

# Monthly Summary of Articles on Food Fraud

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## Food Fraud Cases

The authorities seized 30 tonnes of illicit black jaggery.

[Times of India](#)



India

The authorities seized in total 18.5 tons of smuggled sugar.

[Myanmar News](#) [Devdiscourse](#) [Ani News](#) [Cambodian Times](#)  
[Singapore Star](#) [Myanmar News](#) [Long Beach Star](#) [Sri Lanka Source](#)  
[Nigerian Sun](#) [Manila Metro](#) [Northern Ireland News](#)



Other food products/  
mixed



Grey market

The authorities seized in total 4.6 tons of seafood without legal documentation.

[Firenze Today](#) [Toscana Media News](#) [La Nazione](#) [La Nazione](#) [Corriere](#)  
[Romagna](#) [Cesena Today](#) [Ravenna Notizie](#) [Ravenna Web TV](#) [Ravenna](#)  
[Today](#) [Ravenna 24 Ore](#) [Primo numero](#) [Termoli online](#)



Italy



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



Grey market

The authorities discovered 900 grams of mussels, hidden in a fishing vessel, without traceability documentation.

[Venezia Today](#)

The authorities seized 1.6 tons of clams illegally fished.

[Il Gazzettino](#) [Il Resto del Carlino](#)

The authorities seized 3.4 tons of suspected smuggled hairy crabs (total value of 275 400 Euros).

[The Standard](#)



China



Crustaceans and  
products thereof



Grey market

The Hong Kong Customs and Excise Department seized 920 kg of suspected smuggled hairy crabs (total value of 45 900 Euros).

[Info.gov](#) [The Standard](#)

The authorities seized 1 ton of contraband sugar.

[Nepal News](#) [The Himalayan Times](#)



Nepal



Other food products/  
mixed



Grey market

The authorities seized 3.4 tons of contraband expired mayonnaise.

[Infobae](#) [el Aragueno](#) [el Diario de Guayana](#) [el Tiempo](#) [La patilla](#)



Bolivia



Soups, broths, sauces and condiments



Grey market

The authorities seized 2 tons of cured meat and 400 kg of pork without traceability documentation (total value of 100 000 Euros).

[Alimentando](#) [Breaking Latest News](#)



Italy



Meat and meat products (other than poultry)

Poultry meat and poultry

meat products



Grey market

The authorities seized 1 ton of frozen meat without traceability documentation.

[Carabinieri](#) [Salute.gov](#) [Otto pagine](#) [Salerno Today](#) [Il giornale di Salerno](#)  
[Irpinia24](#) [Fanpage](#) [Corriere Irpinia](#) [Otto pagine](#) [Today](#) [Positano](#)  
[News](#) [Nouvelles du monde](#)



Thailand



Meat and meat products (other than poultry)



Grey market

The authorities seized 2.6 tonnes of buffalo meat imported from India and 2.5 tonnes of cow meat, sourced from Argentina, Panama, Uruguay and New Zealand, without proper traceability documentation.

[Bangkok Post](#) [The Thaiger](#)



Kuwait



Crustaceans and products thereof

Fish and fish products



Misdescription/  
Mislabelling/  
Misbranding

The authorities seized 2.5 tons of frozen fish and shrimp mislabelled as “fresh” and with altered expiry dates.

[Arab Times Online](#)



Pakistan



Cereals and bakery products

Fats and oils

Other food products/  
mixed



Grey market

Between October 22 and October 29 the authorities seized 1 406 tons of contraband sugar, 177 000 litres of contraband oil and 53.5 tons of contraband flour.

[Hum News](#)



China



Bivalve molluscs and products thereof

Cephalopods and products thereof

Crustaceans and products thereof

Fish and fish products

Gastropods

Meat and meat products (other than poultry)

Poultry meat and poultry

meat products



Grey market

The authorities seized 58.5 tons of contraband frozen meat and 797.5 tons of contraband seafood.

[Telle Report](#)

The authorities seized 1.2 tons of expired beef from an illegal slaughterhouse (total value of 3 800 Euros).

[The Nation](#)



Pakistan



Meat and meat products  
(other than poultry)



Grey market

The authorities seized 20 tons of dairy products with altered expiry dates.

[Abidjan TV](#)



Republic of Côte d'Ivoire



Milk and milk products



Misdescription/  
Mislabelling/  
Misbranding

The authorities seized 356 tons of rice meant for the Public Distribution System.

[The Hindu](#)

[DT Next](#)



India



Cereals and bakery  
products



Grey market

Researchers have performed (by isotope analysis and DNA testing) a market study in the Lower Danube countries from local and online shops, restaurants, bars, local markets, intermediaries, aquaculture facilities, fishermen and undercover shoppers. Out of 149 samples of sturgeon products (caviar and meat):

- 31 samples (21%) derived from illegal wild-caught fishes
- 17 samples (11.4%) were sold in violation of CITES and EU legislations
- In 47 samples (32%) either the species or the production method were misdeclared, deceiving consumers

The assumption of sex-biased fishing was rejected.

Fishing of sturgeons is no longer permitted in the Danube and the Black Sea, and all sturgeon species are now listed in the CITES.

[Current Biology](#)



Bulgaria, Romania,  
Serbia and Ukraine  
Fish and fish products



Grey market  
Misdescription/  
Mislabelling/  
Misbranding

The authorities seized 2.4 tons of batang fish, red grouper fish and prawns illegally stored in an unlicensed facility.

[Sfa.gov](#)

[The Straits Times](#)

[Tnp](#)



Singapore



Crustaceans and  
products thereof  
Fish and fish products



Grey market

The authorities seized 864 kg of frozen meat products (total value of 3 300 Euros) suspected to be mixed illegally with pork.

[Malay mail](#)

[The Malaysian Insight](#)

[The Sun](#)



Malaysia



Meat and meat products  
(other than poultry)



Adulteration/ Product  
tampering

At least twelve people died after consuming spurious alcohol.

[China.org](#)

[People](#)

[China daily](#)

[English.news](#)

[Noti Ulti](#)



India



Alcoholic beverages



Adulteration/ Product  
tampering  
Grey market

Other three people died after drinking spurious liquor.

[India Today](#)

[Dev discourse](#)

[Times of India](#)

[Business Standard](#)

[News18](#)

[Financial Express](#)

[Deccan Herald](#)

The authorities seized 5 046 bottles of contraband whiskey, tequilas, vodkas and other



Dominican Republic

high quality alcoholic beverages.

[Hoy](#) [Al Momento](#)



Alcoholic beverages



Grey market

The authorities seized 2 133 bottles of contraband liquor (total value of almost 15 000 Euros).

[Vanguardia](#) [HSB Noticias](#)



Colombia



Alcoholic beverages



Grey market

The authorities seized 20 tons of food imported from China with falsified labels and/or without proper documentation.

[Napoli Today](#) [Otto pagine](#) [Il Mattino](#) [Napoli Village](#)



Italy



Food



Grey market  
Misdescription/  
Mislabelling/  
Misbranding

The authorities seized 18 tons of food imported from Latvia and either expired or with modified expired dates.

[Eng.ism](#) [Food Safety News](#)



Latvia



Food



Adulteration/ Product  
tampering  
Misdescription/  
Mislabelling/  
Misbranding

The authorities seized 88 000 eggs without mandatory labelling and no invoices.

[Em Tempo](#) [G1 Globo](#)



Brazil



Eggs and egg products



Grey market

The authorities seized 95.7 tons of contraband coffee in a clandestine warehouse.

[Icia Abidjan](#)



Ivory Coast



Cocoa and cocoa  
preparations, coffee and  
tea



Grey market

The authorities seized 7.5 tons of tomato sauce and dried tomatoes without traceability documentation. Those still labelled were already expired.

[Salute.gov](#) [Carabinieri](#) [Ragusa News Sicilia](#) [Corriere di Ragusa](#)  
[Qds](#) [La Sicilia Web](#) [Quotidiano di Ragusa](#) [Il Fatto Nisseno](#) [Efa](#)  
[news](#)



Italy



Fruits and vegetables  
Soups, broths, sauces  
and condiments



Adulteration/ Product  
tampering  
Grey market

The authorities seized 1.1 tons of beef unfit for human consumption.

[Tribune](#)



Pakistan



Meat and meat products  
(other than poultry)

The authorities seized 1 230 litres of illicit liquor (total value of 5 900 Euros).

[K24TV](#) [The Star](#) [Kenyans](#)

The Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (Mapa) found adulteration with C-4 sugars (such as corn or sugar cane syrups) in 7.46% of the 67 honey samples analysed. For sampling, 67 samples were collected in 42 of the 194 honey-producing establishments registered (21.65% of the total establishments in Brazil).

[Gov.br](#) [Globo Rural](#) [O documento](#) [Correio do povo](#)

The Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (Mapa) seized 1.8 tons of irregular animal products (beef, sheep, goats, poultry and shrimp) of unknown origin (no traceability documentation), expired, with false labels and fake expiry dates, or smuggled from Argentina.

[Gov.br](#)

The French Guiana authorities seized 15.8 tons of contraband fruits and vegetables.

[France Guyane](#)

Between January and August 2023 the authorities analysed 141 samples of extra virgin olive oil, identifying a mislabelling rate of 42% (59 samples out of 141) as the quality corresponded to simple olive oil or even lampante. In two cases olive oil was mixed with sunflower oil with percentages ranging from 60% to 75%.

[Il Salvagente](#) [Teatro naturale](#)

The authorities seized 1 860 litres of contraband alcoholic beverages.


























[Urdu Point](#)

The authorities seized 9 000 litres of contraband alcoholic beverages.

[Ziarul evenimentul](#)

The Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (Mapa) seized 6 031 litres of olive oil unfit for human consumption and 28 tons of beans with impurities (e.g. stones), dangerous for consumer health.

[Gov.br](#) [G1 Globo](#) [Odia](#) [Band](#) [Revista cultivar](#) [Globo rural](#) [Folha](#) [O tempo](#) [O povo](#) [Correio do povo](#) [Istoe dinheiro](#) [Folha de pernambuco](#) [Journal de brasil](#) [Agencia brasil](#) [Hoje Emdia](#) [Correio24horas](#) [O progresso](#)

-  Adulteration/ Product tampering
-  Kenya
-  Alcoholic beverages
-  Grey market
-  Brazil
-  Honey and royal jelly
-  Adulteration/ Product tampering
-  Brazil
-  Crustaceans and products thereof
- Meat and meat products (other than poultry)
- Poultry meat and poultry meat products
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- Fruits and vegetables
-  Adulteration/ Product tampering

[Estadao](#)

[Tn online](#)

[Jornal de Brasilia](#)

[Revista Negocio Rural](#)

[Uol](#)

In July the authorities seized 4.5 tons of contraband pork (total value of 5.9 million Euros).

[Bangkok Post](#)



Thailand



Meat and meat products  
(other than poultry)



Grey market

The authorities seized 3 tons of food (e.g. sugar, sauces, rice, oil and bakery products) with halal certifications from unrecognised organisations.

[Fnb News](#)



India



Food



Counterfeit

The Singapore Food Agency (SFA) seized 1.1 tons of contraband fruits and vegetables (bayam, kailan, caixin, mango, pineapple, xiao baicai, Japanese cucumber and brinjal) illegally imported from Malaysia.

[Sfa.gov](#)

[Straits Times](#)

[Tnp](#)



Singapore



Fruits and vegetables



Grey market

## Other interesting articles

### Annual Agriculture Symposium “Illicit Trade in Food and Food Fraud”

The Annual Symposium of the World Trade Organization (WTO) Agriculture and Commodities Division (AGCD) will address the topic “Illicit Trade in Food and Food Fraud” on 11-12 December.

[WTO](#)

### Consumers’ perceptions of food fraud in selected Southeast Asian countries: a cross sectional study

Researchers have published the first empirical study on consumers’ concerns about food fraud in Southeast Asia.

[Food Security](#)

### Japan fights trademarks infringements on counterfeit Japanese food sold abroad

The Japanese government has implemented a strategy against food products sold overseas and counterfeiting a Japanese origin. The damage linked to mislabelling Japanese origin is estimated around 74.1 billion yen (around 475 million Euros) in 2020.

[Asahi](#)

### Meat authentication techniques on cultured meat

A scientific journal addresses food fraud vulnerabilities related to the cultured meat sector, and how to use known analytical techniques to tackle them.

[Kosfaj](#) [Food Authenticity Network](#)

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