FOOD FRAUD INCIDENT REPORT JUNE 2022 | Food categories & related products

WHERE IN THE WORLD

1 North America
2 South America
3 Africa
4 Europe
5 Asia
6 Australia & Oceania

FRAUD CATEGORIES & TYPES

Adulteration: Product tampering by dilution, substitution, unapproved enhancement and/or concealment.

Mislabelling: Product misrepresentation by false claims or distorted information on product label.

Counterfeiting: Fake copies of popular brands and intellectual property infringements.

Grey market: Illegal trade including smuggling, diversion, theft and contraband products.

Document forgery: Falsified or fraudulent documentation.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

2 Columbia:
- Adulterated and contraband alcoholic beverages

4 France:
- Large-scale counterfeited wine, mispresented as Bordeaux

5 India:
- Adulterated alcoholic beverages, resulting in several deaths

India:
- Contraband liquor bottles

Oman:
- Illegal trade in alcoholic beverages

FISH & SEAFOOD

2 Bolivia:
- Contraband fish intended for smuggling

4 Italy:
- Red tuna, sea urchins and other seafood lacking traceability documentation and bivalves with fake packing dates; multiple operations involved

Italy:
- Illegal freshwater fishing (mainly carp and catfish) with electric stunners, sold with false documentation

HERBS, SPICES & SEASONINGS

5 Pakistan:
- Spices adulterated with bulking agents (bran and husks), non-food-grade dyes and edible oil; chilli adulterated with colourants

India:
- Sub-standard salt sold using the packaging of a reputable brand

FOOD SUPPLEMENTS

4 Italy:
- Illicit trafficking of food supplement pills

MEAT & POULTRY

1 Mexico:
- Illegal use of Clenbuterol in livestock to promote growth, resulting in meat being contaminated

4 Moldova:
- Contraband meat

Italy:
- Fresh and frozen meat without traceability documentation

Germany:
- Mechanically separated meat added to poultry sausages; not declared on the product label

Belgium:
- A criminal organisation fraudulently issued horse and donkey certificates (e.g. passports, electronic chips) with the aim of selling as meat in the supply chain

5 India:
- Meat illegally slaughtered

India:
- Contraband meat (beef) intended for smuggling

6 Australia:
- Livestock (sheep) theft potentially resulting in illegal trade and falsified identification

CEREALS & GRAINS

1 USA:
- Farmer is facing federal charges in connection to major organic grain fraud scheme

2 Argentina:
- Contraband corn

3 Egypt:
- Wheat traded illegally

Nigeria:
- Contraband rice

4 Italy:
- Expired rice, pasta and couscous, relabelled with new expiry date

5 India:
- Contraband cereals that was meant for the Public Distribution System

Pakistan:
- Contraband wheat or fine wheat flour

NUTRITIVE (INCL. SYRUPS) & NON-NUTRITIVE SWEETENERS

5 Pakistan:
- Sugar intended for smuggling

Pakistan:
- Substandard jaggery adulterated with chemicals and non-food-grade colourants

JUICES & NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

2 Brazil:
- Juices with fake origin labelling

HONEY

5 India:
- Jaggery solution and honey wax sold as honey

MILK & DAIRY

5 Pakistan:
- Milk adulterated with chemicals

FATS & OILS

5 India:
- Adulterated cooking oil; misbranding soybean oil for sunflower oil

TEA

5 Taiwan:
- Tea supposedly cultivated in Taiwan reportedly contains approximately 20% foreign teas

FRUITS & VEGETABLES

4 Spain:
- Fruits and vegetables stolen from crop fields

Spain:
- Tomatoes, red peppers and avocados lacking phyto-sanitary certificates and traceability documentation

CONFECTIONERY & SNACKS

4 UK:
- Illegal factory producing edible cannabis sweets

UK:
- Counterfeit chocolate bars; some contained undeclared allergens, posing a major health risk to allergic consumers

UNSPECIFIED FOOD

1 USA:
- Well-known airline accused of selling snacks with fake kosher labelling, and of infringing trademarks

2 Bolivia:
- Contraband food intended for smuggling

4 Italy:
- Food unfit for human consumption, without traceability documentation or mislabelled

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