

October 2022

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 4 000 litres of fake honey adulterated with sugars, chemicals and wax.

[Urdu Point](#)

[The News](#)



Pakistan



Honey and royal jelly



Adulteration/ Product tampering

The authorities seized almost 7 500 bottles of contraband alcohol.

[Arab Times online](#)



Kuwait



Alcoholic beverages



Grey market

The authorities seized 7.2 tons of fish (Cojinúa and horse mackerel) smuggled from Costa Rica (total value of 32 000 Euros).

[Critica](#)



Panama



Fish and fish products



Grey market

The authorities seized 1 429 litres of olive oil smuggled into the country from Tunisia.

[Civonline](#)



Italy



Fats and oils



Grey market

The authorities dismantled a criminal network smuggling wines for a total value of 52.4 million Euros.

[Vitisphere](#)

[Federvini](#)

[Wine News](#)



China



Wine



Grey market

The authorities destroyed 43 780 litres of milk adulterated with water and/or chemicals (e.g. detergents and formalin).

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



Pakistan



Milk and milk products



Adulteration/ Product tampering

At least 75 people died after consuming alcohol adulterated with methanol.

[Ojo](#) [Infobae](#) [Archyde](#) [La Republica](#) [Globo](#) [Ojo](#)
[Peru.com](#) [Peru21](#) [Infobae](#) [Euronews](#) [La Republica](#)
[Peru21](#) [el Comercio](#) [Ojo](#)



Peru



Alcoholic beverages



Adulteration/ Product tampering
Grey market

The authorities seized in total 13 tons of seafood illegally fished or lacking the required traceability documentation.

[QdS](#) [La Sicilia Web](#) [News Sicilia](#) [Daily Italia News](#) [Stampa](#)
[toscana](#) [Venti4ore](#) [Go News](#) [Livorno Today](#) [Daily Italia News](#)
[Puglia press](#) [Bari Today](#) [La gazzetta del Mezzogiorno](#) [Bari Live](#)
[Exitto style](#) [Canale7](#) [Brindisi report](#) [Lecce sette](#) [Brindisi libera](#)



Italy



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



The authorities seized 300 tons of sugar from an unlicensed warehouse (total value of almost 182 000 Euros).

[The Sun Daily](#)



Malaysia



Other food products/ mixed



Grey market

Since the beginning of 2022, the authorities seized almost 56 tons of contraband eggs.

[Gestion](#) [Huaral](#)



Peru



Eggs and egg products



Grey market

The authorities seized 100 tons of frozen pork and 35 tons of frozen chicken legs smuggled from Italy, Spain or Brazil (total value of 588 500 Euros).

[Thai PBS](#)



Thailand



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



Grey market

The Rosslare Europort authorities seized 48 500 litres of contraband beer and more than 16 100 litres of contraband wine (total value of 390 000 Euros).

[Kikenny people](#) [Longford leader](#) [Tipperary alive](#) [Offaly express](#)
[Limerick leader](#) [Dundalk Democrat](#) [Leinster express](#)
[Revenue](#) [Leitrim Observer](#) [Kikenny People](#) [Independent](#)



Ireland



Alcoholic beverages
Wine



Grey market

The Rosslare Europort authorities seized 25 000 litres of contraband beer and more than 32 000 litres of smuggled wine (total value of 494 000 Euros).

[Revenue](#) [Independent](#)

The Rosslare Europort authorities seized 10 000 litres of contraband vodka and whiskey (total value of 300 000 Euros).

[Revenue Live](#) [Irish Mirror](#) [Head Topics](#) [Irish Examiner](#) [Shannonside](#) [Echo Beat](#)
[Breaking News](#) [The Nationalist](#) [Waterford](#) [Western People](#)

Between July and September, the authorities seized almost 568 tons of foreign parboiled rice smuggled into the country.

[Leadership](#) [Online Nigeria](#)



Nigeria



Cereals and bakery products



Grey market

The authorities seized 4 000 bottles of common wine ready to be relabelled as products from more expensive brands.

[La Stampa](#) [Torino today](#)



Italy



Wine



Counterfeit

The authorities seized 3 288 cans and 1 120 bottles of contraband liquor (total value of 22 100 Euros).

[The Sun Daily](#) [Bernama](#)



Malaysia



Alcoholic beverages



Grey market

The authorities seized 21 000 cans of contraband alcohol (total value of almost 9 000 Euros).

[Bernama](#) [The Sun Daily](#)

The authorities seized and destroyed 11 000 litres of illegal liquor.

[Archyde](#)



Saudi Arabia



Alcoholic beverages



Grey market

The authorities seized in total 8.6 tons of contraband rice meant for public distribution.

[The Hindu](#) [The Hindu](#) [Uniindia](#) [The Hindu](#)



India



Cereals and bakery products



Grey market

In 18 months, the Tamil Nadu government seized more than 9 000 tons of contraband rice meant for public distribution.

[The Times of India](#)

The authorities seized 19 tons of seafood illegally fished.

[Blada](#)



French Guiana



Bivalve molluscs and products thereof

Cephalopods and products thereof

Crustaceans and products thereof

Fish and fish products

Gastropods



Grey market

The authorities seized 4 732 bottles of Indian-made foreign liquor (IMFL) and 2 368 litres of country liquor.

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



India



Alcoholic beverages



Grey market

The authorities seized 5 516 litres of smuggled liquor seized in recent months.

[World Akkam](#) [Mid-day](#) [Business Standard](#) [Business Standard](#)

The authorities seized 188 000 litres of raw alcohol.

[Uniindia](#)

The authorities seized:

- 28 000 litres of wine not corresponding to the related documentation
- 18 750 litres of wine without traceability documentation
- 2 000 litres of wine produced in an unauthorised establishment
- tens of kg of sugar and ethanol commonly used to adulterate wine

The total value of seized product is 1 million Euros.

[Ansa](#) [Reggio2000](#) [Sassuolo2000](#) [Bologna Today](#)

The authorities seized 2 200 units of contraband liquor (total value of 3 200 Euros).

[Crhoy](#)

The authorities seized 3 360 units of contraband alcoholic beverages (e.g. beer and vodka).

[Crhoy](#)

The authorities seized 28 tons of frozen buffalo meat with misleading information on the halal and health certificates.

[Bernama](#)

The authorities seized 11.5 tons of smuggled corn.

[Clarín](#)

The authorities seized 54 tons of contraband food from Colombia.

[La Nacion](#) [Infobae](#) [Istoe](#) [Uol](#) [el Nuevo Siglo](#) [Debate](#)

The authorities seized 3.6 tons of bovine ribs transported illegally without documentation and with no refrigeration (total value of 26 500 Euros).

[Rio negro](#)

The authorities seized 8 tons of fake maize seeds (total value of 20 000 Euros).

[Sunday mail](#) [Daily News](#)

The authorities seized almost 5.2 tons of sardines without traceability documentation.

[Europapress](#) [Gente digital](#) [La Opinion a Coruna](#) [Galicia press](#) [Cope](#)

The authorities seized 205 tons of contraband food (beer, flour, corn, soybeans, oil) from Argentina and Brazil (total value of 145 000 Euros).

[Reduno](#)



Italy



Wine



Document forgery
Grey market



Costa Rica



Alcoholic beverages



Grey market



Malaysia



Meat and meat products
(other than poultry)



Document forgery



Brazil



Cereals and bakery
products



Grey market



Venezuela



Food



Grey market



Argentina



Meat and meat products
(other than poultry)



Grey market



Zimbabwe



Nuts, nut products and
seeds



Adulteration/ Product
tampering



Spain



Fish and fish products



Grey market



Bolivia



Alcoholic beverages

The authorities carried out an operation against a company accused of adulterating butter with vegetable oils and sorbate, profiting for almost 2.4 million Euros in irregular earnings.

[Gov.br](#) [Gov.br](#) [G1 Globo](#) [O documento](#) [O documento](#)
[O Tempo](#) [Agencia Brasil](#) [Mpf](#) [Opovo](#) [O documento](#)
[Band](#) [Hoje em dia](#) [G1 Globo](#)

The Mondulkiri's Mobile Law Enforcement Unit seized 1.353 tons of illegally traded wild meat (bushmeat) in the last 18 months.

[Khmer Times](#) [Cgtn](#) [English news CN](#) [The Cambodia News](#)
[Bangkok post](#) [Manila Times](#) [The Phnom Penh Post](#)

The authorities seized 12 578 tons of smuggled flour during the last three months.

[Pakobserver](#) [The Nation](#)

The Anti-Smuggling Observatory estimated that every year 64 800 tons of food are smuggled through the Suchiate river between Guatemala and Mexico, for a total value of 110 million Euros.

[Prensa Libre](#)

The Argentine Naval Prefecture seized 3.16 tons of corn and 5.25 tons of soybean intended to be smuggled to Brazil.

[Misiones Online](#)

In another operation, the authorities seized 7.8 tons of contraband corn.

[Misiones online](#) [Primera Edicion](#)

The German magazine Öko-Test tested several honey samples sold in German supermarkets. 11 out of 19 honey jars (mostly organic) were adulterated with sugar syrup, pesticide residues, genetically modified pollen, or impurities.

[Öko-Test](#) [Affidia Journal](#) [Il Salvagente](#) [Green Me](#)

20 people died and more than 55 were intoxicated after consuming alcohol adulterated with methanol. As a result of the cases of poisoning, the authorities seized some 50 000 litres of alcohol in various operations.

[Salud.gob](#) [Salud.gob](#) [Ecuavisa](#) [el Comercio](#) [Ecuador en vivo](#)
[el Telegrafo](#) [La Hora](#) [La Nacion](#) [Rpp](#) [Crhoy](#) [Cronica](#)
[Diario co Latino](#) [el Comercio](#) [Expreso](#) [el Universo](#) [Ecuador en vivo](#)
[Semana](#) [el Universo](#) [el Telegrafo](#)
[Prensa Latina](#) [el Comercio](#) [el Telegrafo](#)

The authorities seized 21 tons of food from Romania not compliant with the labelling legislation (total value of 200 000 Euros).

[Il Gazzettino](#) [Il metropolitano](#) [Il resto del Carlino](#) [Meteo Week](#)

Cereals and bakery products
Fats and oils
Fruits and vegetables
Grey market



Brazil



Milk and milk products



Adulteration/ Product tampering



Cambodia



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



Pakistan



Cereals and bakery products
Grey market



Guatemala



Food



Grey market



Argentina



Cereals and bakery products
Fruits and vegetables
Grey market



Germany



Honey and royal jelly



Adulteration/ Product tampering



Ecuador



Alcoholic beverages



Adulteration/ Product tampering



Italy



Food

The authorities uncovered a theft ring, targeting meatpacking plants, whose members performed at least 45 thefts across six states, for a total of 9 million dollars in loss.

[Des Moines Register](#)



Misdescription/
Mislabelling/ Misbranding



USA



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



The authorities seized 2.8 tons of suspected contraband sugar.

[Ultima hora](#)



Paraguay



Other food products/
mixed
Grey market



The authorities seized 4 tons of cheese ready to be smuggled out of the country without the proper documentation for export.

[El Aragueno](#)



Venezuela



Milk and milk products



Grey market

Other interesting articles

A systematic review and meta-analysis on seafood mislabelling in Italy

Researchers have published a study summarising 51 scientific publications addressing the mislabelling in seafood products sold on the Italian market

[Food Control](#)



Italy



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

2021 FSAI Annual Report

The Food Safety Authority of Ireland (FSAI) published the 2021 Annual Report.

[FSAI](#)

[Food Safety News](#)



Ireland



Food

Review on food inauthenticity

An online review provides an overview of the activities from authorities, guidance documents for the industry, suggestions for improving official controls and relevant analytical techniques.

[Comprehensive Reviews in Food Science and Food Safety](#)



World



Food

New limit for additives in tuna

The European Commission has set new maximum levels for three additives (ascorbic acid, sodium ascorbate and calcium ascorbate), used as antioxidants in tuna, in order to combat food fraud and to limit the exposure of consumers to the risk of histamine.

[Commission Regulation \(EU\) 2022/1923](#)

[Food Fraud Prevention Think Tank](#)

[Food Safety News](#)

[Affidia Journal](#)



EU



Fish and fish products

2019 publication on food fraud prevention now available



World

It is now available a 2019 review focusing on the current state of food fraud prevention and the Food Fraud Implementation Method (FFIM).



Food

[Current Opinion in Food Science](#)

[Food Fraud prevention Think Tank](#)

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