

RAPID ALERT SYSTEM FOR FOOD AND FEED

The legal basis of the system is Regulation (EC) No 178/2002 laying down the general principles and requirements of food law, establishing the European Food Safety Authority and laying down procedures in matters of food safety (O.J. No L 31 of 1 February 2002).

The purpose of the rapid alert system for food and feed (RASFF) is to provide the control authorities with an effective tool for exchange of information on measures taken to ensure food safety.

To assist the members of the network, information is classified under two different headings :

- **ALERT NOTIFICATIONS**

Alert notifications are sent when the food or feed presenting the risk is on the market and when immediate action is required. Alerts are triggered by the Member State that detects the problem and has initiated the relevant measures, such as withdrawal/recall. The notification aims at giving all the members of the network the information to verify whether the concerned product is on their market, so that they also can take the necessary measures.

Consumers can be reassured that products subject to an alert notification have been withdrawn or are in the process of being withdrawn from the market. The Member States have their own mechanisms to carry out such actions, including the provision of detailed information through the media if necessary.

- **INFORMATION NOTIFICATIONS**

Information notifications concern a food or feed for which a risk has been identified, but for which the other members of the network do not have to take immediate action, because the product has not reached their market. These notifications mostly concern food and feed consignments that have been tested and rejected at the external borders of the EU.

Consumers can be reassured that products subject to an information notification have not reached the market or that all necessary measures have already been taken.

The Commission publishes a weekly overview of alert and information notifications. As it is necessary to strike the balance between openness and the protection of commercial information, the trade names and the identity of individual companies are not published. This is not detrimental to consumer protection, as a RASFF notification implies that measures have been or are in the process of being taken.

The public must be aware that the Commission is not in a position to release more information other than that published here. However, in exceptional circumstances where the protection of human health requires greater transparency, the Commission takes the appropriate action through its usual communication channels.

The Commission informs the authorities of third countries of notifications concerning products manufactured in, distributed to or dispatched from these countries. However, the fact that a country is mentioned as the origin of a product does not necessarily imply that the identified hazard(s) originated in the country concerned.

Week 2007/3

TABLE 1: ALERT NOTIFICATIONS

Notifications in blue typeface concern feed, all other notifications concern food.

DATE:	NOTIFIED BY:	REF.:	REASON FOR NOTIFYING:	COUNTRY OF ORIGIN:
15/01/2007	United Kingdom	2007.0029	glass fragments in shredded green cabbage	THE NETHERLANDS
15/01/2007	Czech Republic	2007.0030	migration of cadmium from decorated mugs	CZECH REPUBLIC
15/01/2007	Germany	2007.0031	unauthorised colour red yeast rice (Angkak) in preserved chilli red bean curd	CHINA VIA THE NETHERLANDS
15/01/2007	Germany	2007.0032	unauthorised colour red yeast rice (Angkak) in bean curd sauce	CHINA (HONG KONG) VIA THE NETHERLANDS
15/01/2007	Germany	2007.0033	unauthorised colour red yeast rice (Angkak) in red yeast	CHINA VIA THE NETHERLANDS
15/01/2007	Germany	2007.0034	too high content of sweetener E 954 - saccharin and unauthorised colour acid red 52 in preserved Japanese vegetables	JAPAN VIA UNITED KINGDOM
16/01/2007	Denmark	2007.0035	unauthorised use of colour E 160b - annato/bixin/norbixin in spice mixture	THE UNITED STATES VIA FRANCE
16/01/2007	Greece	2007.0036	infestation with insects of milk chocolate bars with raisins and nuts	POLAND
16/01/2007	Czech Republic	2007.0037	unauthorised substance acetildenafil in food supplement capsules	SWITZERLAND VIA CYPRUS
16/01/2007	Sweden	2007.0038	Salmonella Adelaide and Salmonella cubana in soybean pellets	BRAZIL VIA THE NETHERLANDS
17/01/2007	Greece	2007.0039	too high level of total migration from water flask	CHINA (HONG KONG)
17/01/2007	Slovenia	2007.0040	migration of 4,4'-diaminodiphenylmethane, of primary aromatic amines and of aniline from skimmers	CHINA VIA AUSTRIA
17/01/2007	Germany	2007.0041	dioxins in canned liver of Atlantic cod (Gadus morhua)	POLAND
18/01/2007	Finland	2007.0042	unauthorised substance isofenphos-methyl in sweet peppers	SPAIN
18/01/2007	Denmark	2007.0043	undeclared nuts in biscuits	SWEDEN
19/01/2007	Finland	2007.0044	too high content of sulphite in dried peaches	CHINA VIA THE NETHERLANDS
19/01/2007	Slovak Republic	2007.0045	aflatoxins in dried figs	TURKEY
19/01/2007	Germany	2007.0046	Salmonella spp in Nile perch fillets	KENYA
19/01/2007	Germany	2007.0047	high content of iodine in dried seaweed	CHINA VIA THE NETHERLANDS
19/01/2007	France	2007.0048	Trichinella in fresh pork meat	FRANCE

TABLE 2: INFORMATION NOTIFICATIONS

Notifications in blue typeface concern feed, all other notifications concern food.

DATE:	NOTIFIED BY:	REF.:	REASON FOR NOTIFYING:	COUNTRY OF ORIGIN:
15/01/2007	Slovak Republic	2007.ACX	ochratoxin A in roasted ground coffee	SLOVAK REPUBLIC
15/01/2007	United Kingdom	2007.ACY	unauthorised substance nitrofuran (metabolite) - nitrofurazone (SEM) in frozen prawns	MALAYSIA
15/01/2007	United Kingdom	2007.ACZ	aflatoxins in blanched peanuts	CHINA
15/01/2007	United Kingdom	2007.ADA	aflatoxins in cracker nuts - butter	THE PHILIPPINES
15/01/2007	United Kingdom	2007.ADB	aflatoxins in cracker nuts - garlic	THE PHILIPPINES
15/01/2007	France	2007.ADC	unauthorised genetically modified long grain rice	THE UNITED STATES VIA SWITZERLAND
15/01/2007	The Netherlands	2007.ADD	aflatoxins in groundnuts	THE UNITED STATES
15/01/2007	United Kingdom	2007.ADE	aflatoxins in blanched peanut kernels	CHINA
16/01/2007	Spain	2007.ADF	mercury in frozen slices of dogfish (<i>Squalus acanthias</i>)	SPAIN
16/01/2007	Spain	2007.ADG	mercury in nurse shark (<i>Ginglymostoma cirratum</i>)	SPAIN
16/01/2007	Germany	2007.ADH	aflatoxins in dried figs	TURKEY
16/01/2007	Germany	2007.ADI	aflatoxins in dried figs	TURKEY
16/01/2007	Germany	2007.ADJ	benzo(a)pyrene in sunflower oil	UKRAINE
17/01/2007	Bulgaria	2007.ADK	aflatoxins in peanut kernels	INDIA VIA THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA
17/01/2007	Italy	2007.ADL	aflatoxins in peanuts with shell	EGYPT
17/01/2007	Germany	2007.ADM	aflatoxins in hazelnut kernels	TURKEY
17/01/2007	Italy	2007.ADN	undeclared sulphite in frozen IQF red pud shrimps (<i>Solenocera melantho</i>)	CHINA
17/01/2007	Germany	2007.ADO	unauthorised genetically modified parboiled long corn rice	THE UNITED STATES
17/01/2007	Germany	2007.ADP	unauthorised genetically modified parboiled long corn rice	THE UNITED STATES
18/01/2007	Spain	2007.ADQ	aflatoxins in almonds	THE UNITED STATES
18/01/2007	Sweden	2007.ADR	undeclared milk ingredient in chocolate	COLOMBIA
18/01/2007	Poland	2007.ADS	aflatoxins in diced and roasted hazelnut kernels	TURKEY
18/01/2007	Belgium	2007.ADT	mercury in boneless skinless grouper	INDONESIA
18/01/2007	Spain	2007.ADU	Salmonella in prawns	MALAYSIA
19/01/2007	Italy	2007.ADV	too high content of sulphite in cooked shrimps (<i>Penaeus vannamei</i>)	BRAZIL
19/01/2007	United Kingdom	2007.ADW	ochratoxin A in sweet paprika powder	PERU
19/01/2007	The Netherlands	2007.ADX	unauthorised substance nitrofuran (metabolite) - furazolidone (AOZ) in fresh frozen peeled tiger prawns	INDIA
19/01/2007	Italy	2007.ADY	Salmonella in protein sodium glutamate concentrate from maize	CHINA
19/01/2007	Greece	2007.ADZ	aflatoxins in pistachio kernels	TURKEY
19/01/2007	Spain	2007.AEA	altered organoleptic characteristics of semi skimmed UHT milk	SPAIN
19/01/2007	United Kingdom	2007.AEB	too high content of E 210 - benzoic acid in orange drink	NIGERIA

DATE:	NOTIFIED BY:	REF.:	REASON FOR NOTIFYING:	COUNTRY OF ORIGIN:
19/01/2007	Germany	2007.AEC	1,3, 5-Trimethylbenzene, in Alaska pollock	CHINA
19/01/2007	Greece	2007.AED	aflatoxins in groundnuts in shell	EGYPT
19/01/2007	United Kingdom	2007.AEE	aflatoxins in sliced roasted hazelnuts	TURKEY
19/01/2007	Spain	2007.AEF	unauthorised substance isofenphos-methyl in peppers	SPAIN