

February 2025

# 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 police in Artigas seized a tonne of Brazilian chicken which had been smuggled into the country. The individual responsible was sentenced to prison for contraband.

01/02/2025 [elpueblodigital](#) [teledoce](#)



Uruguay



Poultry meat and poultry  
meat products  
Grey market



The Punjab Food Authority (PFA) discarded 150 kg of adulterated spices and 50 kg of other substandard food products in a crackdown on food fraud.

02/02/2025 [urdupoint](#)



Pakistan



Herbs and spices



Adulteration/ Product  
tampering

The Colombian National Food and Drug Surveillance Institute (INVIMA) withdrew from the market over 500 000 illegal products that posed a risk to public health.

03/02/2025 [occidente](#)



Colombia



Alcoholic beverages  
Other food products/  
mixed



Grey market

The Italian Coast Guard and Financial Police seized 800 kg of fish products, which were then donated to charitable organisations in Manfredonia after being deemed unfit for sale.

04/02/2025 [ledicola](#) [immediato](#)



Italy



Fish and fish products



Misdescription/  
Mislabelling/ Misbranding

Mexican authorities have seized adulterated milk in two separate incidents in León and Irapuato, resulting in the arrest of two individuals and a strengthening of health surveillance in the area.

05/02/2025 [am](#) [periodicocorreo](#)



Mexico



Milk and milk products



Grey market

The Italian Financial Police seized 3 000 litres of untraceable cow's milk in Palermo, highlighting concerns over food safety and authenticity.

06/02/2025 [ilfattonisseno](#)



Italy



Milk and milk products



Misdescription/  
Mislabelling/ Misbranding

The Kano State Government in Nigeria has seized worth of spoiled sesame seeds, cracking down on food adulteration in the state.

06/02/2025 [punchng](#)



Nigeria



Nuts, nut products and  
seeds



Adulteration/ Product  
tampering

The Spanish Civil Guard has dismantled an international network of illegal wine trade, investigating seven individuals for selling counterfeit Rioja wines in Asia..

06/02/2025 [eldiadelarioja](#) [actualidadriojabaja](#)



Spain



Wine



Counterfeit

Bolivian authorities have seized an unspecified quantity of adulterated food products, including meat and other goods, in a crackdown on food fraud in the country.

06/02/2025 [hoybolivia](#)



Bolivia



Meat and meat products  
(other than poultry)

Poultry meat and poultry  
meat products



Grey market

Brazilian authorities have seized over 2 000 litres of prohibited olive oil in the state of Paraná, highlighting concerns over food safety and authenticity.

09/02/2025 [globo rural](#)



Brazil



Fats and oils



Grey market

Indian authorities have seized 400 quintals of Public Distribution System (PDS) rice from a private warehouse in Madhya Pradesh, highlighting concerns over food diversion and corruption.

10/02/2025 [deccanherald](#)



India



Cereals and bakery  
products



Grey market

Yemeni authorities have seized a large quantity of expired and adulterated food products, including dairy products and other goods, in a crackdown on food fraud in the country.

12/02/2025 [saba](#)



Yemen



Milk and milk products



Misdescription/  
Mislabelling/ Misbranding

A raid on a premises in Worthing has led to the discovery of stolen goods, including food and drink, and the arrest of four individuals, highlighting concerns over food theft and distribution of illicit goods.

13/02/2025 [article.wn](#)



United Kingdom



Alcoholic beverages



Food

Grey market

A cigarette and alcohol smuggling ring has been dismantled by the police, resulting in the confiscation of 40 000 cigarettes and an unspecified quantity of alcohol.

13/02/2025 [zch](#)



Romania



Alcoholic beverages



Grey market

Italian authorities have seized 5 300 litres of olive oil and alcoholic beverages at the port of Ancona, suspected to be of Albanian origin.

14/02/2025 [cronacheancona](#)



Italy



Fats and oils



Grey market

The US Coast Guard has detained 11 Mexican fishermen and seized 1 595 pounds of illegal fish and 9 sharks off the coast of Texas, highlighting concerns over fisheries crime and food safety.

14/02/2025 [hstoday](#)



United States



Fish and fish products



Grey market

Northern Irish authorities have seized 600 kg of illegal meat, sparking concerns about food safety and potential health risks to consumers. The origin and type of meat have not been specified, but the seizure highlights the need for vigilant monitoring to prevent the sale of illicit and potentially hazardous food products.

19/02/2025 [farminguk](#)



United Kingdom



Meat and meat products  
(other than poultry)



Counterfeit

Authorities in Tunisia have uncovered a significant case of olive oil fraud, highlighting concerns over the authenticity and quality of olive oil in the country.

20/02/2025 [teatronaturale](#)



Tunisia



Fats and oils



Document forgery

Authorities in Candelaria, Valle del Cauca, Colombia, have seized a significant quantity of adulterated liquor, equivalent to approximately 2,600 bottles. The seizure highlights the ongoing issue of liquor adulteration in the region, posing serious health risks to consumers.

13/01/2025 [elpais](#)



Colombia



Alcoholic beverages



Grey market

Brazilian authorities have seized over 40 tonnes of counterfeit olive oil, equivalent to approximately 10 800 litres, in São Paulo, and four individuals have been arrested in connection with the case, highlighting concerns over food safety and authenticity.

20/02/2025 [noticias.uol](#) [exame](#)



Brazil



Fats and oils



Counterfeit  
Misdescription/  
Mislabelling/ Misbranding

The Hong Kong authorities have seized a quantity of adulterated food products, including frozen meat and poultry, from a local food establishment, highlighting concerns over food safety and authenticity.

21/02/2025 [info.gov](#)



China



Fish and fish products



Grey market

The Dominican authorities have seized 85 quintals of smuggled cocoa, highlighting concerns over food safety and illicit trade..

21/02/2025 [elcaribe](#)



Dominican Republic



Cocoa and cocoa  
preparations, coffee and  
tea



Grey market

Ghanaian authorities have seized a significant quantity of smuggled cocoa, highlighting concerns over food safety and illicit trade..

24/02/2025 [apanews](#)



Ghana



Cocoa and cocoa  
preparations, coffee and  
tea



Grey market

The Italian Coast Guard has seized a quantity of fish in Palermo, specifically in the Porticello area, highlighting concerns over food safety and illicit trade.

26/02/2025 [palermotoday](#)



Italy



Fish and fish products



Misdescription/  
Mislabelling/ Misbranding

Spanish authorities have discovered a hidden storage room in a mobile phone shop in Madrid, containing 25 tonnes of illicit meat, including Kobe beef, and hazardous sauces, highlighting concerns over food safety and authenticity.

27/02/2025 [abc](#) [eldebate](#)



Spain



Other food products/  
mixed



Misdescription/  
Mislabelling/ Misbranding

Cuban authorities have discovered a clandestine coffee factory in Havana, highlighting concerns over food safety and authenticity.

27/02/2025 [cibercuba](#)



Cuba



Herbs and spices



Grey market

## Other interesting articles

### Report on EU agri-food fraud suspicions

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

[FFN monthly - European Commission](#)



EU



Food

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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