

Issue | April 2025



# NEWS LETTER

## Dear Safefood-Online users,

There were 421 new RASFF notifications in April. This is a decrease of 46 notifications compared to the previous month (467 notifications). The evaluations can be found under point 1.

“News on residues and contaminants” (point 2), informs about a regulation and a draft regulation on new or amended maximum levels of pesticide residues.

Following the publication of test results on trifluoroacetic acid in wine by Non Government Organisations (NGO's), the Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR) has evaluated the data from a health perspective.

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

### **Can a special diet stop hereditary hair loss?**

The German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment has addressed the question of whether hereditary baldness (androgenetic alopecia) can be halted by a special diet.

Based on the current state of knowledge, the German BfR came to the conclusion in its [statement](#) of April 15, 2025, that consumers with androgenetic alopecia do not need a special diet or have no special nutritional requirements. The German BfR therefore recommends a healthy and varied diet also for this group of people as for all other consumers.

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: April 2025

Compared to March, the number of new RASFF notifications decreased in April by 46 notifications:

- **April 2025:** 421
- March 2025: 467
- February 2025: 366

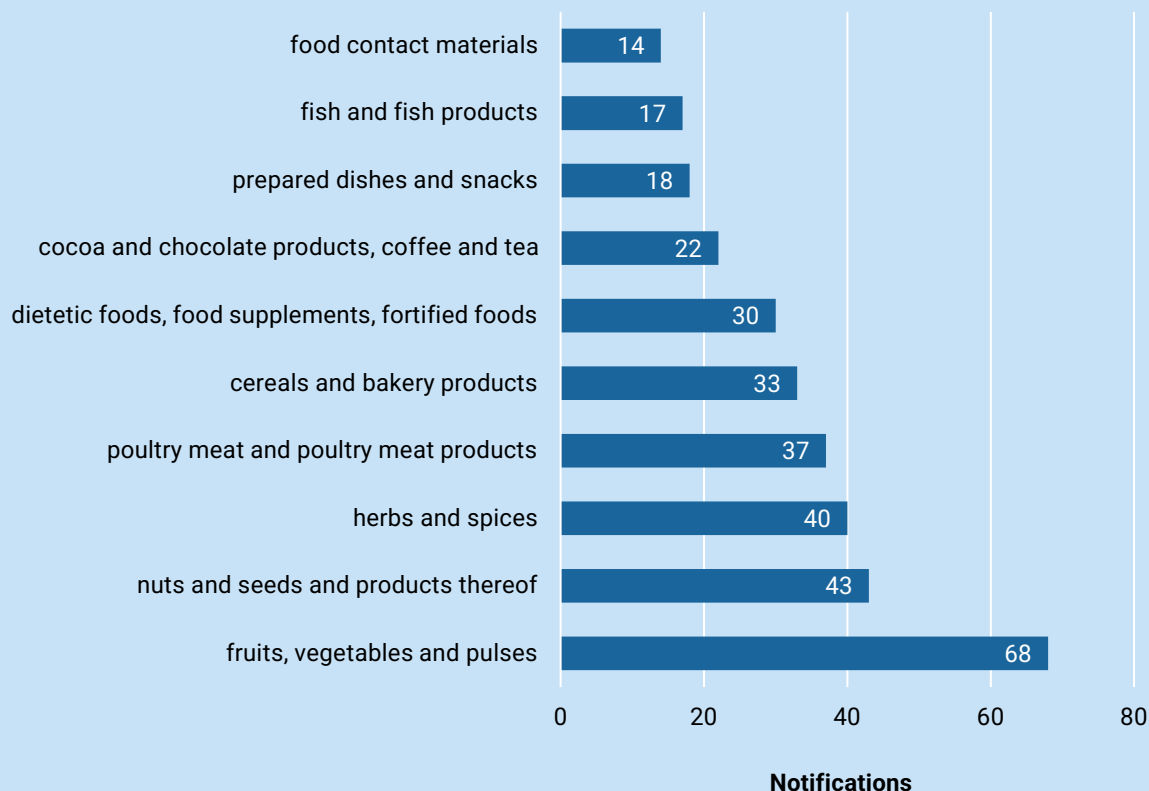
The RASFF-notifications are divided as follows:

- Alert notifications: 120
- Border rejections: 107
- Information messages: 194



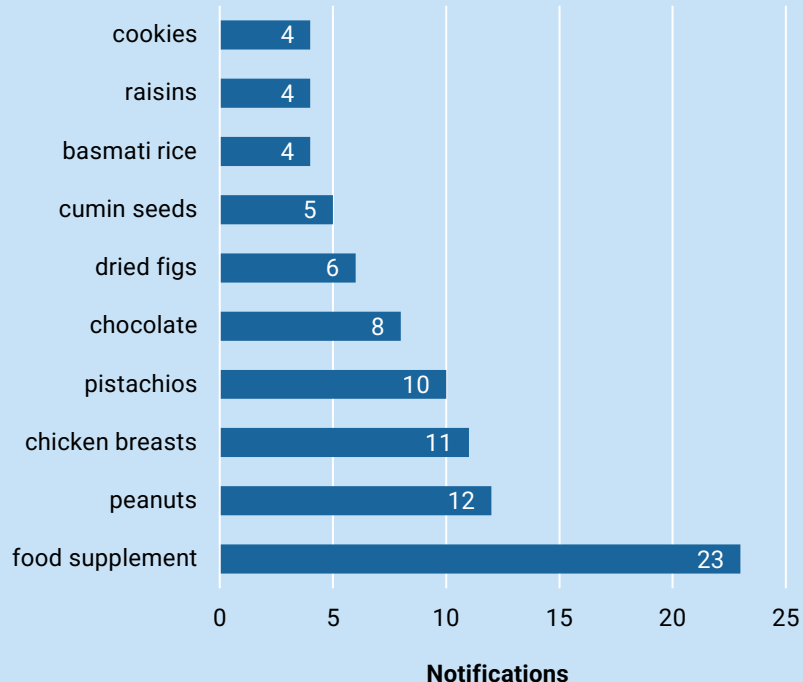
The product category fruit, vegetables and pulses is in first place in the analysis by product category with 68 notifications. 30 notifications concerned pesticides (with 11 notifications due to chlorpyrifos findings) and 14 notifications due to mycotoxins. The product category nuts, seeds and products thereof followed in second place with 43 notifications. 27 notifications in this product category were due to mycotoxins and 10 notifications were due to pathogenic microorganisms. The product category herbs and spices is in third place with 40 notifications, including 17 notifications due to pesticides (with 10 notifications due to chlorpyrifos findings):

### RASFF-Notifications April 2025: Top 10 product categories



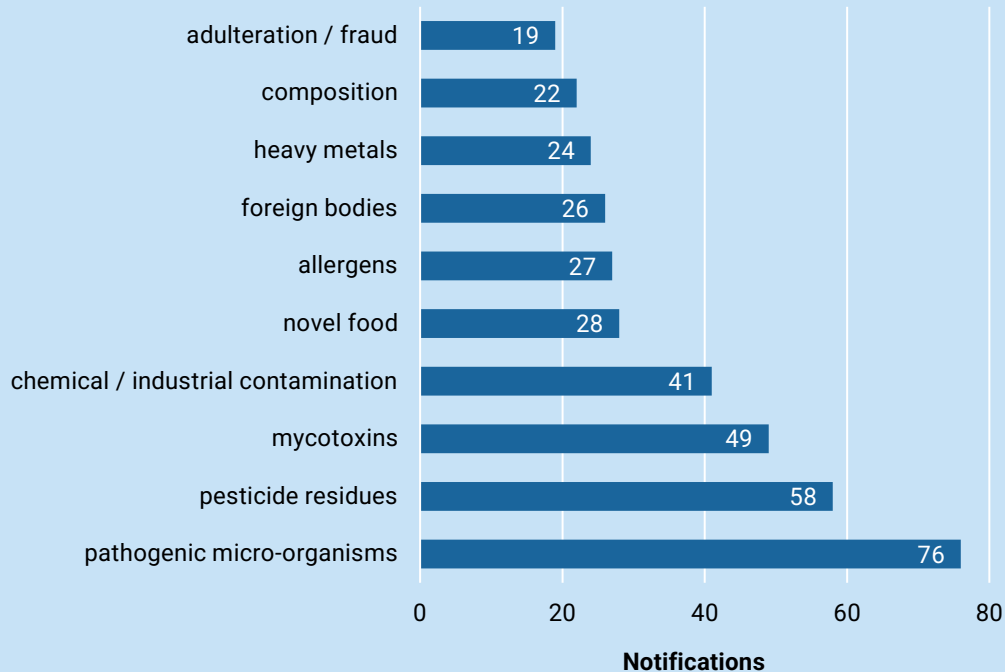
In terms of products, dietary supplements ranked first in April with 23 reports, followed by peanuts and chicken breasts in second and third place with 12 and 11 notifications:

### RASFF-Notifications April 2025: Top 10 products



In the evaluation by hazard category, pathogenic micro-organisms were in first place in April with 76 notifications. This is followed by pesticides with 58 notifications (29 of which were for chlorpyrifos) and mycotoxins with 49 notifications:

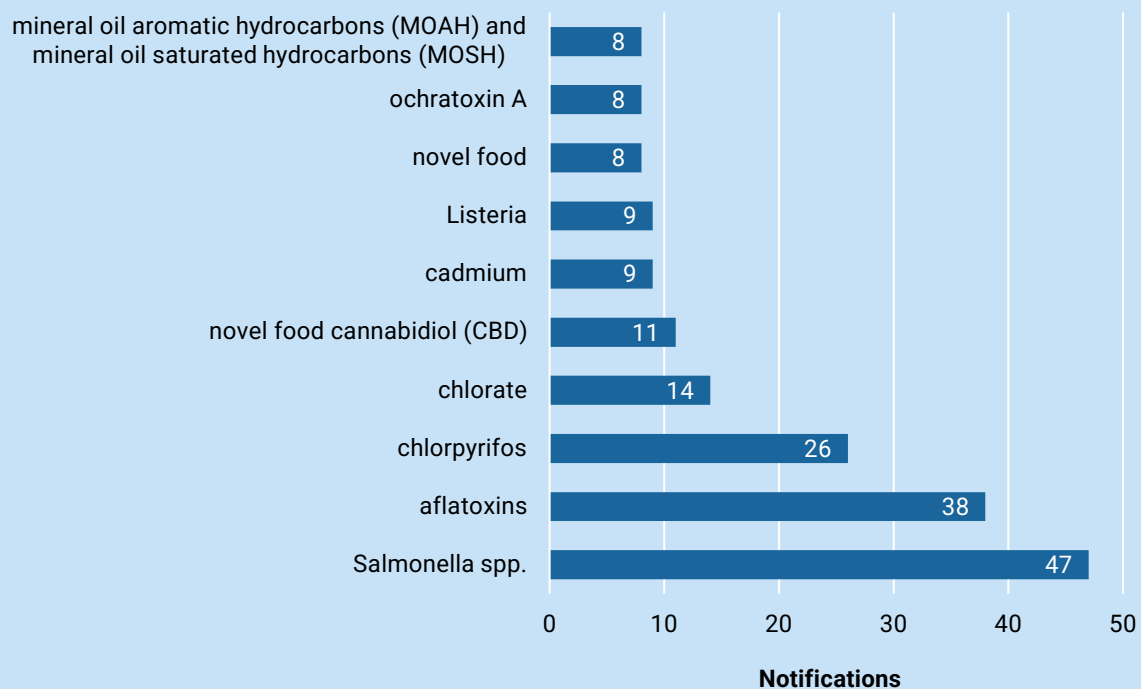
### RASFF-Notifications April 2025: Top 10 hazard categories



In terms of hazards, salmonella are in first place with 47 notifications, followed by aflatoxins and chlorpyrifos with 38 and 26 notifications:

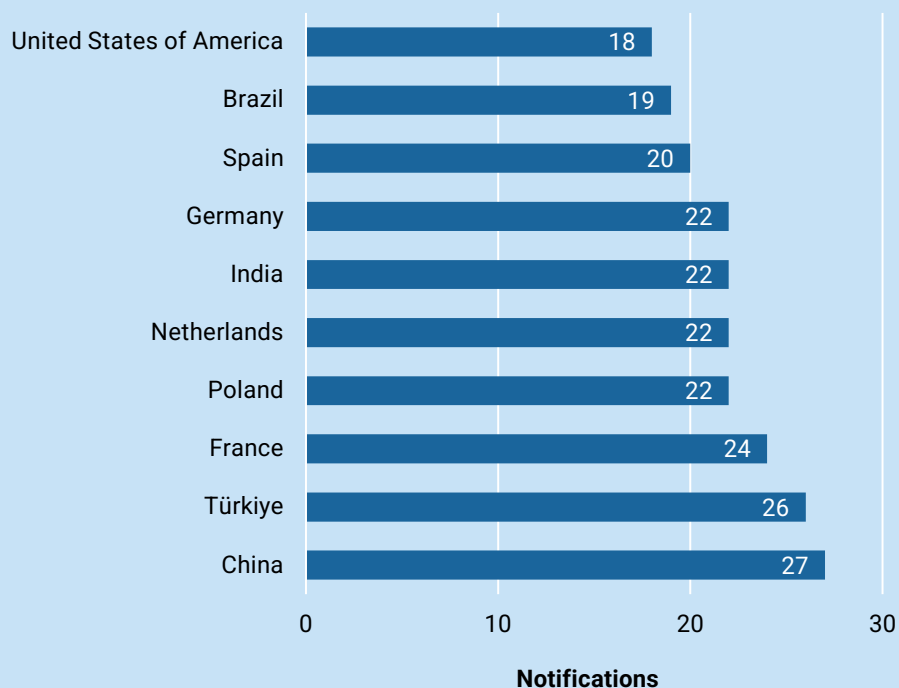
## 1. Notifications in Safefood-Online: April 2025

### RASFF-Notifications April 2025: Top 10 hazards



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

### RASFF-Notifications April 2025: Top 10 countries of origin



China is in first place with 27 notifications, followed by Türkiye and France with 26 and 24 notifications.



## Regulation (EU) 2025/581

**Regulation (EU) 2025/581** of March 27, 2025 amended Annexes II and IV of Regulation (EC) 396/2005 with regard to the maximum residue levels of:

- Cycloxydim
- Dichlorprop-P
- Flupyradfuron
- Methylnonylketone
- Plant oils/citronella oil
- Potassium sorbate
- Potassium phosphonate

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

## Draft regulations to reduce the maximum levels of benthivalecarb and benfluralin to 0.01 mg/kg (limit of determination)

Benthivalecarb is no longer authorised in the EU. The European Commission is therefore proposing according to a **draft regulation to set the maximum residue levels for benthivalecarb** at 0.01 mg/kg (Limit of detection, LOD) for all products. This means that the MRLs for grapes and tomatoes will be reduced from 0.3 to 0.01 mg/kg. For all other foodstuffs, the current MRLs are already set at the LOD. However, it is proposed to reduce the LODs for tree nuts, potatoes, seaweed, oilseeds, oleaginous fruits and

cereals from 0.02 to 0.01 mg/kg. The new limits are to apply from May 2026.

Like benthivalecarb, benfluralin is no longer authorised for use in the EU. Therefore, the maximum levels for benfluralin are also to be further reduced, e.g. for:

- Fruit and vegetables, oilseeds, oleaginous fruits, cereals, sugar and
- Herbs and edible flowers: from 0.05 to 0.02 mg/kg
- Teas, coffee, herbal teas, cocoa and carob, hops and spices: from 0.1 to 0.05 mg/
- 

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

## Trifluoroacetic acid (TFA)

According to the study “message from the bottle - The rapid rise of TFA contamination in European wines” by Global 2000 in collaboration with the European pesticide action network (PAN Europe), TFA concentrations in wine have risen sharply since 2010. An average of 122 µg/l TFA was found in wines from the 2021-2024 vintages. The German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment published a **statement** on this topic on April 25, 2025 and came to the conclusion that, according to the current state of knowledge, no adverse health effects are to be expected at the levels of trifluoroacetic acid determined.

In Germany, the Stuttgart Chemical and Veterinary Investigation Office has published its test results on trifluoroacetic acid in fruit and vegetables. Taking into account the provisional ADI value of 0.05 mg/kg body weight set by the EFSA, all samples analysed were below this value based on the basis of average daily consumption.



## Food Safety

- 🕒 Switzerland considers gene editing authorisation to boost crops
- 🕒 Exploratory survey food safety and consumer behaviour in Switzerland
- 🕒 Comparison of the NGT proposals from the EU Commission, EU Council and EU Parliament
- 🕒 EU authorises three 3 GM maize varieties
- 🕒 Donald Trump's claim that US food is safer than European food is unfounded, says the EU's top food safety official Bernhard Url. EU standards are non-negotiable and cannot be used as a tactic in trade negotiations, he says.
- 🕒 EFSA: Follow-up of the re-evaluation of silver (E 174) as a food additive
- 🕒 Compatibility of the EU proposal for a regulation on plants based on certain new genomic techniques with the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety





## Food Fraud

- 🕒 Critical monitoring and control factors for achieving food defense criteria
- 🕒 Great Britain: Four men and a business have been convicted for diverting meat unfit for human consumption back into the human food chain
- 🕒 Food Fraud is rising - how can it be stooped?
- 🕒 McGill University in Canada: Mass spectrometry and AI have been employed by researchers at McGill University, Canada, to verify the origin of honey and cut fraud
- 🕒 Dubai chocolate craze causes global pistachio shortage and scams
- 🕒 Investigation of Lead and Chromium Exposure After Consumption of Contaminated Cinnamon-Containing Applesauce — United States, November 2023–April 2024

## New statistic-tool in the Safefood-Online Dashboard

We have added a new module to the dashboard in Safefood-Online.

Like the other modules, this tool is opened in the dashboard by clicking on '+Add module' and selecting 'Safefood-Online statistics'. The module shows the number of all notifications in Safefood-Online as well as the number by notification type:

- A: Alert notifications
- I: Information message
- NC: Notification of non-compliance
- BR: Border rejection
- N: News
- 

The notifications are also broken down by:

- Foodstuffs
- Food contact materials
- Feed

and by the origin of the notification:

- RASFF (Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed)
- AFF (EU Agri-Food Fraud Suspicions)
- JRC

You can also see charts of the notifications by:

- Country of origin
- Reporting country
- Food fraud notifications
- Food fraud notifications by country of origin
- Food fraud notifications by article (top 10)
- 

Two tables list the number of notifications by hazard category and product category.

The overview can be printed or saved in PDF format (with the date and time of retrieval) and is of course updated each time it is accessed on the Safefood-Online site.

Use for printing the icon on the header.



We hope that this overview will also be a useful source of information for your daily work.

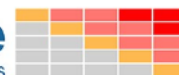


## Safefood-Online statistics

05/11/2025, 1:44 pm

# Safefood-Online

Identify risks and increase opportunities



Total  
**87.769**

A	25.642	BR	25.636
I	36.434	N	45
NC	12		

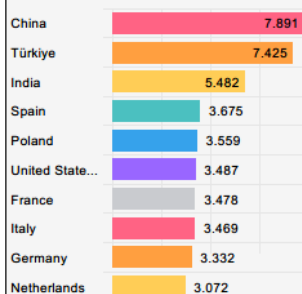
Food	78.523
Food Contact Materials	4.131
Feed	5.115

RASFF  
**84.148**

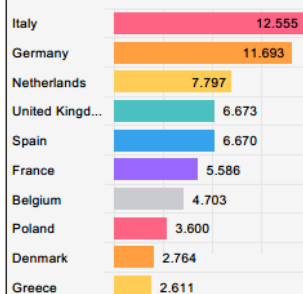
AFF  
**1.227**

JRC  
**2.394**

### Notifications by country of origin



### Notifications by reporting country



### Notifications by hazard category (LM)

pathogenic micro-organisms	20.954
pesticide residues	15.785
mycotoxins	15.225
adulteration / fraud	7.201
composition	5.628
migration	4.376
chemical / industrial contamin...	4.267
heavy metals	4.149
allergens	3.607
food additives, colours and fl...	3.285
foreign bodies	2.592
hormones / residues of veterin...	2.437
novel food	2.163
biotoxins	2.062
insects / parasitic infestatio...	1.871
poor or insufficient controls	1.817
labelling absent/incomplete/in...	905

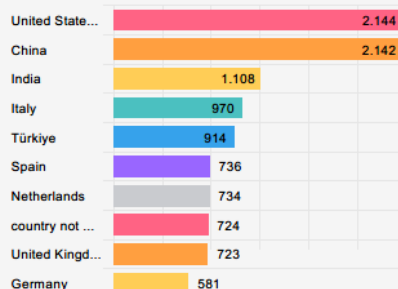
### Notifications by product category (LM)

fruits, vegetables and pulses	15.308
nuts and seeds and products th...	14.163
fish and fish products	8.361
herbs and spices	6.022
meat and meat products (other ...	5.511
poultry meat and poultry meat ...	5.451
dietetic foods, food supplement...	4.564
food contact materials	4.443
cereals and bakery products	3.993
feed materials	3.231
bivalve molluscs and products ...	3.107
crustaceans and products there...	2.986
milk and milk products	2.210
prepared dishes and snacks	2.062
cocoa and chocolate products, ...	1.788
soups, broths, sauces and cond...	1.199
fats and oils	1.137

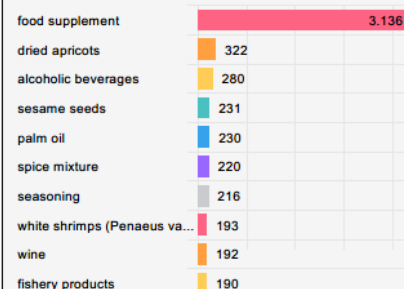
### Food fraud reports

adulteration / fraud	7.201
composition	5.628
food additives, colours and fl...	3.285
novel food	2.163
labelling absent/incomplete/in...	905
GMO	835
radiation	415
<b>Total</b>	<b>20.432</b>

### Food fraud reports by country of origin (Top 10)



### Food fraud reports by article (Top 10)



05/11/2025

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## Feedback

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

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Sales tax identification number according to § 27a  
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