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Food Fraud Monthly Report: Evidence-Based Analysis on Food Fraud Incidents

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Food Fraud incidents

Spanish authorities seized 600 kg of fish and seafood in Huelva after inspections found no traceability records, labelling or legal documentation. Products fit for consumption were donated to food charities, while unsafe items were destroyed.

Date: 01/04/2026

Source: [huelvaya](#)



Spain

Fish and fish products

Misdescription/ Mislabelling/
Misbranding

Document forgery

Authorities in India intensified a crackdown on illegal food production units, arresting 64 people and registering 61 cases after seizing 14 t and 400 l of adulterated food products, including ginger-garlic paste, dairy products, ice cream and Osmania biscuits made under unhygienic conditions.

Date: 01/04/2026

Source: [hindustantimes](#)



India

Milk and milk products

Cereals and bakery products
Soups, broths, sauces and
condiments

Meat and meat products (other
than poultry)

Other food products/ mixed
Adulteration/ Product tampering
Misdescription/ Mislabelling/
Misbranding

Authorities in Bulgaria removed more than 2.4 t of unsafe food from sale in Haskovo during inspections. Authorities identified expired and improperly stored products, aiming to protect consumers and strengthen food safety controls in the region.

Date: 01/04/2026

Source: [bta](#)



Bulgaria

Poultry meat and poultry meat
products

Milk and milk products

Misdescription/ Mislabelling/
Misbranding

Adulteration/ Product tampering

Authorities in India dismantled an illegal liquor distribution network near Sanand, seizing alcohol worth about EUR 74 600 and arresting suspects. A total of 11 332 bottles of foreign liquor of various brands were recovered. Date: 02/04/2026 Source: menafn	  	India Alcoholic beverages Grey market
More than 300 inspections of the fish supply chain on Elba Island led to the seizure of around 200 kg of seafood and fines totalling EUR 15 000. Authorities targeted traceability and food-safety violations across fishing, distribution and restaurant sectors. Date: 02/04/2026 Source: gonews	  	Italy Fish and fish products Misdescription/ Mislabelling/ Misbranding
Authorities in Malaysia dismantled a frozen-food smuggling syndicate after raiding three premises, seizing 34 t of pork carcasses and uncertified frozen chicken worth about EUR 320 000. Thirty-two people were detained. Date: 02/04/2026 Source: thestar	    	Malaysia Poultry meat and poultry meat products Meat and meat products (other than poultry) Grey market Document forgery
Authorities in Vietnam uncovered a network that slaughtered and distributed nearly 300 t of diseased pork, including supplies to markets and some school kitchens. Eight suspects were charged. Date: 02/04/2026 Source: vietnamnet	  	Vietnam Meat and meat products (other than poultry) Misdescription/ Mislabelling/ Misbranding
Authorities in Chile dismantled a criminal group that altered expiry dates on expired food using chemicals and resold the products. More than 15 000 adulterated items, including mayonnaise, butter, biscuits and pet food, were seized, highlighting serious food safety risks. Date: 03/04/2026 Source: chilevision	      	Chile Soups, broths, sauces and condiments Milk and milk products Cereals and bakery products Pet food Other food products/ mixed Misdescription/ Mislabelling/ Misbranding

Authorities in Türkiye added 25 more products to its food fraud blacklist. Inspectors found poultry meat in beef mince, food dye in black tea, and pharmaceutical ingredients in four dietary and herbal products sold by an Istanbul-based company, some of which were widely available online. Date: 03/04/2026 Source: haberler	   	Türkiye Other food products/ mixed Counterfeit Adulteration/ Product tampering
Bulgarian Authorities seized nearly 0.5 t of undocumented food products in the EU from a van entering Bulgaria from Serbia at the Kalotina border checkpoint. The confiscated goods will be destroyed. Date: 05/04/2026 Source: bta	   	Bulgaria Food Misdescription/ Mislabelling/ Misbranding Document forgery
More than 7 t of cheese were seized in Albania after inspectors found that a dairy facility failed to meet hygiene and sanitary standards. Authorities blocked the products from entering the market and launched administrative measures against the operator. Date: 05/04/2026 Source: politiko	  	Albania Milk and milk products Misdescription/ Mislabelling/ Misbranding
Authorities in Bulgaria ordered the destruction of 6.6 t of food and partially suspended a meat-processing company after finding unlabelled products, improper storage conditions, poor hygiene, and traceability breaches that posed potential health risks. Date: 06/04/2026 Source: bta	  	Bulgaria Meat and meat products (other than poultry) Misdescription/ Mislabelling/ Misbranding
Two restaurants in Agrigento province were closed after inspectors found serious hygiene violations during operation “Phoenix”. Authorities seized about 21 t of fish products and issued administrative fines totaling EUR 150 000 for food safety and traceability breaches. Date: 07/04/2026 Source: agrigentooggi	  	Italy Fish and fish products Misdescription/ Mislabelling/ Misbranding

Authorities in Dominican Republic seized over 2.3 million illicit products, including adulterated alcohol. Nineteen raids and inspections led to 15 arrests as part of a nationwide crackdown on illegal trade and public health risks. Date: 08/04/2026 Source: diariolibre	  	Dominican Republic Food Adulteration/ Product tampering
Authorities seized 1 625 bottles of suspected counterfeit alcohol and a distribution vehicle during a raid in Kenya's Lower Eastern region. Investigations are ongoing after officials found fake tax stamps, irregular packaging, and evidence of bottle refilling. Date: 08/04/2026 Source: the-star	   	Kenya Alcoholic beverages Counterfeit Grey market
Customs officers at the Bogorodica border crossing seized 12.5 t of undeclared fruit and vegetables worth about EUR 22 700. The goods were confiscated and criminal smuggling charges were filed against the suspect. Date: 08/04/2026 Source: slobodenpecat	  	North Macedonia Fruits and vegetables Grey market
Three Myanmar nationals were arrested in a raid on a house used to store smuggled alcohol in Johor. Authorities seized over 9 100 bottles of duty-unpaid liquor and a vehicle, with a total value of about EUR 190 000. Date: 08/04/2026 Source: thestar	  	Malaysia Alcoholic beverages Grey market
Operation Clean Food in Bulgaria led to the closure of 27 food outlets and the seizure of over 260 t of unsafe food, mainly animal products. Authorities identified expired goods, unclear origins, smuggling networks, and serious hygiene violations, including risks to children's food supplies. Date: 09/04/2026 Source: bta	   	Bulgaria Food Misdescription/ Mislabelling/ Misbranding Grey market

Authorities in Italy seized more than 17 000 bottles of mineral water from an unauthorized warehouse in Quartu belonging to a commercial establishment. Date: 10/04/2026 Source: lanuovasardegna	  	Italy Natural mineral water Grey market
Authorities in Cagliari province seized over 1 200 kg of fish products lacking traceability documentation and mandatory labeling. Health inspections found the products unfit for consumption, leading to their destruction, while the storage facility was also seized for regulatory violations. Date: 10/04/2026 Source: italpress	  	Italy Fish and fish products Misdescription/ Mislabelling/ Misbranding
UK authorities announced a crackdown on illegal meat imports after border officers seized more than 14 t of prohibited meat products at Dover in a single week. Date: 10/04/2026 Source: farminguk	  	United Kingdom Meat and meat products (other than poultry) Grey market
Authorities in Uruguay seized smuggled food products from two supermarkets in Melo, including more than 600 l of Brazilian milk, meat products, other food items, and alcoholic beverages. The products were being sold outside official import and traceability controls. Date: 11/04/2026 Source: subrayado	    	Uruguay Alcoholic beverages Milk and milk products Other food products/ mixed Grey market
Authorities in Pakistan uncovered a fake milk production network in Vehari, seizing more than 4 000 l of adulterated milk and production materials. Two suspects were arrested. Date: 13/04/2026 Source: app	  	Pakistan Milk and milk products Adulteration/ Product tampering

Turkish authorities seized 1 500 l of counterfeit olive oil and several chemical products during an anti-smuggling operation in Bolu. The investigation revealed an alleged food fraud scheme involving the production and distribution of fake olive oil intended for the market. Date: 13/04/2026 Source: haberler ansa	   	Türkiye Fats and oils Adulteration/ Product tampering Grey market
Authorities in India seized nearly 19 850 bottles of illegally transported liquor worth about EUR 117 000. A man was arrested, while authorities continue investigating a wider smuggling network linked to suppliers and buyers. Date: 13/04/2026 Source: timesofindia	  	India Alcoholic beverages Grey market
Ecuadorian authorities seized more than 15 000 smuggled beer bottles in northern Quito after discovering 639 undocumented cases in a vehicle. The illegal shipment, valued at about EUR 27 000, was confiscated during a joint customs and military operation. Date: 14/04/2026 Source: teleamazonas	  	Ecuador Alcoholic beverages Grey market
Food safety inspectors shut down a restaurant and seized around 800 kg of food during inspections in Italy's Viterbo area. Authorities found serious hygiene failures, expired and untraceable products, and imposed fines exceeding EUR 19 000. Date: 15/04/2026 Source: civonline	    	Italy Meat and meat products (other than poultry) Food Misdescription/ Mislabelling/ Misbranding Document forgery
Authorities in India dismantled a racket selling expired food and dairy products near the Kapashera border, arresting one suspect. Authorities seized about 2.9 t of expired goods. Date: 15/04/2026 Source: fnnnews	  	India Food Misdescription/ Mislabelling/ Misbranding

Authorities in Pakistan seized between 25 000 to 30 000 expired beverage bottles from a warehouse in Hyderabad, alleging expiry dates were being altered for resale. Date: 15/04/2026 Source: tribune	   	Pakistan Non-alcoholic beverages Misdescription/ Mislabelling/ Misbranding Document forgery
Italian prosecutors are pursuing charges against 12 individuals and a dairy company accused of adulterating milk and mozzarella with caustic soda and hydrogen peroxide. Investigators seized about 200 t of milk, dairy products and additives. Date: 16/04/2026 Source: corriereadriatico	   	Italy Milk and milk products Other food products/ mixed Adulteration/ Product tampering
Malaysian Customs officers seized more than 55 600 l of illicit beer from an abandoned warehouse. The contraband carried counterfeit tax stamps and was allegedly intended for local distribution. Date: 16/04/2026 Source: thestar	   	Malaysia Alcoholic beverages Grey market Misdescription/ Mislabelling/ Misbranding
Authorities in Venezuela seized 17 000 beers worth more than EUR 7 000 after stopping a truck carrying the shipment without the required transport documentation. Date: 17/04/2026 Source: infobae	  	Venezuela Alcoholic beverages Document forgery
China rejected a 22 t shipment of Argentine beef after detecting chloramphenicol. Authorities launched a traceability investigation. Date: 18/04/2026 Source: noticiasambientales	  	China Meat and meat products (other than poultry) Adulteration/ Product tampering

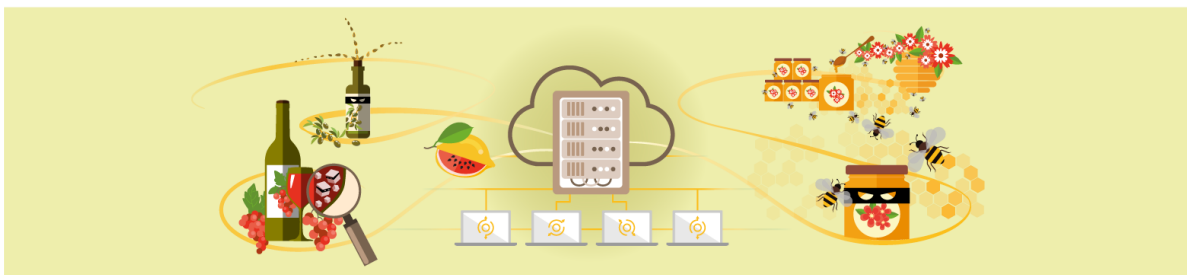
Authorities in India seized 50 000 kg of fermented wash used to produce illicit liquor, along with 75 l of illegal alcohol, distillation equipment and containers, during a large anti-smuggling operation in Hoshiarpur district. Date: 21/04/2026 Source: tribuneindia	   	India Alcoholic beverages Grey market Adulteration/ Product tampering
Authorities in India dismantled a counterfeit food and consumer-health products operation in east Delhi, arresting four suspects. Officers seized around 50 000 counterfeit coffee sachets and production equipment. Date: 21/04/2026 Source: rediff	  	India Cocoa and cocoa preparations, coffee and tea Counterfeit
Authorities in Kuwait shut down a seafood processing facility after seizing about 29 t of spoiled fish and mislabeled shrimp sold as fresh. Date: 22/04/2026 Source: arabtimesonline	   	Kuwait Fish and fish products Adulteration/ Product tampering Misdescription/ Mislabelling/ Misbranding
Authorities in India booked 22 cases and arrested 28 people in a major food adulteration crackdown. Authorities seized adulterated food, equipment and vehicles worth about EUR 68 000, including over 5 000 l of edible oil and more than 5 000 kg of wheat flour. Date: 22/04/2026 Source: thehindu	    	India Fats and oils Cereals and bakery products Other food products/ mixed Adulteration/ Product tampering
Authorities in Spain investigated six people after uncovering a food fraud scheme in which industrial cheeses were relabelled and sold as artisanal products. The operation also seized about 17 000 kg of expired frozen food, all of which was withdrawn and destroyed. Date: 22/04/2026 Source: zamora24horas	  	Spain Milk and milk products Misdescription/ Mislabelling/ Misbranding

Authorities in Bulgaria closed two slaughterhouses after inspections found serious hygiene breaches and illegal meat-processing activities. Around 252 kg of untraceable or improperly processed meat products were seized and ordered for destruction. Date: 22/04/2026 Source: bta	   	Bulgaria Meat and meat products (other than poultry) Misdescription/ Mislabelling/ Misbranding Document forgery
Authorities in United Arab Emirates seized and destroyed over 13 t of spoiled food from an unlicensed warehouse. Date: 23/04/2026 Source: khaleejtimes	  	United Arab Emirates Other food products/ mixed Document forgery
Authorities in Costa Rica seized more than 5 600 alcoholic beverage units during operations in the Pacific region, intercepting suspicious vehicles and investigating suspected smuggling and illegal transport activities. Date: 24/04/2026 Source: infobae	  	Costa Rica Alcoholic beverages Grey market
Authorities in India seized more than 150 t of rice intended for the public food distribution programme after discovering over 2 000 bags stored illegally in a field near Koppal. Date: 24/04/2026 Source: timesofindia	  	India Cereals and bakery products Grey market
Authorities in Malaysia arrested seven people after raiding an illegal meat-processing facility in Johor, seizing over 1 t of pork suspected of being processed without approved slaughter documentation. Date: 24/04/2026 Source: thestar malaymail	   	Malaysia Meat and meat products (other than poultry) Document forgery Adulteration/ Product tampering

Authorities in Spain seized more than 516 kg of food unfit for consumption during inspections at Seville's April Fair. Date: 25/04/2026 Source: sevillaaactualidad	   	Spain Meat and meat products (other than poultry) Fruits and vegetables Misdescription/ Mislabelling/ Misbranding
Authorities in Argentina dismantled a clandestine food distributor in Los Cardales that allegedly altered expiry dates on meat products and beverages. Authorities seized falsified goods, labeling equipment and a delivery van, and arrested a suspect. Date: 25/04/2026 Source: infobae	    	Argentina Meat and meat products (other than poultry) Non-alcoholic beverages Other food products/ mixed Misdescription/ Mislabelling/ Misbranding
Authorities in Brazil seized 15 000 bottles of adulterated ethyl alcohol during an operation targeting illegal sales ahead of local anniversary celebrations. Date: 27/04/2026 Source: emtempo	  	Brazil Alcoholic beverages Adulteration/ Product tampering
Authorities in Santo Domingo seized over 6.8 t of decomposing meat and 18 000 expired, counterfeit, or illegally sourced products. Date: 27/04/2026 Source: acentotv	   	Dominican Republic Meat and meat products (other than poultry) Other food products/ mixed Misdescription/ Mislabelling/ Misbranding
Authorities in Padua seized 2.5 t of seafood from a wholesaler supplying local hotels and restaurants after inspections found serious labelling and traceability violations. The products, lacking essential tracking information, were withdrawn from the market and destroyed, while the operator received a EUR 1 500 fine. Date: 29/04/2026 Source: ilgazzettino	  	Italy Fish and fish products Misdescription/ Mislabelling/ Misbranding

A man was fined EUR 4 400 for smuggling over 9.6 t of meat products into Zimbabwe. Date: 30/04/2026 Source: bulawayo24	   	Zimbabwe Meat and meat products (other than poultry) Poultry meat and poultry meat products Grey market
Authorities in Pakistan destroyed 2 790 l of adulterated milk during inspections at Lahore entry points. Tests found contamination and unsafe additives, leading authorities to discard the milk and intensify actions against food fraud to protect consumers. Date: 30/04/2026 Source: urdupoint	  	Pakistan Milk and milk products Adulteration/ Product tampering

The Food Fraud Monthly Report



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 JRC Europe Media Monitor System.

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