



Issue | October 2024

NEWS LETTER

Dear Safefood-Online users,

With 531 notifications in October, the number of new RASFF notifications was significantly higher than in September. You can find the evaluations as usual under point 1.

In the Office Journal of the European Union 6 regulations with new or amended maximum levels of pesticides were published. We also provide information on 2 draft regulations on changes to maximum levels of pesticide residues (point 2).

News on the topics of food safety and food fraud can be found under points 3 and 4.

Since January 2024, the EU Commission is publishing the monthly Agri-Food Fraud Report on suspected fraud cases (see also the [Safefood-Online Newsletter January 2024](#)). The Agri-Food Fraud Network (FFN) is part of the Alert and Cooperation Network (ACN).

Food Fraud Notifications (FFN) are published if there is a suspicion regarding fraud. From January 2024 to September 2024, 843 suspected cases were reported:



Further information on this topic can be found at [“The Alert and Cooperation Network” of the EU Commission](#).

The Agri-Food Fraud notifications are also included in Safefood-Online. From now on, in all queries the Agri-Food Fraud notifications are taken into account. A selective query for

Agri-Food Fraud notifications can be carried out in the search query of Safefood-Online with the term:

Search (AND) 

aff_2024_

We hope that also this issue of the Safefood-Online Newsletter is interesting for you and we are of course looking forward to your opinion.

Your Safefood-Online Team

1. Notifications in Safefood-Online: October 2024

Compared to September, the number of new RASFF notifications in Safefood-Online increased significantly:

- **October 2024:** 531
- September 2024: 338
- August 2024: 331

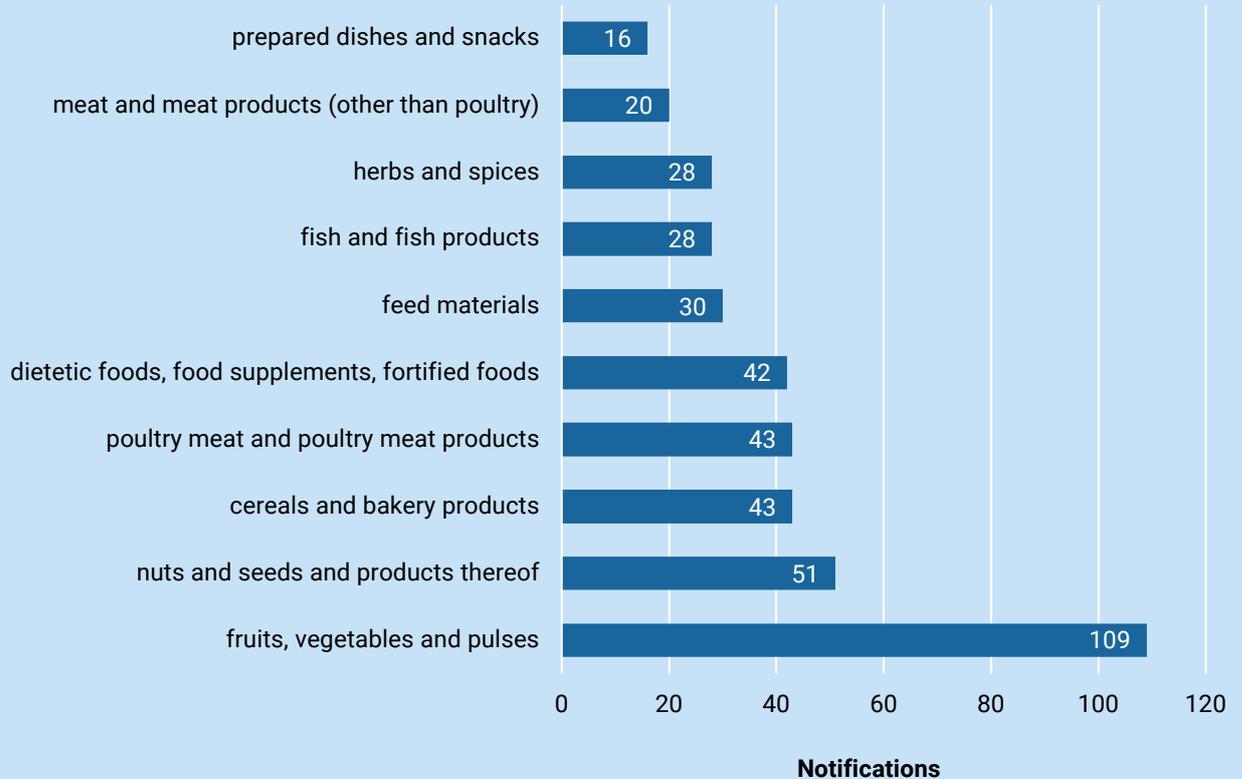
The notifications from October 2024 are divided as follows:

- Alert notifications: 133
- Border rejections: 163
- Information messages: 235



With 109 notifications in October, the number of new RASFF notifications in the product category fruit, vegetables and pulses has more than doubled compared to September. As a result, this product category is once again in first place. Dried figs from Turkey accounted for 35 notifications. This was due to findings of mycotoxins (aflatoxins and ochratoxin A). The product category nuts, seed and products thereof is following in second place with 51 notifications. Poultry meat/ poultry meat products and cereals/ bakery products are following, each with 43 notifications:

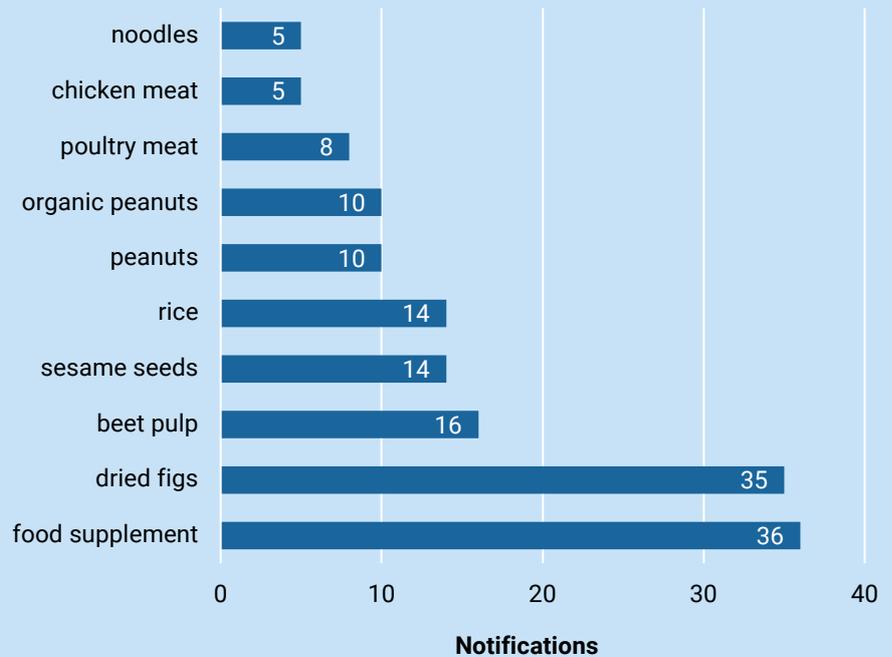
RASFF-Notifications October 2024: Top 10 product categories



1. Notifications in Safefood-Online: October 2024

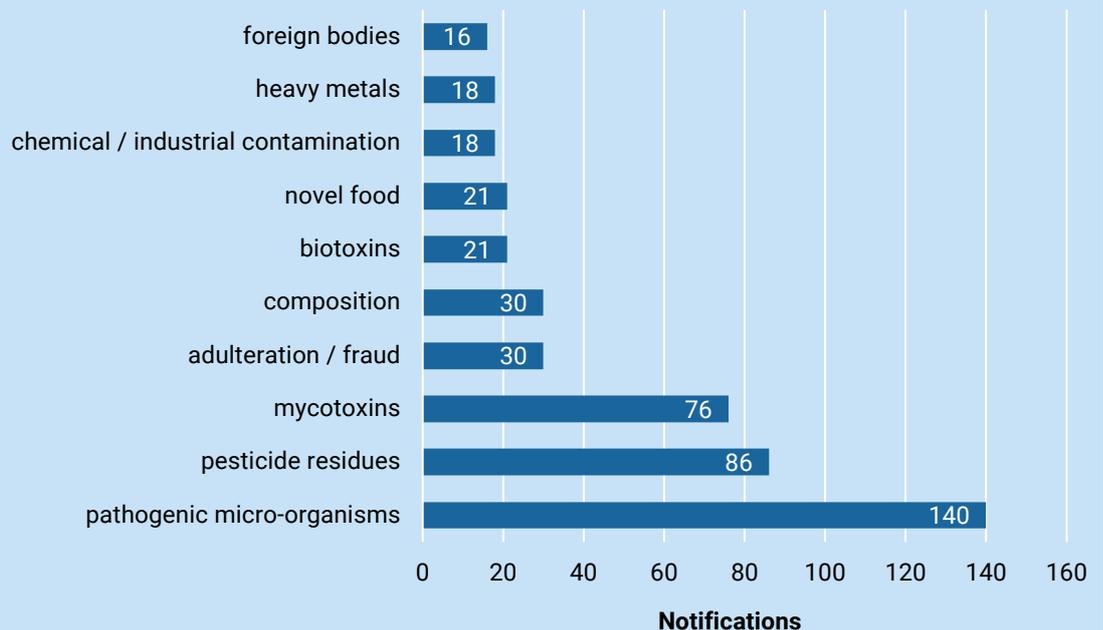
In the evaluation by product, food supplements and dried figs are in first and second place with 36 and 35 notifications, followed by beet pulp (animal feed) with 16 notifications. In all cases, these were border rejections of products from Russia when imported to Latvia:

RASFF-Notifications October 2024: Top 10 products



In the evaluation by hazard category, pathogenic micro-organisms were in first place with 140 notifications, followed by pesticides with 86 notifications (including 28 notifications due to chlorpyrifos findings). Mycotoxins are in third place with 76 notifications:

RASFF-Notifications October 2024: Top 10 hazard categories

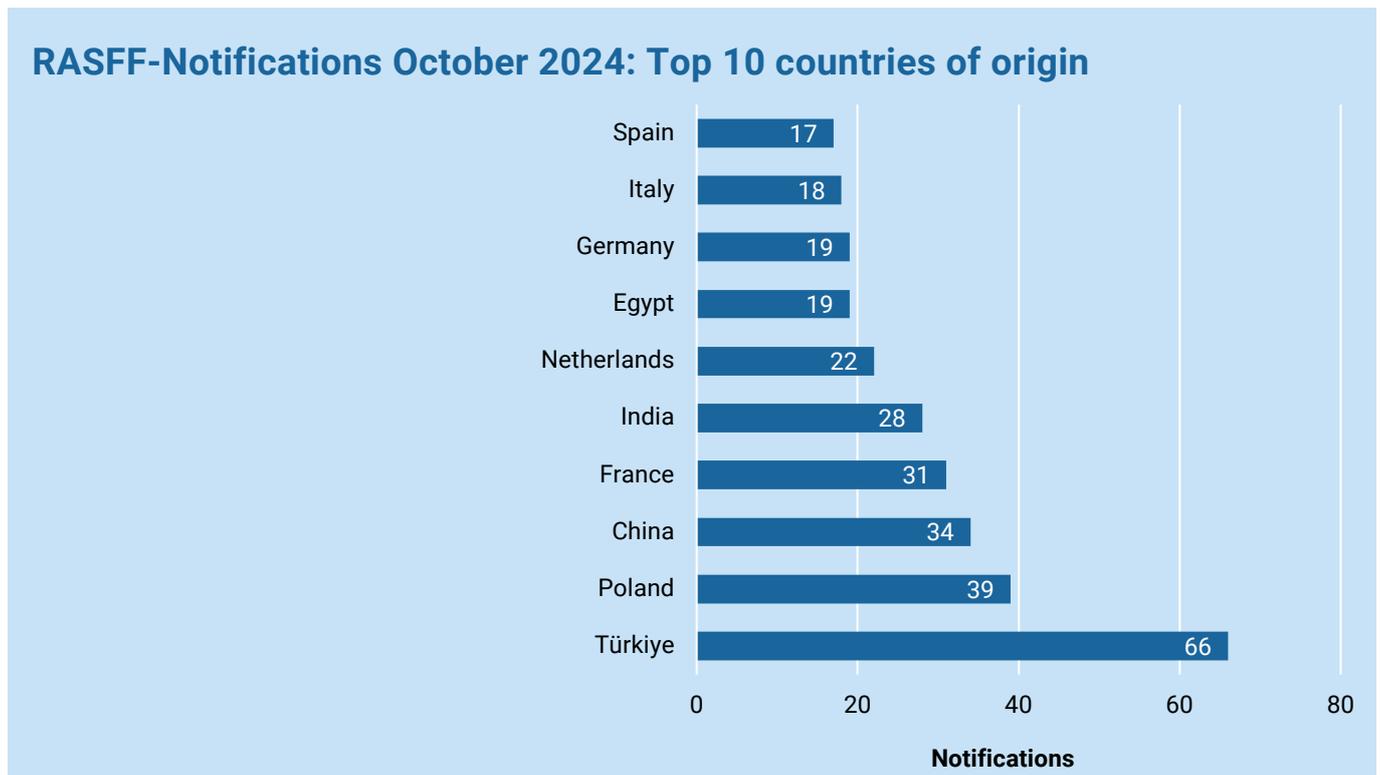


1. Notifications in Safefood-Online: October 2024

In terms of hazards, salmonella are in first place with 83 notifications, followed by aflatoxins with 54 notifications and chlorpyrifos with 28 notifications:



Finally, the evaluation of the notifications according to the country of origin of the products:



Türkiye is in first place with 66 notifications, followed by Poland and China with 39 and 34 notifications.

2. Update on pesticides and contaminants



Regulation (EU) 2024/2633

Regulation (EU) 2024/2633 of October 8, 2024 amended Annex II of Regulation (EC) 396/2005 with regard to the maximum levels of:

- zoxytrobilin
- Famoxadone
- Flutriafol
- Mandipropamid
- Mefentrifluconazole
-

In or on certain foods. For more information on the new maximum levels, please refer to the linked regulation text.

Regulation (EU) 2024/2619

Regulation 2024/2619 of October 8, 2024 amended Annexes II and III of Regulation (EC) 396/2005 with regard to the maximum levels of:

- Fosetyl,
- Potassium phosphonates
- Disodium phosphonate

in or on certain foods. For further information, please refer to the linked regulation text.

Regulation (EU) 2024/2612

Regulation (EU) 2024/2612 of October 08, 2024 amended Annex II of Regulation (EC) 396/2005 with regard to the maximum levels of:

- Chitosan
- Clopyralid,
- Difenconazole
- Residues from fat distillation
- Flonicamid
- Hydrolyzed proteins
- Lavandulyl senecioate
-

in or on certain products. For more information on the new maximum levels, please refer to the linked regulation text.

Regulation (EU) 2024/2640

Regulation (EU) 2640 amended Annex II to Regulation (EC) 396/2005 with regard to the maximum levels of:

- 1,4-Dimethylnaphthalene
- Difluoroacetic acid (DFA),
- Fluopyram
- Flupyradifuron

amended or corrected. For further information, please refer to the linked regulation text.

Regulation (EU) 2024/2609

Regulation (EU) 2024/2609 of October 07, 2024 amends Annex II to Regulation (EC) 396/2005 with regard to the maximum levels of:

- Napropamid,
- Pyridaben
- Tebufenpyrad

in or on certain products. For further information, please refer to the linked regulation text.

Regulation (EU) 2024/2711

Regulation (EU) 2024/2711 amended Annexes II and V to Regulation (EC) 396/2005 with regard to the maximum residue levels of:

- Thiachloprid

in or on certain products. For further information, please refer to the linked text of the regulation.

EU Commission draft regulations on maximum residue levels for benomyl, carbendazim, thiophanate-methyl, cyproconazole and spirodiclofen

The EU Parliament has rejected two draft regulations from the Commission and is calling for a reduction in the maximum residue levels for:

- ☒ Benomyl
- ☒ Carbendazim
- ☒ Thiophanate-methyl
- ☒ Cyproconazole
- ☒ Spirodiclofen
- ☒

in all foods to the limit of determination (LOD).

**Below are the LINKS to the rejected draft regulations:
Draft Commission Regulation amending Annexes II, III and V to Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards maximum residue levels for benomyl, carbendazim and thiophanate-methyl in or on certain products**

Draft Commission Regulation amending Annexes II and III to Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards maximum residue levels for cyproconazole and spirodiclofen in or on certain products



- 🕒 Researchers plant "NGT" vines in Europe
- 🕒 GeneBEcon: Science Policy Symposium: EU research project GeneBEcon confirms consumer openness to NGT products and the need for a proportionate legal framework
- 🕒 EFSA: Re-evaluation of argon (E 938) and helium (E 939) as food additives

Food Safety

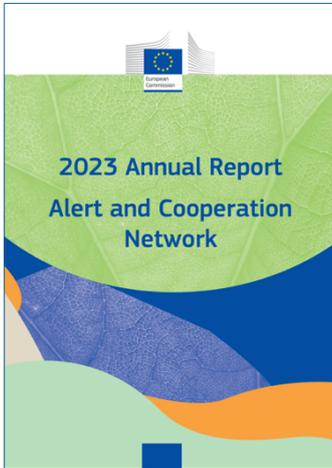
- 🕒 Switzerland: Outbreak of Listeriosis likely associated with baker's yeast products, 2022–2024
- 🕒 US: Alfalfa and alfalfa onion sprouts recalled after testing finds Listeria
- 🕒 FAO: Food Safety Foresight Technical Meeting Report, 13–17 November 2023
- 🕒 Alternative protein sources in the European diets – integrating health risk-benefit and sustainability
- 🕒 Impact of mercury released from permafrost on food safety in Switzerland
- 🕒 German BfR: Even small amounts of highly concentrated caffeine powder can cause severe poisoning
- 🕒 More people have fallen sick in one of the Netherlands' largest Salmonella outbreaks ever recorded
- 🕒 EFSA: Re-evaluation of silicon dioxide (E 551) as a food additive in foods for infants below 16 weeks of age and follow-up of its re-evaluation as a food additive for uses in foods for all population groups



Food Fraud

- 🕒 Institute of International and European Affairs (IIEA): A Sticky Situation - Fraudulent Honey in the EU
- 🕒 Working To Overcome Fraud in The Edible Oils Segment
- 🕒 A major food scandal has bubbled up in Türkiye after the government revealed that pork and horsemeat had been found in products labelled as containing beef and chicken, along with other issues
- 🕒 AI used to enhance milk safety testing and detect food fraud
- 🕒 EUR 91 million worth of counterfeit and substandard food seized in Europe-wide operation
- 🕒 Visible feature engineering to detect fraud in black and red peppers
- 🕒 Visible feature engineering to detect fraud in black and red peppers
- 🕒 EU Agri-Food Fraud Suspicions: Report September 2024
- 🕒 The Belgian food agency has found problems with food labels in more than half of inspections during an operation across the country

Alert and Cooperation Network (ACN): Annual Report 2023

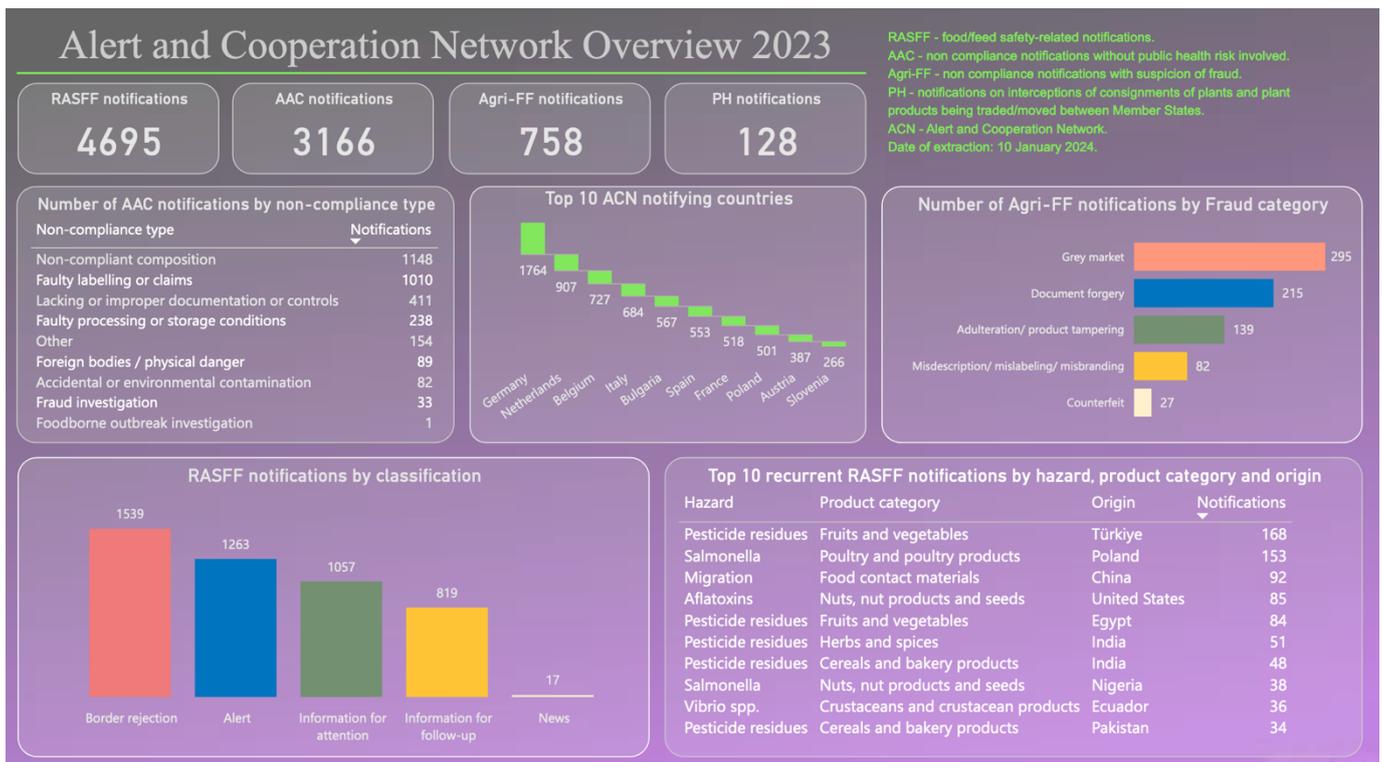


The **Annual Report 2023** of the Alert and Cooperation Network (ACN) contains a summary and evaluation of the information exchanged within the EU member states via the iRASFF. This includes the:

- RASFF (Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed)
- AAC (Administrative Assistance and Cooperation Network)
- FFN (Agri-Food Fraud Network)
- PHN (Plant Health Network); since 2023

The Plant Health Network (PHN), established in May 2022, was created to improve communication and cooperation between the plant health authorities of the EU Member States.

Below is a summary of the ACN activities in 2023 (source: **European Commission**):



Feedback

Please forward your suggestions, questions and requests regarding this newsletter directly to:

Further information on how the ACN works and on the individual networks can be found on the EU Commission's website under "**The Alert and Cooperation Network**" and in the topic of the month (ACN Annual Report 2022) of the **Safefood Online Newsletter August 2023**.



Safefood-Online GmbH
Birkenweg 18
D-68723 Schwetzingen

Phone: +49 (0) 62 02 / 923 697
Fax: +49 (0) 62 02 / 923 696
E-Mail: info@safefood-online.de
Internet: www.safefood-online.de

Personally liable partner:
Dr. Bernhard Müller

Registered Office: Schwetzingen
Commercial Register: Amtsgericht Mannheim,
HRB 710365

Sales tax identification number according to § 27a
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Responsible according to § 55 paragraph 2 RStV:
Dr. Bernhard Müller

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