

# 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

Malaysian authorities have confiscated over 8 tonnes of undeclared subsidized cooking oil and sugar from a house in Kota Kinabalu. The goods, worth thousands of ringgit, were likely intended for resale on the black market, depriving those in need of subsidies.

07/10/2024 [The Star](#)



Malaysia



Other food products/  
mixed



Grey market

Authorities in Ivory Coast have confiscated 33 trucks carrying smuggled cocoa beans, valued at millions of dollars. The seized cargo was intended for export, but lacked proper documentation and taxes, evading government revenue and regulations.

07/10/2024 [Market Screener](#) [Abidjan Net](#)



Ivory Coast



Cocoa and cocoa  
preparations, coffee and  
tea



Grey market

South Korean authorities have confiscated 10 Chinese fishing vessels for engaging in illegal fishing activities in Korean waters. The vessels were found to be operating without proper permits and were suspected of overfishing and damaging marine ecosystems.

07/10/2024 [Newsweek](#) [Newsweek](#)



South Korea  
China



Fish and fish products



Document forgery

Authorities have seized 1 500 liters of counterfeit vodka and issued a health warning due to concerns over the drink's safety. The fake vodka may contain toxic substances, posing a risk to consumers' health.

08/10/2024 [Mirror](#)



Scotland



Alcoholic beverages



Counterfeit

Italian authorities have confiscated 2 tonnes of tuna and swordfish in Civitavecchia, citing concerns over their origin and the fishing methods used to catch them. The seizure is part of a crackdown on illegal fishing practices in the region.

08/10/2024 [CANALE DIECI](#)



Italy



Fish and fish products



Grey market  
Misdescription/  
Mislabelling/  
Misbranding

Authorities in Kyrgyzstan's Batken region have confiscated nearly 40 000 chicken eggs smuggled from Uzbekistan, citing lack of proper documentation and non-compliance with veterinary and sanitary regulations.

08/10/2024 [AKIpress](#)

The Singapore authorities have confiscated over 1 000 slimming products sold online, which were found to contain banned substances such as sibutramine and phenolphthalein. The products posed a risk to consumers' health and were removed from the market.

08/10/2024 [TNP](#)

Bolivian authorities have confiscated more than 1 000 boxes of eggs that were being smuggled to Peru. The eggs were handed over to EMAPA, a state-owned company, to be sold at a fair price, preventing the eggs from being sold on the black market.

08/10/2024 [ATB DIGITAL](#) [Peru21](#)

Food safety officials in Hyderabad have confiscated 300 kg of tea powder that was mixed with coconut shell powder, a cheaper and potentially hazardous ingredient. The adulteration was discovered during a raid on a manufacturing unit, and the seized tea powder was declared unfit for human consumption.

09/10/2024 [The Hindu](#)

Turkish authorities have confiscated 30 tonnes of meat products, including some that contained pork, which is forbidden in Islam. The adulterated products were discovered during a raid on a factory, and the seizure has sparked public outcry in Turkey, where the majority of the population is Muslim.

09/10/2024 [Turkish Minute](#)

A shocking discovery of widespread document fraud has led to a massive recall of over 4,5 million kg of meat and poultry products across the United States. The scandal, which involves the falsification of certificates of inspection and production records, has raised serious concerns about the integrity of the food industry and the potential risks to public health.

09/10/2024 [Daily Voice](#) [RI.gov](#) [Fox 35 Orlando](#) [Menafn](#) [Globe News Wire](#) [USA Today](#)

The Pakistani Food Authority has confiscated 12 000 kg of substandard cooking oil from a factory, due to non-compliance with food safety and quality standards.

14/10/2024 [The News](#)

Togolese authorities have confiscated 100 bags of smuggled cocoa, weighing approximately 5 000 kg, during a raid by a special task force in the Vieux-Akrade region.

14/10/2024 [Togolais](#) [News Ghana](#)



Uzbekistan



Eggs and egg products



Grey market



Singapore



Dietetic foods, food supplements, fortified foods



Adulteration/ Product tampering



Bolivia



Eggs and egg products



Grey market



India



Herbs and spices



Adulteration/ Product tampering



Turkey



Poultry meat and poultry meat products



Adulteration/ Product tampering



United States



Meat and meat products (other than poultry)

Poultry meat and poultry meat products



Document forgery



Pakistan



Fats and oils



Adulteration/ Product tampering



Ghana



Cocoa and cocoa preparations, coffee and tea



Grey market

A joint operation between French and Italian authorities has led to the arrest of six individuals accused of selling counterfeit luxury wine. The ring, which operated across several countries, including France, Italy, and Switzerland, sold fake bottles of wine, for up to € 15 000 per bottle.

15/10/2024 [ok!Mugello](#) [Giornale L'ora](#) [LA STAMPA](#) [CUNEODICE.IT](#) [GIORNALE DI BRESCIA](#) [nice-matin](#) [France3-regions](#) [francetvinfo](#) [fanpage](#) [cronachedigusto](#) [Wine News](#) [Eurojust](#) [Vosgesmatin](#) [ilmetropolitano](#) [straitstimes](#) [ilpost](#) [24 sapo](#) [Connexion France](#) [Edition CNN](#) [Vitisphere](#) [Straitstimes](#) [Larevista](#) [CNN espanol](#) [lessentiel](#) [Averdade](#) [Euronews](#) [CDT](#) [noticiasaminuto](#) [vice](#)



Bolivian authorities have confiscated 10 heads of cattle, 17 500 kg of sugar, and 198 000 eggs in an anti-smuggling operation, aimed at curbing the illicit trade of goods in the country.

15/10/2024 [ATB](#)



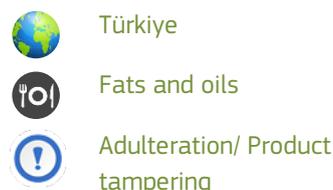
The Bangladeshi Navy has detained 31 Indian fishermen and seized 2 trawlers with 4 tonnes of fish, after they were found fishing illegally in Bangladeshi waters.

16/10/2024 [The Financial Express](#)



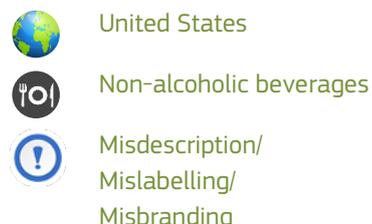
Turkish authorities have confiscated 30 000 liters of adulterated olive oil, after uncovering a large-scale fraud in Turkey's olive oil industry.

16/10/2024 [Haberler](#)



Coca-Cola has recalled thousands of cases of its Zero Sugar Lemonade, after discovering that some of them contained a significant amount of sugar, rather than being sugar-free as labeled.

16/10/2024 [nbc news](#) [whatsnew2day](#) [archyde](#)



Authorities in Bihar have seized 1 200 liters of spurious liquor after 24 people died from consuming the poisonous drink.

17/10/2024 [Scroll](#) [Diario Siglo XXI](#) [Times of India](#) [news18](#) [economictimes](#) [ANI](#) [The Health Site](#)



Italian authorities have seized 4 tonnes of fish in Pomigliano d'Arco, Naples, after discovering a major case of food fraud, which involved the sale of spoiled and tampered-with fish products.

17/10/2024 [zazoom](#)



The Pakistani Food Authority has seized 30 000 liters of substandard oil in an operation in Bahawalpur, after discovering that it did not meet food safety standards.

18/10/2024 [UrduPoint](#)



Pakistan



Fats and oils



Adulteration/ Product tampering

Guatemalan authorities have seized over 40 tonnes of smuggled rice, as part of an operation against the illicit trade of food in the country.

18/10/2024 [Prensa latina](#)



Guatemala



Cereals and bakery products



Grey market  
Misdescription/  
Mislabelling/  
Misbranding

Colombian authorities have seized 30 tonnes of adulterated milk and temporarily closed 13 milk processing plants, after discovering that they did not meet food safety standards.

18/10/2024 [la republica](#)



Colombia



Milk and milk products



Adulteration/ Product tampering

Italian authorities have seized 700 kg of seafood products that were deemed unfit for consumption, after discovering that they were being sold without proper documentation and permits along the coast.

22/10/2024 [telesveva](#)



Italy



Fish and fish products



Adulteration/ Product tampering

Brazilian authorities have seized 100 kg of fish and turtle eggs in Marajó, after discovering that they were being sold without proper permits and licenses, in violation of environmental and wildlife protection laws.

22/10/2024 [oliberal](#)



Brazil



Fish and fish products  
Eggs and egg products  
Grey market



Malaysian authorities have seized 700 kg of fish from a tugboat in Pulau Usukan waters, after discovering that the vessel was involved in illegal fishing activities.

22/10/2024 [thestar](#)



Malaysia



Fish and fish products



Document forgery

Italian authorities have seized 25 000 liters of wine and imposed a fine of EUR 3 000 in Taurasi, after discovering that the wine was being produced and sold without proper documentation and permits.

23/10/2024 [ottopagine](#)



Italy



Wine



Document forgery

The European Anti-Fraud Office has seized around 40 000 liters of illegal alcoholic beverages, in an operation against smuggling and counterfeiting of alcoholic products in the European Union.

23/10/2024 [OLAF](#) [Euro Weekly News](#) [24.sapo.pt](#) [la razon](#) [BORSA ITALIANA](#) [rtpa](#)



Austria  
Belgium



Alcoholic beverages  
Other food products/  
mixed



Counterfeit

Italian authorities have seized 1 tonne of fish from a couple of poachers, after discovering that they were fishing without proper permits and licenses in the Ferrara area.

24/10/2024 [il Resto del Carlino](#)



Italy



Fish and fish products



Document forgery

Pakistani authorities have seized 14 tons of low-quality spices and soybean protein, after discovering that they did not meet food safety standards and were being sold to consumers without proper labeling.

24/10/2024 [THE NEWS](#) [THE NEWS](#)



Pakistan



Herbs and spices



Adulteration/ Product tampering

Spanish authorities have seized 1 000 kg of adulterated food products from a canning factory, after discovering that the owners were involved in a food fraud scheme. The products were being sold with false labels and contained unknown ingredients.

27/10/2024 [El Día de La Rioja](#)



Spain



Other food products/ mixed



Misdescription/ Mislabelling/ Misbranding

Spanish authorities have seized 4 000 liters of adulterated olive oil, which was being sold as "extra virgin" with fake labels. The operation was part of a crackdown on food fraud and adulteration in the country.

29/10/2024 [Antena 3](#) [naiz](#) [gentedigital](#)



Spain



Fats and oils



Adulteration/ Product tampering

Italian authorities have seized 30 tonnes of fish from Senegal, after discovering that it was being transported in a container without proper documentation. The operation was part of a crackdown on illegal fishing and seafood trafficking in the region. The seized fish will be destroyed to prevent it from entering the market.

29/10/2024 [Centro Pagina](#) [ANCONA TODAY](#)



Italy



Senegal



Fish and fish products



Document forgery  
Misdescription/  
Mislabelling/  
Misbranding

Philippine authorities have seized 24 tonnes of smuggled mackerel, after discovering that they were being illegally imported into the country.

31/10/2024 [philstar](#)



Philippines



Fish and fish products



Grey market

The Italian Coast Guard has seized 4 tonnes of seafood products in Calabria, after discovering that they were being sold illegally on the market.

31/10/2024 [la Nuova Calabria](#)



Italy



Fish and fish products



Misdescription/  
Mislabelling/  
Misbranding

Italian authorities have seized 12 000 liters of wine and 2 000 kg of grapes in Catania, as part of an operation against adulteration and illicit trade of wine products.

31/10/2024 [Giornale L'Ora](#)



Italy



Wine



Document forgery

Italian authorities have seized over 500 000 liters of adulterated wine in Cerignola, after discovering that the wine had been denatured with water and other substances, making it unfit for human consumption.

31/10/2024 [L'Edicola](#)



Italy



Wine



Adulteration/ Product tampering

## Other interesting articles

September 2024 - Report on EU agri-food fraud suspicions



EU

“Monthly reports on Agri-Food Fraud Monthly suspicions” displaying the necessary information concerning fraud suspicions retrieved from the Alert and Cooperation Network.



Food

29/09/2024 [FFN monthly - European Commission](#)

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”.

It serves the same interests as the JRC report but is based on EUMS notifications. More at: [FFN monthly - European Commission](#) (europa.eu)

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