

# Monthly Summary of Articles on Food Fraud and Adulteration

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*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 1 200 cans of contraband alcoholic beverages.

[The National News](#)



Oman



Alcoholic beverages



Grey market

The authorities seized and destroyed 1.766 tons of mangoes artificially ripened with ethylene.

[The Hindu](#)



India



Fruits and vegetables



Adulteration/ Product tampering

The authorities seized 25 875.3 tons of contraband wheat and flour.

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



Pakistan



Cereals and bakery products



Grey market

The authorities seized in total 38 172 litres of illicit liquor.

[Times of India](#) [Ani News](#) [Times of India](#) [The Statesman](#) [UniIndia](#)



India



Alcoholic beverages



Grey market

The authorities seized 1 200 bottles of illegal liquor.

[DNA India](#)

The Rosslare Europort authorities seized 53 300 litres of smuggled alcoholic beverages (total value of 220 000 Euros).

[Independent](#)



Ireland



Alcoholic beverages



Grey market

The authorities seized 20 tons of olive oil mislabelled as extra-virgin (total value of 60 000 Euros).

[Latina Today](#)

In the context of investigative journalism, more than half of the 20 samples of extra-virgin olive oil analysed contain in reality just virgin olive oil.

[Il Fatto Alimentare](#)

The authorities seized 150 000 eggs and 1 000 tons of sugar, rice and flour ready to be smuggled to Peru.

[Los Tiempos](#) [Eju](#) [Eju](#)

The authorities seized 135 tons of smuggled rice and sugar.

[Erbol](#) [Abi](#) [Pagine siete](#)

The authorities seized in total 16 773 tons of contraband rice meant for the Public Distribution System.

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

The authorities seized 35 tons of stolen basmati rice.

[Times of India](#)

The authorities seized 27.1 tons of contraband sugar.

[The Nation](#) [Brecorder](#)

The authorities seized 41 tons of sugar intended to be smuggled to Afghanistan.

[Dawn](#)

The authorities seized 7 900 soft drinks with counterfeit labels of famous brands.

[The News](#)

In another operation, the authorities seized 9 655 litres of fake carbonated drinks produced with hazardous chemicals, loose non-food grade colours, artificial sweeteners, unclean tap water and other harmful ingredients. The labels were also counterfeit to resemble those of famous brands.

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

The authorities seized 1.9 tons of beef with no traceability documentation.

[La Nacion](#)

The authorities seized 1.566 tons of contraband pork.

[La Nacion](#)

Between January and March 2023, the authorities seized 22.55 tons of contraband rice.

[Sun News Online](#) [Leadership](#)

The authorities seized 70 000 litres of wine not compliant with the traceability legal requirements (total value of 54 000 Euros).

[Ansa](#) [Otto pagine](#) [Irpinia oggi](#) [Corriere Irpinia](#) [Irpinia24](#) [Fanpage](#)



Italy



Fats and oils



Misdescription/  
Mislabelling/ Misbranding



Bolivia



Cereals and bakery  
products

Eggs and egg products

Other food products/  
mixed



Grey market



India



Cereals and bakery  
products



Grey market



Pakistan



Other food products/  
mixed



Grey market



Pakistan



Non-alcoholic beverages



Adulteration/ Product  
tampering

Counterfeit



Paraguay



Meat and meat products  
(other than poultry)



Grey market



Nigeria



Cereals and bakery  
products



Grey market



Italy



Wine

Between January and April 2023, the authorities seized 150 654.65 litres of illegal alcohol.  
[Portafolio](#)

The authorities uncovered a criminal organisation involved in illegal eel trafficking, seizing 1.5 tons of live eels and several tons of frozen batches not suitable for human consumption.  
[Fox5Atlanta](#) [Fox35Orlando](#)

Twenty-two people died after consuming spurious alcohol adulterated with methanol. The authorities seized 19 028 litres of spurious liquor and 16 493 bottles of Indian-made foreign liquor from the black market.

[The Hindu](#) [Ani News](#) [Livemint](#) [Hindustan Times](#) [News18](#)  
[Ani News](#) [The Hindu](#) [English.news](#) [China.org](#) [Hindustan](#)  
[Times](#) [Xinhuanet](#) [The Times of India](#) [SwarajyaMag](#) [Indian Express](#)  
[China.org](#) [The Sun Daily](#) [India Today](#) [En.people](#) [The Hindu](#) [Ndtv](#)  
[Rediff](#) [Times of India](#) [Deccan Herald](#) [The Hindu](#)




























The authorities seized 6.8 tons of food (beef, pork, chicken, mutton, pig's blood and silkworms) illegally imported from Thailand and Myanmar.  
[Sfa.gov](#) [The Straits Times](#) [Cna](#) [Tnp](#)

The authorities seized more than 800 boxes of smuggled wine (total value of 185 250 Euros).  
[G1 Globo](#)

The National Customs seized 20 tons of contraband flour, alcoholic beverages and powdered milk from Argentina (total value of 20 847 Euros).  
[Abi](#) [Eju](#)

The authorities seized 2.5 tons of octopus without traceability documentation.  
[Itaca Notizie](#) [Giornale L'Or](#) [Il Giornale di Pantelleria](#) [News Sicilia](#)

The authorities seized in total 195 000 contraband eggs.

-  Grey market
-  Colombia
-  Alcoholic beverages
-  Grey market
-  Spain/ France
-  Fish and fish products
-  Grey market
-  India
-  Alcoholic beverages
-  Adulteration/ Product tampering
-  Grey market
-  Singapore
-  Meat and meat products (other than poultry)
-  Poultry meat and poultry meat products
-  Grey market
-  Brazil
-  Wine
-  Grey market
-  Bolivia
-  Alcoholic beverages
-  Cereals and bakery products
-  Milk and milk products
-  Grey market
-  Italy
-  Cephalopods and products thereof
-  Grey market
-  Bolivia

[FM Bolivia](#) [Hoy Bolivia](#) [eabolivia](#) [Abi](#) [El Pais](#) [FM Bolivia](#)  
[Noticias](#)

The authorities seized almost 300 000 contraband eggs.

[Hoy Bolivia](#) [Abi](#) [Pagina Siete](#) [Reduno](#) [Erbol](#) [Opinion](#)  
[Abi](#)

The authorities seized in total 16.65 tons of contraband pork.

[Opinion](#) [Abi](#) [Los Tiempos](#) [Pagina Siete](#) [Eju](#) [el Diario](#) [Eju](#)  
[Abi](#) [Pagina Siete](#) [Reduno](#) [Hoy Bolivia](#) [Noticias](#)

The authorities seized in total 8.1 tons of tuna without traceability documentation.

[Palermo Today](#) [BlogSicilia](#) [Giornale di Sicilia](#) [Sicilia24h](#) [Espero News](#)  
[QdS](#) [Palermo Today](#) [News Sicilia](#) [Giornale di Sicilia](#) [BlogSicilia](#)  
[BlogSicilia](#) [Giornale L'Ora](#) [Itaca Notizie](#) [Il Giornale di Pantelleria](#) [Trapani](#)  
[Palermo Today](#) [Blog Sicilia](#)

The authorities seized 20 tons of poultry mincemeat produced from unsafe chicken bones adulterated with red colorants.

[Urdu Point](#)

The authorities seized 5 502.3 litres of beer and liquor believed to be untaxed (total value of 80 400 Euros).

[The Star](#) [MalayMail](#)

The authorities seized 37.775 tons of expired powdered milk (unfit for human consumption) ready to be relabelled with new expiry dates (total value of 510 000 Euros).

[Food Business Africa](#)

The authorities seized 25 tons of almond unfit for human consumption (total value of 40 000 Euros). The shipment was found to be contaminated with toxins, but although the criminals promised to destroy the products, in reality they just sent the shells to be incinerated, willing to sell the contaminated shelled almonds on the market.

[Majorca Daily Bulletin](#)

The authorities seized 1 ton of contraband beef.

[Mdzol](#)


Researchers collected 36 samples of avocado oil from private label throughout the US and Canada, checking quality and purity standards. It seems that 69% of samples had impurities (e.g. adulteration with cheaper oils).

[Food Control](#) [NYPost](#)

 Eggs and egg products

 Grey market

 Bolivia

 Meat and meat products  
(other than poultry)

 Grey market

 Italy

 Fish and fish products

 Grey market

 Pakistan

 Poultry meat and poultry  
meat products

 Adulteration/ Product  
tampering

 Malaysia

 Alcoholic beverages

 Grey market

 Kenya

 Milk and milk products


 Misdescription/  
Mislabelling/ Misbranding

 Spain

 Nuts, nut products and  
seeds

 Adulteration/ Product  
tampering

 Argentina

 Meat and meat products  
(other than poultry)

 Grey market

 USA/ Canada

 Fats and oils

 Adulteration/ Product  
tampering

National authorities, supported by Europol and Eurojust, uncovered a criminal organisation importing and selling expired frozen meat, poultry and fish. The expiry dates were falsified.

[Eurojust](#) [Lrt](#) [Securing Industry](#) [Portal.ieu](#) [Food Safety News](#)  
[Occrp](#)



Lithuania



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



Adulteration/ Product tampering  
Misdescription/ Mislabelling/ Misbranding

The authorities seized:

- 7.8 tons of beans and 14.5 tons of rice adulterated with soy and mislabelled as products of higher quality
- almost 8 950 litres of olive oil with irregularities on the labels and without traceability documentation
- 1.05 tons of coffee adulterated with impurities and unsafe material

[G1 Globo](#) [Opovo](#) [Exame](#) [Dinheiro](#)



Brazil



Cereals and bakery products  
Cocoa and cocoa preparations, coffee and tea



Fats and oils  
Fruits and vegetables



Adulteration/ Product tampering  
Grey market  
Misdescription/ Mislabelling/ Misbranding

The authorities seized 10 tons of poor quality meat and 36 000 chicken eggs smuggled from neighbouring countries.

[Khmer Times](#)



Cambodia



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



The authorities seized 23 000 contraband chicken eggs ready to be smuggled to Bolivia.

[Radio Agricultura](#) [Sag](#)



Chile



Eggs and egg products



Grey market

Seven people died after consuming adulterated alcohol.

[Le Parisien](#) [Bladi](#)



Morocco



Alcoholic beverages



Adulteration/ Product tampering

## Other interesting articles

### Improving food fraud resilience

The UK Food Standards Agency (FSA) has started a revision of the procedures to tackle food fraud incidents.

[Securing Industry](#)



United Kingdom



Food

### US report on traceability trends

The Institute of Food Technologists (IFT) has released a report commissioned by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) that evaluates food traceability trends.



USA



Food

[FDA](#)

Food statistics 2022

The Singapore Food Agency (SFA) has published data on the country's food supply and food safety inspections.

[Sfa.gov](#)      [Food Safety News](#)



Singapore



Food

Fighting illegal fishing in the EU

The European Parliament and the Member States agreed on measures to fight overfishing, including increased traceability and stricter controls on catches.

[Marine Oceans](#)   [France3 Regions](#)      [Le Figaro](#)      [Liberation](#)      [TV Europa](#)



EU



Bivalve molluscs and products thereof  
Cephalopods and products thereof  
Crustaceans and products thereof  
Fish and fish products  
Gastropods

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*”.

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