

# Food Legislation News

No. 1 – February 2025

## Statements of the ALTS

The working group of experts in the field of food hygiene and foodstuffs derived from animals (ALTS) has passed resolutions on the following topics, among others, at its 93<sup>rd</sup> meeting:

### ALTS/ALS: Assessment values for allergens updated:

ALTS and ALS have again updated their assessment values for allergens (Decisions 2024/93/20). The tabular compilation is available (in German) at: [https://www.bvl.bund.de/SharedDocs/Downloads/01\\_Lebensmittel/ALS\\_ALTS/Allergene\\_Beurteilungswerte.pdf?jsessionid=36D44A95359122C9C59A1A515C37FDB9.internet981?\\_\\_blob=publicationFile&v=10](https://www.bvl.bund.de/SharedDocs/Downloads/01_Lebensmittel/ALS_ALTS/Allergene_Beurteilungswerte.pdf?jsessionid=36D44A95359122C9C59A1A515C37FDB9.internet981?__blob=publicationFile&v=10)

### Water addition in fishery products – update of the guidance document:

The ALTS approves the updated version of the guideline. The guideline “Water addition in unprocessed fishery products - proof and possibilities of assessment (version 2)” is available on the BVL homepage at [https://www.bvl.bund.de/SharedDocs/Downloads/01\\_Lebensmittel/ALS\\_ALTS/Leitfaden\\_Wasserzusatz\\_unverarb\\_Fischereierzeugnissen.pdf?\\_\\_blob=publicationFile&v=2](https://www.bvl.bund.de/SharedDocs/Downloads/01_Lebensmittel/ALS_ALTS/Leitfaden_Wasserzusatz_unverarb_Fischereierzeugnissen.pdf?__blob=publicationFile&v=2) published (no. 2024/93/25, in German).

### Classification of cheese with added nettles as cheese or cheese preparation:

If nettles are added to a cheese, the ALTS considers this to be an “addition of herbs”. A semi-hard cheese with added herbs therefore meets the definition of cheese, as defined in the Cheese Regulation, and is not considered a cheese preparation (No. 2024/93/31).

### Preparative-gravimetric analysis of herring salad:

The percentage of the value-determining proportion in a herring salad, which is stated in the guidelines for delicatessen salads, refers to the time at which the ingredients are combined. The fish content must be determined at the manufacturing plant. The result of a preparative-gravimetric analysis can therefore only lead to the suspicion that the fish content is too low (No. 2024/93/34).

### Note:

Statements from the ALTS are not legally binding; they can be regarded as expert opinions.

At [https://www.bvl.bund.de/EN/Tasks/01\\_Food/01\\_tasks/02\\_OfficialFoodControl/13\\_ALTS/Im\\_ALTS\\_basepage.html](https://www.bvl.bund.de/EN/Tasks/01_Food/01_tasks/02_OfficialFoodControl/13_ALTS/Im_ALTS_basepage.html) you will find further details and an up-to-date overview of the opinions, the current session and the archive (in German).

## EFSA-Publications

The European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) has published the following, among others:

### Saccharin and its salts (E 954):

As part of the re-evaluation of saccharin and its salts as food additives, the EFSA has set an Acceptable Daily Intake (ADI) of 9 mg/kg body weight per day (expressed as imide) for saccharin. This value replaces the previously established value of 5 mg/kg body weight per day (<https://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/news/saccharin-safety-threshold-increased>; <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/pub/9044>).

### Arsenic – complex organic arsenic compounds in food:

Complex organic arsenic compounds are mainly found in marine foods. These mainly comprise arsenobetaines (AsB), arsenosugars and arsenolipids. For AsB and glycerol arsenosugar (glycerol arsenosugar - AsSugOH), it is assumed that there is no health risk to the population. No conclusions could be drawn for other arsenosugars. No risk characterisation could be carried out for arsenolipids due to a lack of data. Further details can be found at <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/pub/9112>.

## News from BfR

The Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR) has published the following, among others:

Climate change can increase the risk of foodborne diseases, among other risks. According to the results of scientific studies, there is a direct link between climate change and the increased incidence of foodborne diseases (Communication No. 048/2024 of 1 November 2024, in German: <https://www.bfr.bund.de/cm/343/klimawandel-und-lebensmittelbedingte-erkrankungen.pdf>).

### PFAS in the body:

A BfR study has shown that the retention time of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in the body depends on the length of the carbon chain of their molecule. Short-chain PFAS are excreted more quickly than long-chain PFAS, which can have a half-life of several years. (Communication No. 050/2024 of 6 November 2024, <https://www.bfr.bund.de/cm/349/pfas-not-all-forever-chemicals-are-persisting-in-the-body.pdf>).

### Lupins as animal feed – bitter substances and their possible health effects:

Lupins contain bitter substances known as quinolizidine alkaloids (QA), which can cause poisoning. A study has shown that QA pass into the milk of dairy cows. If the cow has been fed QA-rich feed, it is therefore conceivable that it could suffer health problems after consuming this milk. However, there is still insufficient data for a reliable assessment of whether adverse effects occur in farm animals due to the intake of QA via animal feed and whether adverse effects can occur in humans due to the consumption of animal products. The BfR therefore recommends further investigation (Communication No. 051/2024 of 7 November 2024 (Communication Nr. 051/2024 of 7 November 2024, in German: <https://www.bfr.bund.de/cm/343/lupinen-als-tierfutter-die-enthaltenen-bitterstoffe-und-ihre-moeglichen-gesundheitlichen-wirkungen-auf-mensch-und-tier-sollten-weiter-untersucht-werden.pdf>).

### Campylobacter – FAQ:

The catalogue of questions and answers on campylobacter dated 15 November 2024 is available at <https://www.bfr.bund.de/cm/349/campylobacter-the-diarrhoea-pathogen-is-often-found-on-poultry-meat.pdf>

### Alternative sources of protein – FAQ:

Selected questions and answers on alternative protein sources (e.g. lupins, insects, lab-grown meat) were published by the BfR on 2 December 2024 (in German: <https://www.bfr.bund.de/cm/343/lupinen-insekten-oder-fleisch-aus-dem-labor-wie-steht-es-um-die-gesundheitliche-bewertung-alternativer-eiwei%C3%9Fquellen.pdf>).

### BfR2GO:

Issue 2/2024 of BfR's science magazine ("BfR2GO") has been published and is available at <https://www.bfr.bund.de/cm/364/bfr-2-go-issue-2-2024.pdf>

### Methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) – FAQ:

The catalogue of questions and answers on MRSA was updated and published on 8 January 2025 (<https://www.bfr.bund.de/cm/349/questions-and-answers-about-methicillin-resistant-staphylococcus-aureus.pdf>).

### Foot and mouth disease:

In its communication no. 0001/2025 of 10 January 2025, the BfR concluded that no health risk is expected from the consumption of food from infected animals (in German: <https://www.bfr.bund.de/cm/343/maul-und-klauenseuche-bei-paarhufern-keine-gefahr-fuer-den-menschen-durch-lebensmittelverzehr.pdf>).

### Brucella in food – FAQ:

On 9 January 2025, the BfR published an updated catalogue of questions and answers on Brucella in food and how to identify and avoid sources of infection (in German: <https://www.bfr.bund.de/cm/343/fragen-und-antworten-zur-infektion-mit-brucellen-ueber-lebensmittel.pdf>).

## Changes in plant protection products

### Maximum residue levels (MRLs):

Regulation (EU) 2024/3196 of 18 December 2024 amended Annex I of Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 regarding radish leaves. A distinction is now made between large radish leaves and small radish leaves. For small radish leaves (e.g. radishes), the same MRL now applies as for 'salad radishes/arugula' ([https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=OJ:L\\_202403196&qid=1737562261333](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=OJ:L_202403196&qid=1737562261333)).

### Information on plant protection products from the BVL:

Comprehensive information on authorised plant protection products, revoked and suspended authorisations and, for example, emergency authorisations can be found on the website of the Federal Office of Consumer Protection and Food Safety (BVL) at [www.bvl.bund.de](http://www.bvl.bund.de) ([https://www.bvl.bund.de/EN/Tasks/04\\_Plant\\_protection\\_products/01\\_ppp\\_tasks/02\\_ppp\\_AuthorisationReviewActSub/01\\_ppps\\_authorised/ppp\\_authorised\\_node.html](https://www.bvl.bund.de/EN/Tasks/04_Plant_protection_products/01_ppp_tasks/02_ppp_AuthorisationReviewActSub/01_ppps_authorised/ppp_authorised_node.html)).

## Changes in veterinary medicinal products

The BVL published notices on the authorisation of veterinary medicinal products and other official acts on 4 and 5 November 2024.

Links (in German):

[https://www.bvl.bund.de/SharedDocs/Downloads/05\\_Tierarzneimittel/Bekanntmachungen/2024\\_12\\_04\\_Bekanntmachung\\_BAnz.pdf?\\_\\_blob=publicationFile&v=3](https://www.bvl.bund.de/SharedDocs/Downloads/05_Tierarzneimittel/Bekanntmachungen/2024_12_04_Bekanntmachung_BAnz.pdf?__blob=publicationFile&v=3)

[https://www.bvl.bund.de/SharedDocs/Downloads/05\\_Tierarzneimittel/Bekanntmachungen/2024\\_12\\_05\\_Bekanntmachung\\_BAnz.pdf?\\_\\_blob=publicationFile&v=2](https://www.bvl.bund.de/SharedDocs/Downloads/05_Tierarzneimittel/Bekanntmachungen/2024_12_05_Bekanntmachung_BAnz.pdf?__blob=publicationFile&v=2)

## Further Publications of the BVL

The BVL has issued the following information, among other updates:

### Foodborne disease outbreaks:

The BVL has published a joint national report of the BVL and Rki on foodborne outbreaks in Germany in 2023 on its website (in German: [https://www.bvl.bund.de/SharedDocs/Fachmeldungen/01\\_lebensmittel/2024/2024\\_11\\_04\\_Lebensmittelbedingte-Krankheitsausbrueche-2023.html](https://www.bvl.bund.de/SharedDocs/Fachmeldungen/01_lebensmittel/2024/2024_11_04_Lebensmittelbedingte-Krankheitsausbrueche-2023.html)).

### Zoonosis-monitoring:

In its press release dated 14 November 2024, the BVL draws attention to potentially pathogenic germs in raw minced meat (minced meat, minced pork). These were detected in seasoned minced pork for raw consumption during the 2023 zoonoses monitoring.

Links (in German):

- Press release:  
[https://www.bvl.bund.de/SharedDocs/Pressemitteilungen/01\\_lebensmittel/2024/PM-Schweinehackfleisch.html](https://www.bvl.bund.de/SharedDocs/Pressemitteilungen/01_lebensmittel/2024/PM-Schweinehackfleisch.html)
- Zoonosis-monitoring:  
[https://www.bvl.bund.de/SharedDocs/Downloads/01\\_Lebensmittel/04\\_Zoonosen\\_Monitoring/Zoonosen\\_Monitoring\\_Bericht\\_2023.pdf;jsessionid=24DEDA08124DA3F48127E4065B91F42E.internet971?\\_blob=publicationFile&v=3](https://www.bvl.bund.de/SharedDocs/Downloads/01_Lebensmittel/04_Zoonosen_Monitoring/Zoonosen_Monitoring_Bericht_2023.pdf;jsessionid=24DEDA08124DA3F48127E4065B91F42E.internet971?_blob=publicationFile&v=3).

### G@ZIELT-Annual Report 2023:

The annual report 2023 of the Joint Central Office “Control of LFGB and Tobacco Products Traded on the Internet” (G@ZIELT) has been published and is available at [https://www.bvl.bund.de/SharedDocs/Downloads/01\\_Lebensmittel/Internethandel/Annual-Report\\_2023\\_G@zielt.pdf?\\_blob=publicationFile&v=2](https://www.bvl.bund.de/SharedDocs/Downloads/01_Lebensmittel/Internethandel/Annual-Report_2023_G@zielt.pdf?_blob=publicationFile&v=2).

## Judgements

### “Zwetschgen Schnaps”:

According to a ruling by the Higher Regional Court of Karlsruhe, the term “Zwetschgen Schnaps” is an allusion to the protected terms “Zwetschgenbrand”, “Zwetschgenwasser” or “Zwetschge”. A product so designated must therefore be produced from a distillate that is 100% made from plums. This designation may not be used for a mixed spirit (OLG Karlsruhe, 5 November 2024, Ref. 14 U 192/23, in German: <https://www.landesrecht-bw.de/bsbw/document/NJRE001591618>).

### “Grana Padano” – advertising with EU seal:

The Regional Court of Düsseldorf has prohibited the advertising of the hard cheese “Grana Padano” with a geo-protection seal whose design does not comply with EU requirements (LG Düsseldorf, 31 October 2024, Ref. 38 O 58/24, in German: [https://nrwe.justiz.nrw.de/lgs/duesseldorf/lg\\_duesseldorf/j2024/38\\_O\\_58\\_24\\_Urteil\\_20241031.html](https://nrwe.justiz.nrw.de/lgs/duesseldorf/lg_duesseldorf/j2024/38_O_58_24_Urteil_20241031.html)).

### “Anti-hangover” advertising:

Advertising for mineral tablets with the addition “anti-hangover” is inadmissible. The Frankfurt am Main Higher Regional Court classified the symptoms of an alcohol hangover as an illness and stated: “Statements and claims that a food is suitable for preventing or alleviating these symptoms are therefore inadmissible” (OLG Frankfurt a. M., 11 November 2024, Az. 6 Ukl 1/24, not final, in German: <https://ordentliche-gerichtsbarkeit.hessen.de/presse/werbung-fuer-lebensmittel-mit-dem-zusatz-anti-kater-untersagt>).

Additional note:

The Regional Court of Mainz saw an association with the symptoms of an alcohol hangover in the advertising for 'After Party Shots' and, although the terms 'alcohol' and 'hangover' were not mentioned, classified this advertising as inadmissible (OLG Mainz, 24 October 2024, Ref. 11 HK O 17/24, in German: <https://www.wettbewerbszentrale.de/landgericht-mainz-zur-assoziation-von-after-party-shots-mit-einem-alkoholkater/>, <https://www.schutzverband.org/landgericht-mainz-untersagt-werbung-fuer-einen-after-party-shot/>).

## Miscellaneous

### Postponement of the date of application of the EU Deforestation Regulation (EUDR):

On 23 December 2024, Regulation (EU) 2024/3234 was published in the Official Journal of the European Union, postponing the date of application of the EUDR obligations by one year to 30 December 2025 ([https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=OJ:L\\_202403234&qid=1738600739712](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=OJ:L_202403234&qid=1738600739712)).

### Bisphenol A (BPA) – Ban:

Regulation (EU) 2024/3190 banned the use of BPA and other bisphenols and bisphenol derivatives in food contact materials ([https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=OJ:L\\_202403190&qid=1738600984248](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=OJ:L_202403190&qid=1738600984248)).

### Amendment Regulation with regards to *Listeria monocytogenes*:

The EU Regulation on microbiological criteria (Regulation (EC) No. 2073/2005) was tightened by Regulation (EU) 2024/2895 regarding *Listeria monocytogenes*. For foodstuffs in category 1.2 of Annex I of Regulation No. 2073/2005, the validity of the limit value for *Listeria monocytogenes* was extended from 'not detectable in 25g' from the time it remains in the food business operator's control area to the entire shelf life. The regulation applies from 1 July 2026 ([https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=OJ:L\\_202402895&qid=1738603602699](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=OJ:L_202402895&qid=1738603602699)).

### Flavourings – removal from the Union list:

Regulation (EU) 2024/2856 of 12 November 2024 removed the flavouring substance benzene-1,2-diol from the Union list ([https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=OJ:L\\_202402856&qid=1738604040198](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=OJ:L_202402856&qid=1738604040198)).

### Guidelines of the German Food Code:

The following amendments and new versions were published in the Federal Gazette (in German):

- Amendment to guidelines on vegetable products:  
(<https://www.bundesanzeiger.de/pub/publication/vRKarPlwnp0iLyvbKFo/content/vRKarPlwnp0iLyvbKFo/BAAnz%20AT%2011.11.2024%20B2.pdf?inline>)
- Amendment to guidelines on fish and fish products  
(<https://www.bundesanzeiger.de/pub/publication/Rm23s8it76R5eKDg3Bs/content/Rm23s8it76R5eKDg3Bs/BAAnz%20AT%2020.11.2024%20B2.pdf?inline>)
- Amendment to guidelines on meat and meat products  
(<https://www.bundesanzeiger.de/pub/publication/aquloZa6yXI6UBFwaf5/content/aquloZa6yXI6UBFwaf5/BAAnz%20AT%2009.12.2024%20B3.pdf?inline>).

**Last update:** 13 January 2025

## EC Alert Notifications

Following are notifications chosen from the European Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed. Considered were alerts for food, information and border rejections which arrived **between 9 November 2024 and 24 January 2025**.

Source:

[https://www.bvl.bund.de/DE/Arbeitsbereiche/01\\_Lebensmittel/01\\_Aufgaben/04\\_Warn\\_und\\_Informationssysteme/00\\_Warn\\_und\\_Informationssysteme/01\\_RASFF/021\\_aktuelle\\_rasff\\_meldungen/aktuelle\\_meldungen\\_lm\\_box.html](https://www.bvl.bund.de/DE/Arbeitsbereiche/01_Lebensmittel/01_Aufgaben/04_Warn_und_Informationssysteme/00_Warn_und_Informationssysteme/01_RASFF/021_aktuelle_rasff_meldungen/aktuelle_meldungen_lm_box.html) (in German)

| Reason for Notifying     | Product                                                                                   | Country of Origin         | Notes                                         | Number |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|--------|
| <b>Mykotoxins</b>        |                                                                                           |                           |                                               |        |
| Aflatoxins<br>total: 108 | peanuts, pistachios, figs, hazelnuts, almonds, walnut kernels, dates (including products) |                           |                                               | 90     |
|                          | dubai chocolate                                                                           | United Arab Emirates      | B1: up 36 µg/kg;<br>total:<br>up 40 µg/kg     | 1      |
|                          | buckwheat flour                                                                           | UK                        | B1: 26 µg/kg;<br>total: 29 µg/kg              | 1      |
|                          | rice, basmati rice                                                                        | Pakistan                  | B1: up 17 µg/kg;<br>total: 19 µg/kg           | 4      |
|                          | cayenne pepper, spices                                                                    | India, Pakistan           | B1: up >24.0 µg/kg                            | 2      |
|                          | corn                                                                                      | Romania                   | B1: 32.7 µg/kg                                | 1      |
|                          | sunflower seeds                                                                           | Turkey                    | B1: 16.0 µg/kg;<br>total: 17.9 µg/kg          | 1      |
|                          | sesame seeds                                                                              | Pakistan, Turkey          | B1: up 5.1 µg/kg;<br>total: 9.1 µg/kg         | 2      |
|                          | quinoa                                                                                    | Peru                      |                                               | 1      |
|                          | soy flour                                                                                 | Serbia                    | B1: up 7.26 µg/kg;<br>total:<br>up 7.26 µg/kg | 2      |
|                          | soy protein                                                                               | Serbia                    | B1: 11.1 µg/kg                                | 2      |
|                          | prepared dish for toddlers                                                                | France                    | B1: 0.237 µg/kg                               | 1      |
| Ochratoxin A             | dried figs                                                                                | Turkey, Greece            | up 390 µg/kg                                  | 28     |
|                          | raisins                                                                                   | Iran, Uzbekistan          | up 55.2 µg/kg                                 | 3      |
|                          | basmati rice, rice                                                                        | India                     | up 16.65 µg/kg                                | 4      |
|                          | organic corn                                                                              | Hungary                   | 14.67 µg/kg                                   | 1      |
|                          | organic rye flour, pre-cooked wheat                                                       | France, Italy             | up 10 µg/kg                                   | 2      |
|                          | organic sunflower seeds                                                                   | Austria                   | 14.2 µg/kg                                    | 1      |
|                          | nutmeg                                                                                    | India, Indonesia, Germany | 20 µg/kg                                      | 1      |
|                          | spice powder, paprika powder, aji panca                                                   | Czech Rep., Spain, Peru   | up > 55 µg/kg                                 | 3      |
|                          | date paste, mulberries                                                                    | Algeria, Turkey           | up 14.3 µg/kg                                 | 2      |
|                          | pistachios                                                                                | USA, Turkey               | up 97.7 µg/kg                                 | 5      |
|                          | dubai chocolate                                                                           | United Arab Emirates      | up 4.5 µg/kg                                  | 1      |
|                          | organic licorice root                                                                     | Spain                     | 264 mg/kg                                     | 1      |

| Reason for Notifying                 | Product                                           | Country of Origin                         | Notes                                                           | Number |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| Deoxynivalenol (DON)                 | wheat                                             | Czech Rep.                                |                                                                 | 1      |
| Fumonisin                            | corn flour                                        | Italy                                     | up 3,260 µg/kg                                                  | 3      |
| T-2 toxin                            | oat fruit bars                                    | Switzerland                               | 88 µg/kg                                                        | 1      |
| Alternaria toxins                    | sunflower seeds                                   | Moldova, Turkey                           | Alternariol:<br>51 µg/kg;<br>Tenuazonic acid:<br>up 3,900 µg/kg | 2      |
|                                      | tahini paste                                      | Belgium                                   | Alternariol:<br>160 µg/kg                                       | 1      |
| <b>Heavy Metals / Other Metals</b>   |                                                   |                                           |                                                                 |        |
| Lead                                 | beef                                              | Poland                                    | 520.0 µg/kg                                                     | 1      |
|                                      | beef kidneys                                      | UK                                        | 0.79 mg/kg                                                      | 1      |
|                                      | sheep liver                                       | Uk                                        | 0.27 mg/kg                                                      | 1      |
|                                      | galangal                                          | Thailand                                  | up 0.45 mg/kg                                                   | 1      |
|                                      | biscuits for infants                              | Italy, Germany                            | 0.028 mg/kg                                                     | 2      |
|                                      | food for special medical purposes                 | Germany                                   | 0.062 mg/kg                                                     | 1      |
|                                      | food supplement                                   | Austria                                   | 5.2 mg/kg                                                       | 1      |
| Cadmium                              | fish ( <i>Seriola punctata</i> )                  | New Zealand                               | 0.082 mg/kg                                                     | 1      |
|                                      | cuttlefish, octopus                               | Morocco, Oman, Portugal, Senegal          | up 2.567 mg/kg                                                  | 4      |
|                                      | lobster ( <i>Homarus americanus</i> )             | Canada                                    | 2.0 mg/kg                                                       | 1      |
|                                      | horse liver                                       | Romania                                   | up 5.60 mg/kg                                                   | 1      |
|                                      | horse kidneys, beef kidneys                       | Netherlands, UK                           | up 9.8 mg/kg                                                    | 2      |
|                                      | pine nuts                                         | Turkey                                    | 0.422 mg/kg                                                     | 1      |
|                                      | raspberries                                       | Serbia                                    | 0.055 mg/kg                                                     | 1      |
|                                      | cocoa                                             | Colombia                                  | 1.9 mg/kg                                                       | 1      |
| Mercury                              | fish, fish products                               | Spain, Canada, Ecuador, Portugal, Tunisia | up 6.6 mg/kg                                                    | 8      |
| Aluminium                            | food supplement                                   | Austria                                   | 16,700 mg/kg                                                    | 1      |
| Arsenic                              | organic strawberry juice concentrate              | Germany                                   | 0.077 mg/kg                                                     | 1      |
|                                      | baby food                                         | Italy                                     | 0.12 mg/kg                                                      | 1      |
|                                      | fish ( <i>Pleuronectes platessa</i> )             | Iceland                                   | 8.36 mg/kg                                                      | 1      |
| <b>Other Contaminants / Residues</b> |                                                   |                                           |                                                                 |        |
| Ethylene oxide,<br>2-Chloroethanol   | organic chamomile flowers, organic chamomile tea  | Egypt, Sri Lanka                          |                                                                 | 2      |
|                                      | hydroxypropyl methylcellulose (HPMC), xanthan gum | China                                     |                                                                 | 3      |
|                                      | raspberries                                       | Ukraine                                   |                                                                 | 1      |

| Reason for Notifying                       | Product                     | Country of Origin                | Notes                                  | Number |
|--------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------------|--------|
|                                            | sesame seeds                | Guatemala                        |                                        | 1      |
|                                            | paprika powder              | Turkey                           |                                        | 1      |
|                                            | food supplement             | India                            |                                        | 1      |
| Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAH)     | dried ginkgo leaves         | China                            | 54.1 µg/kg                             | 1      |
|                                            | panax ginseng extract       | China                            | 95.4 µg/kg                             | 1      |
|                                            | chipotle powder             | Mexico                           | 394 µg/kg                              | 1      |
|                                            | chocolate                   | Belgium                          | 54.1 µg/kg                             | 1      |
| Chlorate                                   | raisins                     | Argentina                        | 1.2 mg/kg                              | 1      |
| Perchlorate                                | cauliflower                 | Belgium                          | 0.24 mg/kg                             | 1      |
| Erucic acid                                | mustard seeds               | Russia, Kazakhstan, India, Italy | up 164.9 g/kg                          | 7      |
| Mineral oil hydrocarbons (MOSH, MOAH)      | coconut oil                 | Philippines                      | MOAH: 8.1 mg/kg                        | 1      |
|                                            | palm stearin                | Malaysia                         | MOAH: 92 mg/kg                         | 1      |
|                                            | rice                        | India                            | MOSH: up 196 mg/kg; MOAH: up 3.4 mg/kg | 1      |
|                                            | vegan cheese alternative    | Greece                           | MOAH: 2.5 mg/kg                        | 1      |
|                                            | green tea                   | Thailand                         | MOAH: 3.3 mg/kg                        | 1      |
|                                            | psyllium husks              | India                            | MOAH: 1.2 mg/kg                        | 1      |
|                                            | food supplement             | Germany                          | MOAH: 200 mg/kg                        | 1      |
| Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) | mussels                     | Vietnam                          | PFOA: 4.0 µg/kg                        | 1      |
|                                            | carp                        | Unknown via France               | PFOS: 3.2 µg/kg                        | 1      |
|                                            | common sole                 | Netherlands                      | PFOS: 3.6 µg/kg; PFNA: 1.5 µg/kg       | 1      |
| Acrylamide                                 | corn waffles                | Poland                           | up 582 µg/kg                           | 1      |
|                                            | sweet potato chips          | Netherlands                      | 3,750 µg/kg                            | 1      |
| 3-Monochloro-1,2-propanediol (3-MCPD)      | palm oil                    | Poland                           | 3,530 µg/kg                            | 1      |
|                                            | biscuits with cream filling | Iran                             | 1,035 µg/kg                            | 1      |
|                                            | crispy snack mix            | Turkey                           | 4,298 µg/kg                            | 1      |
| Glycidyl esters                            | palm oil                    | Israel                           | 2,837 µg/kg                            | 1      |
|                                            | dubai chocolate             | United Arab Emirates             | 1,753 µg/kg                            | 1      |
|                                            | biscuits with cream filling | Iran                             | 812 µg/kg                              | 1      |
|                                            | crispy snack mix            | Turkey                           | 2,165 µg/kg                            | 1      |
| Ergot ( <i>Claviceps purpurea</i> )        | wheat                       | France                           | sclerotia: up 0.19 %                   | 2      |
|                                            | organic spelt flour         | France                           | ergot alkaloids: up 473 µg/kg          | 2      |



| Reason for Notifying                                                                                                                                         | Product                                                   | Country of Origin                               | Notes            | Number |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|------------------|--------|
| Pyrrolizidine alkaloids (PA)                                                                                                                                 | cumin                                                     | Turkey, Germany, India, Spain                   | up 3,113 µg/kg   | 5      |
|                                                                                                                                                              | organic thyme                                             | Spain                                           | 709 µg/kg        | 1      |
|                                                                                                                                                              | oregano                                                   | Turkey, Greece, Peru, unknown                   | up 6,156 µg/kg   | 6      |
|                                                                                                                                                              | majoram                                                   | Egypt                                           | up 6,540 µg/kg   | 3      |
|                                                                                                                                                              | nettle tea, herbal tea                                    | Germany, Poland                                 | up 1,435 µg/kg   | 2      |
|                                                                                                                                                              | mint tea, rooibos tea                                     | Croatia, South Africa                           | up 843.5 µg/kg   | 2      |
| Tropane alkaloids                                                                                                                                            | corn flour                                                | Portugal                                        | 17.6 µg/kg       | 1      |
|                                                                                                                                                              | polenta                                                   | Austria                                         | 31.8 µg/kg       | 1      |
| Histamine                                                                                                                                                    | fish, fish products                                       | France, Sri Lanka, Morocco                      | up 4,805 mg/kg   | 3      |
| Hydrocyanic acid                                                                                                                                             | apricot kernels                                           | Germany, Uzbekistan                             | up 2,466.3 mg/kg | 2      |
|                                                                                                                                                              | bitter almonds                                            | Turkey                                          | 2,226 mg/kg      | 1      |
|                                                                                                                                                              | organic flaxseeds                                         | Kazakhstan                                      | 217 mg/kg        | 1      |
|                                                                                                                                                              | manioc flour                                              | Ghana                                           | 49.5 mg/kg       | 1      |
| Iodine                                                                                                                                                       | roasted seaweed, dried seaweed                            | China, South Korea, Thailand                    | up 65.31 mg/kg   | 5      |
| Nitrate                                                                                                                                                      | spinach                                                   | Italy                                           | up 4,400 mg/kg   | 1      |
| <b>Pharmacological Active Substances</b>                                                                                                                     |                                                           |                                                 |                  |        |
| Cannabidiol (CBD), Cannabigerol (CBG), Cannabinol (CBN), Tetrahydrocannabiphorol (THCP), Tetrahydrocannabidiol (H4CBD), 10-Hydroxyhexacannabinol (10-OH-HHC) | CBD oil products, oils, confectionery, fruit gummies, tea | Austria, Netherlands, Italy, Czech Rep., France | CBD              | 11     |
|                                                                                                                                                              | different foods, tea infusion                             | Netherlands                                     | CBD, CBG         | 2      |
|                                                                                                                                                              | different foods, food supplement                          | Netherlands, Czech Rep.                         | CBD, CBN         | 2      |
|                                                                                                                                                              | fruit gummies                                             | Czech Rep.                                      | CBD, THCP        | 1      |
|                                                                                                                                                              | hemp seed oil, confectionery                              | Lithuania, Czech Rep., USA                      | H4CBD            | 3      |
|                                                                                                                                                              | fruit gummies                                             | Czech Rep.                                      | 10-OH-HHC        | 2      |
| Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC)                                                                                                                                   | hemp seed oil                                             | USA                                             | 10.0 mg/kg       | 1      |
|                                                                                                                                                              | fruit gummies                                             | USA                                             | up 2,096 mg/kg   | 1      |
|                                                                                                                                                              | confectionery, different products containing CBD          | Czech Rep., Netherlands, Italy, France, USA     |                  | 5      |
| Enrofloxacin                                                                                                                                                 | egg powder                                                | Slovakia                                        | 332.6 µg/kg      | 1      |
| Ivermectin                                                                                                                                                   | bighead catfish ( <i>Clarias macrocephalus</i> )          | Vietnam                                         | 18 µg/kg         | 1      |
| Malachite green                                                                                                                                              | bighead catfish ( <i>Clarias macrocephalus</i> )          | Vietnam                                         | 5.6 µg/kg        | 1      |
| Melatonin                                                                                                                                                    | food supplement                                           | Czech Rep.                                      |                  | 1      |
| Monacolone K                                                                                                                                                 | food supplement with red yeast rice                       | France                                          | 12.10 mg/kg      | 1      |
|                                                                                                                                                              | food supplement                                           | Spain                                           |                  | 1      |

| Reason for Notifying                | Product                 | Country of Origin                   | Notes                                           | Number |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|--------|
| Morphine alkaloids                  | poppy seeds             | Turkey                              | 161 mg/kg                                       | 1      |
| Shellfish poisoning toxins (ASP)    | mussels                 | France                              | up 53.37 mg/kg                                  | 1      |
| Nitrofurantol metabolite            | shrimps                 | India                               | 1.54 µg/kg (AOZ),<br>up 1.55 µg/kg (AMOZ)       | 2      |
| Sulfonamide                         | shrimps                 | Vietnam                             | up >250 µg/kg (Sulfamethoxazole)                | 1      |
| Tetracyclines                       | egg powder              | Slovakia                            | 88.1 µg/kg (Doxycyclin)                         | 1      |
|                                     | chicken meat            | Poland                              | 150 µg/kg (Doxycyclin)                          | 1      |
|                                     | shrimps                 | Vietnam                             | up >250 µg/kg (Tetracycline)                    | 1      |
| Trimethoprim                        | egg powder              | Slovakia                            | 16.1 µg/kg                                      | 1      |
| Sildenafil                          | food supplement         | Turkey, Romania                     |                                                 | 2      |
| Tadalafil                           | food supplement         | Turkey, Romania, Hong Kong          |                                                 | 3      |
| <b>Unauthorised Colours</b>         |                         |                                     |                                                 |        |
| Dye CI 15585                        | rice                    | India                               |                                                 | 1      |
| Orange II                           | chili powder            | Ghana                               |                                                 | 1      |
| Rhodamine B                         | chili powder            | Bangladesh                          |                                                 | 1      |
| Titanium dioxide (E 171)            | pastry                  | Germany                             |                                                 | 1      |
|                                     | food colouring          | China, Poland, Hungary              |                                                 | 3      |
| <b>Miscellaneous</b>                |                         |                                     |                                                 |        |
| Magnesium in metal form             | food supplement         | USA                                 |                                                 | 1      |
| Copper and zinc                     | edible gold foil        | China                               | product consists of 85 % copper and 14.7 % zinc | 1      |
| Parasitic infestation with Anisakis | fish, fish products     | USA, Spain, UK                      |                                                 | 3      |
| GMO, not authorised                 | rice noodles, rice cake | China                               |                                                 | 2      |
|                                     | papaya                  | Mexico                              |                                                 | 1      |
|                                     | enzymes                 | China                               |                                                 | 1      |
| Foodborne disease outbreak          | oysters                 | Spain, France, Ireland, Netherlands |                                                 | 4      |
|                                     | raw milk cheese         | France                              |                                                 | 1      |
|                                     | eggs                    | Ukraine                             |                                                 | 1      |
|                                     | seeds for sprouting     | Italy                               |                                                 | 1      |
|                                     | alfalfa sprouts         | Norway and Sweden (raw mat. Italy)  |                                                 | 2      |

| Reason for Notifying                   | Product                                                                                                                                              | Country of Origin                                                                | Notes       | Number |
|----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|--------|
| <b>Pathogenic Germs</b>                |                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                  |             |        |
| Salmonella<br>total: 107               | meat, meat products<br>(including poultry)                                                                                                           |                                                                                  |             | 67     |
|                                        | mussels                                                                                                                                              | Netherlands, Italy<br>(partly raw mat.<br>Spain)                                 |             | 3      |
|                                        | egg products                                                                                                                                         | Italy, India                                                                     |             | 2      |
|                                        | meal tray with ham and<br>cheese, dumplings                                                                                                          | Italy, Poland                                                                    |             | 2      |
|                                        | sesame, sesame products                                                                                                                              | Nigeria, India, Turkey,<br>Chad, Lebanon, Mali,<br>Uganda                        |             | 16     |
|                                        | melon kernels, almonds,<br>macadamia nuts, coconut                                                                                                   | Netherlands, Ghana,<br>USA, Malawi,<br>Indonesia                                 |             | 6      |
|                                        | hummus products                                                                                                                                      | Belgium                                                                          |             | 1      |
|                                        | rocket, alfalfa sprouts                                                                                                                              | Italy                                                                            |             | 3      |
|                                        | basil, cumin, paprika powder                                                                                                                         | India, Turkey, China                                                             |             | 3      |
|                                        | buckwheat flour, chocolate<br>hazelnut cake                                                                                                          | Slovenia, Belgium                                                                |             | 2      |
|                                        | black tea                                                                                                                                            | China                                                                            |             | 2      |
| <i>Listeria monocytogenes</i>          | meat, meat products<br>(including poultry)                                                                                                           | Spain, Poland, Ireland                                                           |             | 7      |
|                                        | fish, fish products                                                                                                                                  | Poland, Germany,<br>Lithuania, Italy,<br>Latvia, Belgium,<br>Denmark (suspicion) |             | 8      |
|                                        | butter                                                                                                                                               | Portugal                                                                         |             | 1      |
|                                        | gorgonzola, cheese, raw milk<br>cheese, raw milk soft cheese<br>with orange cream, raw milk<br>goat's cheese, soft cheese,<br>sriracha cheddarcheese | Italy, France, Austria,<br>Ireland (1x suspicion)                                |             | 9      |
|                                        | tempeh                                                                                                                                               | Netherlands                                                                      |             | 1      |
|                                        | ready-to-eat salads                                                                                                                                  | Sweden                                                                           |             | 1      |
|                                        | Ready-to-eat products with<br>salmon cream cheese                                                                                                    | Belgium                                                                          |             | 1      |
| <i>Bacillus cereus</i>                 | tempeh                                                                                                                                               | Denmark                                                                          | (suspicion) | 1      |
|                                        | dumplings                                                                                                                                            | Poland                                                                           |             | 1      |
| <i>Campylobacter coli</i>              | chicken liver                                                                                                                                        | Italy                                                                            |             | 1      |
| <i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>          | mineral water                                                                                                                                        | Turkey, Germany                                                                  |             | 2      |
| Shiga toxin-producing E.coli<br>(STEC) | wild boar                                                                                                                                            | Germany                                                                          |             | 1      |
|                                        | beef                                                                                                                                                 | Brazil, Spain, Belgium                                                           |             | 3      |
|                                        | beef carpaccio                                                                                                                                       | Germany (raw mat.<br>Argentina)                                                  | (suspicion) | 1      |
|                                        | raw milk cheese                                                                                                                                      | France                                                                           |             | 3      |
|                                        | organic moringa capsules                                                                                                                             | France                                                                           |             | 1      |

| Reason for Notifying                                         | Product                | Country of Origin             | Notes | Number |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|-------|--------|
| <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>                                 | soft cheese, dumplings | France, Poland                |       | 2      |
| <i>Vibrio parahaemolyticus</i> ,<br><i>Vibrio vulnificus</i> | shrimps                | Ecuador                       |       | 1      |
| Hepatitis A Virus                                            | blueberries            | Poland                        |       | 1      |
| Norovirus                                                    | mussels, oysters       | Spain, France,<br>Netherlands |       | 4      |
|                                                              | dates                  | Iran                          |       | 1      |
|                                                              | blackberries           | Serbia                        |       | 1      |

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**Date of publication:** 27 February 2025

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