurrent non-compliance involved the mislabelling of virgin olive oil as "extra virgin", followed by the lack of traceability documentation. The authorities seized as well olive oil for a total value of 170 000 Euros.

[Today](#) [Targato CN](#) [La voce di Alba](#) [Liguria oggi](#) [Bari today](#)
[Castelli notizie](#) [Verona sera](#) [La gazzetta del Mezzogiorno](#) [Liguria](#)
[notizie](#) [Il Friuli](#) [Canale7](#) [Bari live](#) [Informazione](#) [il](#)
[Dolomiti](#) [Olive Oil Times](#)

The authorities seized 1 000 tons of soybean and corn without the proper documentation (total value of 1 220 000 Euros).

[Telam](#)

The Civil Police of Minas Gerais (PCMG), the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Supply (Mapa) and the Instituto Mineiro de Agropecuária (IMA) closed a clandestine factory illegally producing cachaça and other alcoholic beverages, seizing as well 7 740 litres of adulterated cachaça.

[Gov.br](#) [Diario do Comercio](#)

At least 8 people have died and 17 are in critical condition after consuming adulterated home-made alcohol. The authorities arrested eight people and seized thousands of litres of adulterated alcohol.

[Sevilla ABC](#) [La voz digital](#) [ABC](#)

The authorities seized 3.7 tons of clams without the required traceability documentation (total value of 36 000 Euros).

[Il Pescara](#)

The authorities seized 6.8 tons of tuna without any traceability documentation or illegally fished.

[Dispaccio del nord](#) [Blog Sicilia](#) [Giornale di Sicilia](#) [Palermo Today](#)
[Live Sicilia](#) [Blog Sicilia](#) [Ansa](#) [Giornale di Sicilia](#) [News Sicilia](#)
[Grandangolo Agrigento](#) [Tp24](#) [Meridio news](#) [Il Metropolitano](#)
[Sequo News](#) [AmbienteAmbienti](#) [Bagheria News](#)
[Palermo Today](#) [Giornale di Sicilia](#) [La Sicilia](#) [NewSicilia](#)



Italy



Meat and meat products (other than poultry)



Grey market



United Kingdom



Fish and fish products



Misdescription/
Mislabelling/ Misbranding



Italy



Fats and oils



Grey market
Misdescription/
Mislabelling/ Misbranding



Argentina



Cereals and bakery products
Fruits and vegetables
Grey market



Brazil



Alcoholic beverages



Grey market



Iran



Alcoholic beverages



Adulteration/ Product tampering
Grey market



Italy



Bivalve molluscs and products thereof
Fish and fish products
Other food products/
mixed



Grey market

[Cefalu News](#) [Sicilia Reporter](#)

Since the end of 2021 until May 2022, the authorities seized 20 000 sea urchins illegally fished.

[Il giunco](#) [La Nazione](#)

The authorities seized in total 4 000 sea urchins illegally fished and without any traceability documentation.

[Agenzia nova](#) [Agen parl](#) [Il Tirreno](#) [L'Adigetto](#)
[Giornale di Sicilia](#)

During 771 raids, the authorities seized 10 990 tons of wheat from hoarders and smugglers.
[Urdu Point](#)



Pakistan



Cereals and bakery products



Grey market

The authorities seized 8 280 litres of milk adulterated with unsafe powder, detergents, water and/or other chemicals.

[Urdu Point](#) [Urdu Point](#) [Urdu Point](#)



Pakistan



Milk and milk products



Adulteration/ Product tampering

The authorities seized 270 tons of regular cheese misdescribed with a Geographical Indication (total value of 1 600 000 Euros).

[Ansa](#) [Casteddu online](#) [AskaneWS](#) [Sardegna Live](#)
[Sardinia post](#) [La nuova sardegna](#) [Giornale di Sicilia](#)
[Unione sarda](#) [Sardegna go!](#) [Italia a Tavola](#) [AmbienteAmbienti](#)
[Agra press](#) [Aqrigiomale](#)



Italy



Milk and milk products



Counterfeit

The authorities seized 6.2 tons of rotten fish or adulterated with chemicals.

[Hindustan Times](#) [Times of India](#) [Food World](#)



India



Fish and fish products



Adulteration/ Product tampering

In April, the Mobile Economic Control and Fraud Prevention Brigade (BMCRF), the General Directorate for Price Regulation and Control (DGRCP) and the Defense and Security Forces (FDS) seized:

- 111 tons of grain for illegal export
- 9 tons of maize for illegal export
- 473 tons of cashew nuts for illegal export

[Sidwaya](#) [Info wakat](#) [Le faso](#) [Sidawaya](#)



Burkina Faso



Cereals and bakery products

Nuts, nut products and seeds



Grey market

The authorities seized in total almost 11 530 bottles of liquor illegally sold or smuggled into the country.

[Times of India](#) [Hindustan Times](#) [The Hindu](#) [Times of India](#)
[Latestly](#) [Hindustan Times](#)



India



Alcoholic beverages



Grey market

The authorities seized 13 tons of contraband beer and 67 tons of oil, sugar, flour and other foods (total value of 47 145 Euros).

[Abj](#)



Bolivia



Alcoholic beverages
Cereals and bakery products

Fats and oils
Food
Other food products/
mixed
Grey market



The authorities seized 20 tons of food expired, relabelled and sold by street vendors.

[Giornale l'ora](#) [Blog Sicilia](#) [News Sicilia](#) [La Sicilia](#) [Catania Today](#)
[Live Sicilia](#) [QdS](#) [La Sicilia web](#)



Italy



Food

In another operation, the authorities seized 5 tons of food without any legal documents.

[Leggo](#)



Grey market
Mislabelling/ Misbranding

The National Directorate of Border Police Services (DNSPF) seized 15 000 cartons of smuggled eggs.

[Proceso](#) [La Tribuna](#)



Honduras



Eggs and egg products



Grey market

In April, the Nigeria Customs Service (NCS) seized 230.15 tons of contraband foreign parboiled rice.

[Daily post](#)



Nigeria



Cereals and bakery
products



Grey market

The Turkish Coast Guard seized 1.3 tons of pearl mullets illegally fished.

[Hurry et daily news](#)



Turkey



Fish and fish products



Grey market

Tens of people got poisoned after consuming adulterated tuna. The authorities discovered a company defrosting and adulterating the fish with unsafe substances to enhance the colour.

[Ansa](#) [TGcom24](#) [Repubblica](#) [Foggia Today](#) [Bari Today](#) [Salerno Today](#)
[Termoli online](#) [Canale7](#) [Dire](#) [L'Adige](#) [La Sicilia](#)
[Espansione TV](#) [Tiscali](#) [Giornale di Brescia](#) [Euronews](#)
[Informazione](#) [Oggi Notizie](#) [Primo piano](#) [Il giornale di](#)
[Salerno](#) [Quotidiano Puglia](#) [Salerno Today](#) [La Gazzetta del](#)
[mezzogiorno](#)



Italy



Fish and fish products



Adulteration/ Product
tampering

The authorities seized 2.76 tons of olive oil without traceability documentation (total value of 30 000 Euros).

[Teatro naturale](#) [Il Fatto Alimentare](#)



Italy



Fats and oils



Grey market

The authorities seized 105 tons of wheat. Seeds were missing the required certification, and the wheat faked the labels and documentation with names from protected varieties.

[Foggia Today](#) [LacNews24](#) [Giornale di Sicilia](#) [Noi notizie](#) [Il Reggino](#)
[Palermo Live](#) [Matera News](#) [La nuova Padania](#) [Gazzetta del](#)
[Sud](#) [Il metropolitano](#) [Grandangolo](#) [Reggio Today](#)
[Diretta Sicilia](#) [Bari Today](#) [Agrigento Notizie](#) [Blog Sicilia](#) [Bari](#)
[Live](#) [Eco Alto Molise](#) [Stato quotidiano](#) [TusciaWeb](#) [Live](#)
[Sicilia](#) [La Sicilia Web](#) [Qdpnews](#) [Meridio News](#) [Corriere del](#)
[Mezzogiorno](#) [Corriere di Taranto](#) [Sardegna Reporter](#) [La Gazzetta del](#)
[Mezzogiorno](#) [Onda news](#) [Il Fatto Quotidiano](#) [Palermo Today](#)
[Verona Oggi](#) [Resegone online](#) [Valtellina News](#)



Italy



Cereals and bakery
products



Counterfeit
Grey market
Mislabelling/ Misbranding

[GreenMe](#)

[CorrierePl](#)

[Agronline](#)

[Eco di Sicilia](#)

The Food and Economic Security Authority (ASAE) seized 3 300 litres of wine with counterfeit Geographical Indications.

[Publico](#)



Portugal



Wine



Counterfeit

The authority seized 27 tons of parchment coffee ready to be sold illegally.

[Rtnb](#)



Burundi



Cocoa and cocoa preparations, coffee and tea



Grey market

In 2019, the Directorate General for Competition, Consumer Affairs and Fraud Prevention (DGCCRF) checked the nutritional composition and the quality of the nutritional declaration of infant formulas and follow-on formulas. The investigators checked 45 establishments (production stage, mass distribution and the pharmaceutical circuit), and took 43 samples. For each sample, the technicians carried out 115 analyses concerning around 60 parameters (energy content, composition of macronutrients such as proteins and fats, and micronutrients such as vitamins and minerals).

8 out of 45 samples (18%) showed a minor discrepancy between the levels imposed by law and those identified.

36 out of 45 samples (84%) presented non-compliances in the nutritional declaration.

[DGCCRF](#)

[Il Salvagente](#)

[GreenMe](#)



France



Milk and milk products



Misdescription/
Mislabelling/ Misbranding

The Food and Economic Security Authority (ASAE) seized 3.1 tons of meat products lacking traceability documentation, expired or unfit for consumption.

In another operation, 72.5 tons of lamb meat, documentation and equipment were seized from an illegal slaughterhouse.

In mid-April, ASAE seized 17 000 eggs without traceability documentation.

[Food Safety News](#)



Portugal



Eggs and egg products
Meat and meat products
(other than poultry)
Poultry meat and poultry
meat products
Grey market



Other interesting articles

Food Fraud Annual Report (2020 – 2021)

The Government of Canada published an overview of the food fraud initiative activities performed in 2020 and 2021.

[Canada](#)

[Newswire](#)

[Yahoo](#)

[The globe and mail](#)

[Global foodmate](#)

[Lapresse](#)



Canada



Food

New Codex Alimentarius guidance on food fraud

The Codex Alimentarius Commission announced that a new guidance on food fraud is expected in 2024 or 2025.

[Securing Industry](#)



World



Food

FSAI report on meat standards

The Food Safety Authority of Ireland (FSAI) audited supermarkets, butchers, foodservice establishments, storage and distribution establishments, meat-processing plants, and slaughterhouses for meat labelling and traceability standards, with 27 unannounced on-site audits. The auditors found:

- non-compliances with labelling requirements for prepacked food



Ireland



Meat and meat products
(other than poultry)
Poultry meat and poultry
meat products

- non-compliances with food information requirements for non-prepacked foods
- non-compliances with traceability requirements

[FSAI](#) [Agriland](#) [Farmers Journal](#) [Agriland](#) [Global Foodmate](#)

The Food Fraud Monthly Report is drafted by the JRC Geel Unit F.4 “*Fraud Detection and Prevention*” with the support of the JRC Ispra Unit I.3 “*Text and Data Mining*”.

The European Commission’s science and knowledge service
 Joint Research Centre

 EU Science Hub ec.europa.eu/jrc  @EU_ScienceHub  EU Science Hub - Joint Research Centre
 EU Science Hub  Joint Research Centre

Copyrights pictures:
 ©VectorMine- stock.adobe.com
 ©Alex White – stock.adobe.com
 ©UBE – stock.adobe.com
 ©Africa Studio – stock.adobe.com

If you wish to receive a notification whenever any new Food Fraud Monthly Report is published on our [Knowledge Centre for Food Fraud and Quality \(KC-FFQ\)](#) website, please register here: [K4P Newsroom](#).
 For any comments, questions or feedback feel free to contact us via the [K4P feedback form](#).

