

January 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 1.1 tons of contraband pork (total value of 3 800 Euros).

[Khmer Times](#)



Thailand



Meat and meat products (other than poultry)



Grey market

The authorities seized in total 451 tons of contraband wheat and flour.

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



Pakistan



Cereals and bakery products



Grey market

The authorities seized 23 tons of contraband frozen meat (total value of 360 000 Euros) including beef, offal and pork knuckles.

[Scmp](#)



Hong Kong



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



Grey market

The authorities seized 199 tons of contraband rice meant for the public distribution system (PDS).

[Business Standard](#)



India



Cereals and bakery products



Grey market

The authorities seized in total 2 tons of meat products without traceability documentation.

[Roma Today](#) [Repubblica](#) [Giornale L'ora](#) [Sicilia Oggi Notizie](#) [Blog Sicilia QdS](#)
[Grandangolo Agrigento](#) [Olbia Notizie](#) [Affari italiani](#) [Palermo Today](#) [News Sicilia](#)
[Ital press](#) [Il Fatto Nisseno](#) [Sardinia Post](#) [Itaca Notizie](#) [Notizie Tiscali](#)
[L'Eco del Sud](#) [Eco seven](#) [La Sicilia](#) [La Sicilia web](#) [Giornale di Sicilia](#)
[La discussione](#) [ViviEnna](#) [Tele Nicosia](#) [Quotidiano di Gela](#)
[Italia a Tavola](#) [Resto al Sud](#) [Repubblica](#) [Fanpage](#) [Il Fatto Nisseno](#)



Italy



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



Grey market

At least eleven people died after ingesting liquor produced artisanally (by one of the victims) and adulterated with methanol.

[TalCual digital](#) [el pitazo](#) [Noticias al dia y a la hora](#) [La Nacion](#) [Tvn](#)
[Ojo](#) [Diario Correo](#) [Clarín](#) [Pagina Siete](#) [Noticias al dia y a la hora](#) [el Aragueno](#)
[Diario Libre](#) [Noticia al dia](#) [Infobae](#) [Montevideo](#) [La verdad](#) [Semana](#)
[Debate](#) [Infobae](#) [La Nacion](#) [el Pitazo](#) [el Comercio](#) [NotiActual](#)
[Noticias al dia y a la hora](#) [Primicia](#) [Union Radio](#) [La verdad](#) [Noticia](#)
[al dia](#) [Globo vision](#) [el Universal](#) [Diario el Tiempo](#) [Ultimas Noticias](#)
[el Aragueno](#) [Caraota Digital](#) [Noticias al dia](#) [La Verdad](#)

 Venezuela
 Alcoholic beverages
 Adulteration/ Product tampering
Grey market

The Customs authorities seized 600 tons of illegally imported brown sugar from India. There is an ongoing ban on the importation of brown sugar.

[Sri Lanka Mirror](#) [Daily News](#) [Daily Mirror](#)

 Sri Lanka
 Other food products/ mixed
 Grey market

The authorities sealed a factory illegally packing meat and seized 6 tons of meat and other material.

[Hindustan Times](#)

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

The authorities seized 3 645 litres of illegal alcohol.

[Hindustan Times](#)

 India
 Alcoholic beverages
 Grey market

The authorities seized 18 120 bottles of various brands of liquor without all the necessary documentation.

[Times of India](#)

The authorities seized 13 845 bottles of substandard and illegal beer and whiskey.

[Hindustan Times](#)

The authorities seized 4 920 bottles of illegal rum and vodka.

[Uni India](#)

The authorities seized 11 688 bottles of smuggled liquor.

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

The Customs authorities seized almost 2 000 litres of smuggled alcohol.

[Cuget liber](#)

 Romania
 Alcoholic beverages
 Grey market

The authorities seized 8 585 units of contraband liquor including beer, rum, rum with cola, tequila and whiskey (total value of 14 700 Euros).

[Crhoy](#)

 Costa Rica
 Alcoholic beverages
 Grey market

In another operation, the authorities seized 12 000 beers, 6 480 rum and coke drinks (total value of 32 650 Euros).

[Crhoy](#) [Monumental](#)

The authorities seized 3 950 litres of olive oil without traceability documentation.
[Itaca Notizie](#) [Giornale di Sicilia](#) [Blog Sicilia](#) [Il giornale di Pantelleria](#) [Sicilia Oggi Notizie](#) [Grandangolo Agrigento](#) [La Sicilia web](#) [La Milano](#) [QdS](#) [Itaca Notizie](#) [Il Fatto Nisseno](#)

-  Italy
-  Fats and oils
-  Grey market

The authorities seized 3 tons of contraband olive oil from Albania.
[Brindisi Report](#) [Quotidiano di Puglia](#) [Oltre free press](#)

The authorities seized 40 084 bottles of wine counterfeiting known brands (total value of 1.43 million Euros).
[Wine News](#)

-  China
-  Wine
-  Counterfeit

The authorities seized 22.3 tons of olives without traceability documentation and suspected of being stolen.
[Radio Interior](#) [Region digital](#) [AgroInformacion](#) [el Periodico Extremadura](#) [Agroclm](#)

-  Spain
-  Fruits and vegetables
-  Grey market

The authorities seized 4 000 tons of smuggled sugar from Thailand (total value of 4.04 million Euros).
[Manila Bulletin](#) [GMA Network](#) [ABS CBN News](#) [Phil Star](#) [Tribune](#) [GMA Network](#) [Tribune](#) [Manila Times](#) [GMA Network](#)

-  Philippines
-  Other food products/ mixed
-  Grey market

Between July and December 2022, the authorities seized 1.66 tons of shrimps injected with jelly-like substances.
[The Financial Express](#)

-  Bangladesh
-  Crustaceans and products thereof
-  Adulteration/ Product tampering

The authorities seized 2 tons of food (meat, dairy products and vegetables) without traceability documentation and without respecting the minimal hygiene requirements (total value of 20 000 Euros).
[Ansa](#) [Il Gazzettino](#) [Padova Oggi](#) [Il Metropolitano](#) [il Tabloid](#) [Oggi](#) [Treviso](#)

-  Italy
-  Fruits and vegetables
- Meat and meat products (other than poultry)
- Milk and milk products
- Poultry meat and poultry meat products
-  Grey market

The authorities arrested three people and seized 2 190 litres of illegal cholai wine.
[Bss News](#)

-  Bangladesh
-  Alcoholic beverages
-  Grey market

The authorities seized 2.88 tons of contraband rice without documents confirming customs clearance.
[24kg](#)

-  Kyrgyzstan
-  Cereals and bakery products
-  Grey market

The authorities seized 1 080 litres of milk chemically adulterated with e.g. sodium chloride, dry milk powder and sugar.

[Urdu Point](#) [Nation](#) [Brecorder](#)



Pakistan



Milk and milk products



Adulteration/ Product tampering

By using DNA barcoding in 104 retailers, researchers detected IUCN red list threatened sharks in fish and chip meals. Only 27% of the samples identified as gummy shark (characterised by a sustainable population) and only 11% of retailers identified without mistakes the species sold.

[Food Control News](#) [National Tribune News](#) [Herald Sun](#) [Maitland Mercury](#) [Courier mail](#) [Samachar Central 9](#) [Technology Networks](#) [The Guardian](#) [Abc News](#) [Independent](#) [The Border Mail](#) [Daily Advertiser](#) [Illawarra Mercury](#) [Port Stephens Examiner](#) [The Canberra Times](#) [Western Advocate](#) [Matiland Mercury](#) [India EducationDiary](#) [Verve Times](#) [Science Times](#) [Daily Star](#) [Sky News](#) [Heart](#) [Coastfm](#) [Digital Journal](#) [Ifi](#) [Science Geo](#)



Australia



Fish and fish products



Misdescription/ Mislabelling/ Misbranding

At least four people died and six others were hospitalised after consuming adulterated alcohol.

[Hindustan Times](#) [The Hindu](#)



India



Alcoholic beverages



Adulteration/ Product tampering
Grey market

The authorities seized 13 000 litres of untaxed contraband bottles of vodka and whiskey from Poland.

[Moz](#)



Germany



Alcoholic beverages



Grey market

The authorities seized 6 334 bottles of contraband vodka illegally imported from Belgium (total value of 40 000 Euros).

[20 minutes](#)



France



Alcoholic beverages



Grey market

The authorities seized 11 223 litres of contraband vegetable oils.

[Tribune Online NG](#)



Nigeria



Fats and oils



Grey market

The authorities closed an unlicensed factory and seized 3 tons of raw materials. The factory was counterfeiting products and labels from famous coffee and tea brands.

[Archyde Industry](#) [Archyde](#) [Teller Report](#) [Egypt Independent](#) [Securing](#)



Egypt



Cocoa and cocoa preparations, coffee and tea



Counterfeit

The authorities seized 4 tons of seafood without traceability documentation.

[Blog Sicilia](#) [Giornale di Sicilia](#) [Palermo Today](#) [New Sicilia](#)



Italy



Bivalve molluscs and products thereof
Cephalopods and products thereof
Crustaceans and products

							thereof Fish and fish products Gastropods Grey market
							
The authorities seized 10 548 bottles of contraband liquor and 2 160 cans of contraband beer (total value of almost 845 000 Euros).							Pakistan
The News							Alcoholic beverages Wine
							Grey market
							India
In January, the authorities seized 15 300 litres of milk adulterated with hydrogen peroxide (a preservative).							Milk and milk products
The Hindu							Adulteration/ Product tampering

Other interesting articles

Nigerian actions against smuggling

In 2022, the Nigerian authorities seized 4 655 tons of contraband rice.

[Opinion Nigeria](#)



Nigeria



Cereals and bakery products

Food smuggling on Russian borders

As a consequence of the Western sanctions, food smuggling has increased between Poland and the Kaliningrad Oblast.

[Euractiv](#) [Lrt](#)



Poland/ Russia



Food

New US regulation on organic food

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) published a final rule in order to reduce frauds in the organic sector. It is set to be implemented in 2024.

[USDA](#) [Market Screener](#) [Financial post](#) [Agriculture](#) [Spokesman](#) [Le figaro](#) [Barrons](#) [Tuko](#) [Legit](#) [The Peninsula Qatar](#) [Digital Journal](#) [Var](#) [Matin](#) [Nice Matin](#) [Monaco Matin](#) [Samachar Central](#) [Noticias Uol](#) [Opovo](#) [Wftv](#) [Istoe](#) [Sfgate](#) [Independent](#) [Click2Houston](#) [ClickonDetroit](#) [Houston Chronicle](#) [News4jax](#) [Star Tribune](#) [abc news](#) [Star](#) [Advertiser](#) [Buffalo News](#) [My News13](#) [Ap News](#) [Metro](#) [Boston](#) [Globe](#) [Voa News](#) [Fox Business](#) [dCourier](#) [Long Beach Star](#) [Revista Chacra](#) [Ksby](#) [La France agricole](#) [Fox35Orlando](#) [el Vocero](#) [Cbs News](#) [Live5news](#)



USA



Food

FSA Annual Report

The UK Food Standard Agency (FSA) published the Consolidated, Westminster, Wales and Northern Ireland Annual Report and Accounts for 2021/2022.

[Food.gov.uk](#)



United Kingdom



Food

WHO publication on food systems

The World Health Organization has published the Technical Brief "Transforming food systems to reduce global inequality and improve food safety and health". Unsafe and adulterated foods are highlighted as a serious issue to be tackled.

[WHO](#) [Food Safety News](#)



World



Food

Onion smuggling on the rise

Given the soaring prices of onions, smugglers started to target them to compensate their lack on the market.

[The Guardian](#) [Agri](#) [Breitbart](#) [L'Eco del Sud](#) [Stern](#)



Philippines



Fruits and vegetables

Eggs smuggled from Mexico to USA

The US border agents are seizing increasing quantities of eggs smuggled from Mexico to USA. Egg prices in USA have increased, probably following an outbreak of avian influenza.

[Mexico Institute](#) [El Paso Times](#) [Breaking Latest](#) [Oxtero](#) [Noti Ulti News](#)
[US](#) [Kxxv](#) [La Nacion](#) [Wish TV](#) [101 Noticias Vanguardia](#) [Oil City](#) [La](#)
[Razon](#) [Agro popular](#) [Star Advertiser](#) [Voz de America](#) [Mvs Noticias](#) [Ultimas](#)
[Noticias](#) [Cuba debate](#) [Noticiero Venevision](#) [The Hill](#) [Voa News](#) [The](#)
[Charlotte Observer](#) [Myrtle Beach Online](#) [The Fresno Bee](#) [Belleville](#) [News-](#)
[Democrat](#) [The Island Packet](#) [Idaho Statesman](#)



USA/ Mexico



Eggs and egg products

Alcohol fraud report

The Fraud Advisory Panel published the Special Report on alcohol fraud.

[Fraud Advisory Panel](#) [Professional Security](#)



United Kingdom



Alcoholic beverages
Wine

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