

July 2023

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

The authorities seized 3 800 bottle of alcoholic beverages with counterfeit labels of a famous brand.

[Famagusta](#)



Cyprus



Alcoholic beverages



Counterfeit

The authorities seized 6 tons of contraband meat from Argentina.

[Megacadena](#) [Paraguay](#)



Paraguay



Meat and meat products
(other than poultry)



Grey market

The authorities seized 1.7 tons of meat products (duck, goose, chicken and pork) without a certification of importation.

[Tribune](#)



Philippines



Meat and meat products
(other than poultry)



Poultry meat and poultry
meat products



Grey market

The authorities seized 14 tons of smuggled frozen meat (total value of 46 400 Euros).

[Tribune](#) [Tribune](#)

The authorities seized 1 ton of contraband meat (total value of 33 100 Euros).

[Noti Ulti](#)

Customs officials in Hong Kong seized 25 tons of contraband expensive food ingredients and 20 000 bottles of contraband table wines.

[Maritime Executive](#)



China



Food
Wine



Grey market

The authorities seized 4 500 litres of milk adulterated with vegetable oils and powder.

[Urdu Point](#)



Pakistan



Milk and milk products



Adulteration/ Product
tampering




The authorities uncovered a criminal organisation adulterating defrosted tuna with unsafe chemicals (nitrites and nitrates). Several people have been affected across the country in 2021.

[Ansa](#) [Carabinieri](#) [Carabinieri](#) [StrettoWeb](#) [La Gazzetta del Mezzogiorno](#)
[Ottopagine](#) [OdS](#) [Italtpress](#) [Il Quotidiano Italiano](#) [Bari Today](#) [Corriere](#)
[Irpinia](#) [Stato Quotidiano](#) [Repubblica](#) [Ecomy](#) [L'Eco del Sud](#) [Notizie-tiscali](#)
[Puglia press](#) [Canale7](#) [Sardegna Reporter](#) [Brindisi Report](#) [La discussione](#)
[StrettoWeb](#) [Giornale Partite Iva](#) [Ok!Mugello](#) [Bitontolive](#) [Today](#)
[GreenMe](#) [Il Fatto Quotidiano](#) [Stato Quotidiano](#) [IlSecoloXI](#) [Tuttoggi](#)
[Il Fatto Alimentare](#) [Dissapore](#) [La Nazione](#) [Corriere Irpinia](#)
[Unione Sarda](#) [Ottopagine](#) [Repubblica](#) [Ottopagine](#) [BisceglieLive](#) [Il](#)
[Sussidiario](#) [Ottopagine](#) [Ottopagine](#) [Irpinia Oggi](#) [Corriere](#) [Irpinia](#)
[Canale7](#) [La Gazzetta del Mezzogiorno](#) [Il Roma](#) [Puglia press](#) [Otto](#)
[pagine](#) [Corriere Irpinia](#) [Irpinia Oggi](#) [Fanpage](#) [Ohga](#) [Corriere](#) [Irpinia](#)
[Corriere Irpinia](#) [Ottopagine](#) [Irpinia Oggi](#) [Ottopagine](#) [Corriere](#) [Irpinia](#)
[Irpinia Oggi](#) [Il paragone](#) [Food Safety News](#)

-  Italy
-  Fish and fish products
-  Adulteration/ Product tampering




The authorities seized 140 tons of food (mostly olives, mushrooms and vegetables) mislabelled as “Made in Italy” but in reality produced in Spain, Hungary and Netherlands (total value of 4 million Euros).

[Ansa](#) [Torino Today](#) [Torino Oggi](#) [Torino Cronaca](#) [Met](#) [La Nazione](#) [Go](#)
[News](#) [Ital press](#) [L'Eco del Sud](#) [Notizie.Tiscali](#) [Giornale Partite Iva](#) [Lo](#)
[Spiffero](#) [Tuttoggi](#) [La discussione](#) [Aplazio](#) [Agenpress](#) [Tempo](#)
[stretto](#) [La Ragione](#) [Prima Press](#) [La Nazione](#) [Il Tirreno](#)

-  Italy
-  Fruits and vegetables
-  Misdescription/ Mislabelling/ Misbranding

The authorities seized 100 000 contraband chicken eggs and 10 tons of contraband fruits and vegetables from Bolivia.

[Noticias](#)

-  Chile
-  Fruits and vegetables
-  Grey market

The authorities seized 1 954 bottles of contraband whiskey.

[Hindustan Times](#)

-  India
-  Alcoholic beverages

The authorities seized in total 11 990 litres of illegal liquor.

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

-  Grey market

In the last couple of years, the authorities seized 84 304 bottles of alcohol adulterated with methanol, 101 000 litres of illegal clairin unfit for human consumption, and dismantled 19 clandestine factories.

[elCaribe](#) [el Nuevo Diario](#) [Hoy](#) [N.com](#) [Infobae](#) [el Nuevo Diario](#)
[el Dia](#) [Noticias Sin](#) [el Nacional](#)


-  Dominican Republic
-  Alcoholic beverages
-  Grey market

The authorities of French Guiana seized 2.5 tons of contraband fish.

[Blada](#)

-  France
-  Fish and fish products
-  Grey market

The authorities uncovered a fake beverages manufacturing unit producing carbonated drinks with labels from famous brands by using hazardous chemicals, loose non-food grade colours, artificial sweeteners, unclean tap water, and other harmful ingredients.

-  Pakistan
-  Non-alcoholic beverages

[The Nation](#)

The authorities seized 20 000 litres of beverages with counterfeit labels from national brands. The beverages did not even meet the national standards.

[The News](#) [The Nation](#) [Urdu Point](#)

A recent investigation analysed 61 food products labelled as “vegan”: 24 (39%) contained traces of eggs or dairy, and 55 (90%) had labelling inaccuracies related to dairy traces, nutritional details, or allergen warnings.

[The Guardian](#) [Affidia Journal](#) [Metro](#)

The authorities seized several tons of bakery products already expired but relabelled with new expiry dates (total value of 1 million Euros).

[Ansa](#) [Il Fatto Alimentare](#) [Gazzetta di Parma](#)

The authorities seized 3 tons of contraband tomatoes at the India-Nepal border.

[Economic Times](#)

The authorities seized 29 tons of sugar ready to be smuggled to Bangladesh.

[Ani News](#) [Singapore Star](#) [Nigeria Sun](#) [Northern Ireland News](#)

In 2023 the authorities have already seized 4.7 million tons of contraband pork, 10 times more than last year.

[Bangkok Post](#)

The authorities seized 4.27 tons of China salt, banned by the Supreme Court of Pakistan.

[The News](#)

The authorities seized 21.6 tons of contraband ethyl alcohol (96.3%), utilised to adulterate beverages.

[Ot](#) [In](#)

The authorities seized 775 litres of olive oil without labels of traceability documentation.



Adulteration/ Product tampering
Counterfeit



United Kingdom



Food



Misdescription/
Mislabelling/
Misbranding



Italy



Cereals and bakery products



Misdescription/
Mislabelling/
Misbranding



India



Fruits and vegetables



Grey market



India



Other food products/
mixed



Grey market



Thailand



Meat and meat products
(other than poultry)



Grey market



Pakistan



Other food products/
mixed



Grey market



Greece



Alcoholic beverages



Grey market






Italy

[Ecoseven](#) [La Nuova Ferrara](#) [Gazzetta di Reggio](#) [Gazzetta di Modena](#)
[Civoline](#) [Meteo Web](#) [Affari Italiani](#) [Stretto Web](#) [La Gazzetta del](#)
[Mezzogiorno](#) [Lecce Prima](#) [Money](#) [Notizie in un Click](#) [Lecce Sette](#)
[TRNews](#) [Foggia Today](#) [Il tabloid](#) [Oltre Free Press](#) [La Gazzetta](#)
[del Mezzogiorno](#)

-  Fats and oils
-  Grey market

The authorities seized 1.1 tons of spurious black pepper adulterated with maida plaster of Paris, oil and prohibited colours.

[Urdu Point](#)

-  Pakistan
-  Herbs and spices
-  Adulteration/ Product tampering

The authorities seized 800 kg of contraband cheese and 1.5 tons of contraband meat, both from Argentina.

[TN Online](#) [Bemparana](#)

-  Brazil
-  Meat and meat products (other than poultry)
- Milk and milk products
-  Grey market

The authorities seized 20 000 bottles of counterfeit liquor.

[Corriere Adriatico](#) [La Nuova Ferrara](#) [Gazzetta di Modena](#) [Affari Italiani](#) [Gazzetta di Reggio](#) [La Ragione](#) [Stretto Web](#) [Meteo Web](#)

-  Italy
-  Alcoholic beverages
-  Counterfeit

The authorities seized 28 tons of food unfit for human consumption, arresting four persons.

[Euro Weekly News](#) [Huffington Post](#) [La Opinion de Malaga](#) [La Opinion de Zamora](#) [el Periodico Extremadura](#) [el Periodico el Dia](#) [La Opinion de Murcia](#) [Faro de Vigo](#) [La Opinion Coruna](#) [La Provincia](#) [Diario de Ibiza](#) [Diario de Mallorca](#) [Diario Cordoba](#)

-  Spain
-  Food
-  Adulteration/ Product tampering




The authorities seized 6 tons of contraband ration rice.

[The Hindu](#)

-  India
-  Cereals and bakery products
-  Grey market

The authorities seized 4 500 litres of illegal wine.

[TN Online](#)

-  Brazil
-  Wine
-  Grey market

Other interesting articles

New investigative powers to the UK NFCU

The UK Food Standards Agency (FSA) has launched a public consultation as regards additional investigative powers for the National Food Crime Unit (NFCU).

[Food.gov](#) [Asian Trader](#) [Food Safety Africa](#) [Farming UK](#)

New JRC study on dual quality of food products

The Joint Research Centre has published a new study to understand how the variation of the front-of-pack of a seemingly identical branded food product affects consumers' ability to perceive packages as different, whether this translates in believing that products are different, and their ability to take informed transactional decisions.

The Food Fraud Monthly Report is drafted by the JRC Geel Unit F.4 “*Food Integrity*” with the support of the JRC Ispra Unit T.5 “*Text and Data Mining*”.

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



Copyrights pictures:
©marilyn barbone- stock.adobe.com
©Alex White – stock.adobe.com
©UBE – stock.adobe.com
©Africa Studio – stockadobe.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](#).

