

October 2023

# Monthly Summary of Articles on Food Fraud

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

Europol, the European Commission, EUIPO and law enforcement authorities from 25 countries launched the Operation OPSON XII between December 2022 and April 2023. A total of 8 000 tons of products were seized.

[Europol](#) [OLAF](#) [Food Safety News](#) [Noticias o minuto](#) [Food Safety News El Espanol](#) [Ekathimerini](#)



EU



Food



Adulteration/ Product tampering  
Counterfeit  
Document forgery  
Grey market  
Misdescription/  
Mislabelling/  
Misbranding

The authorities seized 5 700 litres of olive oil produced in clandestine plants.

[G1 Globo](#)



Brazil



Fats and oils



Grey market

The authorities of the French Guyane seized 3 tons of fishes illegally caught.

[Blada](#)



France



Fish and fish products



Grey market

The authorities seized 53 600 litres of wine with several irregularities in the documentation (total value of 100 000 Euros).

[Bologna Today](#) [Il Resto del Carlino](#)



Italy



Wine



Document forgery

The authorities seized in total 733.5 tons of contraband ration rice.

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



India



Cereals and bakery products



Grey market

The authorities seized 25 tons of adulterated cumin.

[Times of India](#)



India



Herbs and spices



Adulteration/ Product tampering

The authorities seized 6 500 bottles of counterfeit Moutai liquor.

[Teller Report](#)



China



Alcoholic beverages



Counterfeit

The authorities seized one ton of rotten and expired tea adulterated with sand, stone, and dirt and counterfeit with labels of fake brand names.

[The Daily Star](#)



Bangladesh



Cocoa and cocoa preparations, coffee and tea



Adulteration/ Product tampering  
Counterfeit

The authorities seized 20 tons of contraband sugar.

[La Nacion](#)



Paraguay



Other food products/ mixed



Grey market

The authorities seized 300 000 litres of wine without traceability documentation. The authorities also seized 3 tons of sugar used to adulterate wines.

[Ansa](#)   [Carabinieri](#)   [Salute.gov](#)   [La presse](#)   [Tuscia Web](#)   [9colonne](#)  
[Giornale L'ora](#)   [Agenparl](#)   [Ok Mugello](#)   [Notizie.Tiscali](#)   [Ital\\_press](#)   [Quotidiano](#)  
[Sanità](#)   [L'Eco del Sud](#)   [Rai News](#)   [La discussione](#)   [Affari italiani](#)   [Giornale](#)  
[Partite Iva](#)   [Catania Today](#)   [Gazzetta di Modena](#)   [La Provincia Cr](#)   [Gazzetta di](#)  
[Reggio](#)   [Tuttoggi](#)   [La nuova ferrara](#)   [Gazzetta di Livorno](#)   [Italia notizie 24](#)   [Qui](#)  
[News Pistoia](#)   [Libero](#)   [Ok Mugello](#)   [Il Friuli](#)   [CorrierePL](#)   [Sassuolo2000](#)   [Resto](#)  
[al Sud](#)   [Qui News Firenze](#)   [Qui News Arezzo](#)   [Qui News Lucca](#)   [Qui News](#)   [Massa](#)  
[Carrara](#)   [Qui News Pisa](#)   [Sardinia post](#)   [Il fatto nisseno](#)   [Qui News Siena](#)   [Qui News](#)  
[Grosseto](#)   [Il denaro](#)   [Il nordest quotidiano](#)   [Quotidiano di Gela](#)   [News](#)  
[Sicilia](#)   [Radio Lombardia](#)   [Stella d'Italia news](#)   [Italia](#)   [Notizie](#)   [24](#)  
[Metropolitano](#)   [Il Roma](#)   [Voce di Mantova](#)   [Agronline](#)   [Reggio2000](#)   [ekuo](#)  
[news](#)   [Italia a Tavola](#)   [Latina Today](#)   [Agronline](#)   [Il Pescara](#)   [Tele Nicosia](#)  
[Tuttoggi](#)   [La Gazzetta del Mezzogiorno](#)   [EFA News](#)   [Friuli sera](#)   [Parma](#)  
[Today](#)   [Wine News](#)   [Alto Adige](#)   [Fanpage](#)   [Odp news](#)   [La ragione](#)  
[Itabloid](#)   [Tag24](#)   [Itaca notizie](#)   [Oggi Treviso](#)   [Salute domani](#)   [Dissapore](#)  
[Green Me](#)   [Il Sussidiario](#)   [Teatro natural](#)   [La Nazione](#)   [Agi](#)   [Qui Finanza](#)  
[Notizie Virgilio](#)   [Il Messaggero](#)   [Tridge](#)



Italy



Wine



Adulteration/ Product tampering  
Grey market

The authorities seized 16 600 litres of wine without traceability documentation.

[Il Resto del Carlino](#)    [Corriere di Bologna](#)    [Il Resto del Carlino](#)

The authorities seized 40 tons of contraband sugar and 8 tons of contraband ghee directed to Afghanistan.

[Ary News](#)      [The Nation](#)      [Ary News](#)



Pakistan



Other food products/  
mixed



Grey market

The authorities seized in total 3.3 tons of seafood illegally caught or without traceability documentation.

[Il resto del Carlino](#)      [Tuscia Web](#)      [Ansa](#)      [Civonline](#)      [Roma Today](#)  
[Gazzetta del Sud](#)      [Il Crotonese](#)      [Qui Cosenza](#)      [Baraonda News](#)



Italy



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



Grey market

The authorities seized 1.6 tons of fish (tuna and hake) without traceability documentation (total value of 35 000 Euros).

[Ansa](#)      [Il dispaccio](#)      [Strettoweb](#)      [CN24](#)      [La nuova calabria](#)      [Calabria7](#)  
[City Now](#)      [Palermo Today](#)      [Tempostretto](#)      [Zoom24](#)      [Reggio Today](#)  
[CNews24](#)      [Messina Today](#)      [Il Reggino](#)

The authorities seized 8.5 tons of herrings without traceability documentation.

[Corriere Alpi](#)      [Mattino Padova](#)      [La Voce di Bolzano](#)      [Nuova Venezia](#)      [Tribuna  
Treviso](#)

The authorities seized 2.3 tons of cured meats without traceability documentation.

[Cronache maceratesi](#)      [Corriere adriatico](#)      [Il Resto del Carlino](#)



Italy



Meat and meat products  
(other than poultry)



Grey market

The authorities seized 1 078 bottles of counterfeit alcoholic beverages.

[Capital FM](#)      [allAfrica](#)



Kenya



Alcoholic beverages



Counterfeit

The authorities seized 16 tons of olive oil adulterated with other vegetable oils.

[El faro ceuta](#)      [Huffington post](#)



Morocco



Fats and oils



Adulteration/ Product  
tampering

The authorities seized 11.9 tons of contraband imported rice.

[Malaymail](#)      [The Star](#)



Malaysia



Cereals and bakery  
products



Grey market

The authorities investigated 30 people for crimes of olive theft, false documentation and fraud, seizing 91 tons of olives.

[Noticias o minuto](#)



Spain



Fats and oils



Grey market  
Misdescription/  
Mislabelling/  
Misbranding

The authorities seized 7 800 (1.4 tons) suspected smuggled hairy crabs.

[The Standard](#) [The Standard](#)



China



Crustaceans and products thereof



Grey market

The authorities seized 2 500 litres of contraband beers form Germany.

[Focus](#)



Italy



Alcoholic beverages



Grey market

The authorities seized 1 ton of tea leaves adulterated with gram straw and non-food grade colour.

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



Pakistan



Cocoa and cocoa preparations, coffee and tea



Adulteration/ Product tampering

The authorities seized 2 tons of sausages made of expired meat.

[Albanian daily news](#)



Kosovo



Meat and meat products (other than poultry)



Adulteration/ Product tampering

The authorities seized 6 tons of fruits and vegetables illegally sold.

[Saudi Gazette](#) [Zawya](#)



Saudi Arabia



Fruits and vegetables



Grey market

The authorities seized 44.8 tons of rotten chicken used to adulterate meat products.

[App](#) [Urdu Point](#)



Pakistan



Poultry meat and poultry meat products



Adulteration/ Product tampering

The authorities rescued 1 000 kittens (total value of 18 700 Euros) ready to be slaughtered and sold as pork or mutton meat.

[Hungary Postsen](#) [Zoom24](#) [Dunyanews](#) [Reutir](#)



China



Meat and meat products (other than poultry)



Grey market



Adulteration/ Product tampering

The authorities seized 4 300 litres of olive pomace oil mislabelled as extra virgin olive oil.

[Executive Digest](#) [Noticias o minuto](#) [O journal economico](#) [Visao](#) [Sapo](#)

[Tvi](#) [Cnn Portugal](#)

[Isf](#) [Journal de negocios](#)

[24.sapo](#) [ionline.sapo](#) [A](#)

[voz de Tras or Montes](#)

[Bom dia](#) [Sol.sapo](#)

[Notice Ulti](#) [Agro\\_portal](#)

[Diario de Noticias](#)

[Mdb](#) [Executive digest](#)

[Agroportal](#)



Portugal



Fats and oils



Misdescription/ Mislabelling/ Misbranding

The authorities arrested two men for stealing 56 tons of extra virgin olive oil (total value of 500 000 Euros).

[Telecinco](#)



Spain



Fats and oils



Grey market

Fourteen people died after drinking illegally produced alcohol, adulterated with rat poison.

[Tribune](#) [News.abs](#) [The Sun](#) [Manila Bulletin](#) [Guardian.ng](#)  
[L'essentiel](#) [Le matin](#) [Gazzetta di Parma](#) [Ndtv](#) [Jamaica Observer](#)  
[Noti Ulti](#) [GMA Network](#) [Rti](#) [The News](#) [Nouvelles du monde](#) [The](#)  
[Jakarta post](#) [Playtech](#) [Maitland Mercury](#) [Port Stephens Examiner](#) [The](#)  
[Daily Advertiser](#) [The Border Mail](#) [Newcastle Herald](#) [Illawarra Mercury](#) [Kompas](#)  
[20minutes](#) [Daily Review Online](#) [Info](#) [Semana](#) [el Tiempo](#) [Il](#)  
[Fatto Quotidiano](#)



Indonesia



Alcoholic beverages



Adulteration/ Product tampering  
Grey market

## Other interesting articles

[Techniques to detect adulteration in fruit juices and wine](#)

An online article covers the current analytical techniques to detect adulteration in fruit juice and wine.

[Beverages](#)

[UK report on food fraud and new phone number to report food frauds](#)

The Food Standards Agency (FSA) has published a report on the cost of food fraud in the UK (between £410 million and £1.96 billion per year); it has also launched a new freephone number to allow food industry employees to share their concerns, confidentially, about potential food crimes.

[Food.gov.uk](#) [Farming UK](#) [Glasgow Times](#) [Oxford Mail](#) [Belfast Telegraph](#) [East Anglian](#) [Dunmow](#)  
[Broadcast](#) [Telegraph & Argus](#) [Great Yarmouth Mercury](#) [The Herts](#) [The Impartial Reporter](#) [South](#)  
[Wales Argus](#) [Independent](#) [The Northern Echo](#) [News and Star](#) [Chester Standard](#) [The Courier](#) [Your](#)  
[local guardian](#) [The Comet](#) [Daily Echo](#) [Evening News24](#) [Lbc](#) [York press](#) [Salisbury Journal](#) [Western](#)  
[Telegraph](#) [The Argus](#) [Edp24](#) [Kentonline](#) [Oxford Mail](#) [The Standard](#) [South Wales Argus](#) [Your](#)  
[local guardian](#) [Agriland](#) [Food manufacture](#) [Coast FM](#) [Sky News](#) [Fwi](#) [Food Safety News](#)  
[Food Ingredients First](#) [Mirage News](#) [Phys](#) [The Food Tech](#) [Securing Industry](#) [Yumda](#) [Food Authenticity Network](#)

[Nanotechnology and E-Sensing for Food Chain Quality and Safety](#)

An online article covers the applications of nanotechnologies (especially metal oxide sensors) for food quality and food safety.

[Sensors](#)

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