

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Consumers can be reassured that products subject to an alert notification have been withdrawn or are in the process of being withdrawn from the market.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 2007/5

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:
29/01/2007	Germany	2007.0070	unauthorised feed additive oxytetracycline in single feed for trout	PORTUGAL
29/01/2007	Italy	2007.0071	Diarrhoeic Shellfish Poisoning (DSP) toxins in clams (<i>Venus verrucosa</i>)	GREECE
30/01/2007	Germany	2007.0072	aflatoxins in chestnuts	ITALY
30/01/2007	Ireland	2007.0073	3-monochlor-1,2-propanediol (3-MCPD) in sauce for flavouring soups	POLAND
31/01/2007	Portugal	2007.0074	cadmium in frozen tiger prawns	AUSTRALIA VIA INDONESIA
31/01/2007	Belgium	2007.0075	ethephon in tomatoes on the vine	BELGIUM
31/01/2007	Germany	2007.0076	unauthorised genetically modified long grain parboiled rice	THE UNITED STATES
31/01/2007	Hungary	2007.0077	dead insects and excrements of insects in dried figs	TURKEY
01/02/2007	France	2007.0078	undeclared sulphite and unauthorised use of colour E 102 - tartrazine and of colour E 132 - indigotine / indigo carmine in tropical dried fruit mix	BELGIUM
01/02/2007	Belgium	2007.0079	salinomycin and narasin unauthorised in complementary compound feed for poultry	BELGIUM
01/02/2007	Germany	2007.0080	aflatoxins in dried figs	TURKEY
01/02/2007	Czech Republic	2007.0081	aflatoxins in ground almonds	THE UNITED STATES GERMANY
01/02/2007	Italy	2007.0082	Salmonella in frozen kebab of calf and turkey	GERMANY
02/02/2007	France	2007.0083	block frozen raw bovine meat unfit for human consumption	ITALY VIA GERMANY
02/02/2007	Denmark	2007.0084	Salmonella Ohio in fresh frozen grill chicken	GERMANY
02/02/2007	Germany	2007.0085	unauthorised placing on the market of herbal tea containing senna leaves and senna fruits	THAILAND VIA THE NETHERLANDS
02/02/2007	Germany	2007.0086	unauthorised placing on the market of herbal tea containing senna leaves and senna fruits	THAILAND VIA THE NETHERLANDS
02/02/2007	Germany	2007.0087	unauthorised placing on the market of herbal tea containing senna leaves and senna fruits	THAILAND VIA THE NETHERLANDS
02/02/2007	Germany	2007.0088	verotoxin producing <i>Escherichia coli</i> in soft cheese made from raw milk	BELGIUM

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:
29/01/2007	United Kingdom	2007.AFW	1,4-dichlorobenzene in manuka and jellybush blend honey	AUSTRALIA
29/01/2007	Spain	2007.AFX	too high content of sulphite in frozen crabs and shrimps	SENEGAL
29/01/2007	Poland	2007.AFY	spoilage of salted beef casings	URUGUAY
29/01/2007	Germany	2007.AFZ	Vibrio parahaemolyticus in head on black tiger shrimps	INDIA
29/01/2007	Finland	2007.AGA	benzo(a)pyrene and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons in seabuckthorn seed oil	CHINA
29/01/2007	Czech Republic	2007.AGB	aflatoxins in roasted peanuts with coconut juice	VIETNAM
29/01/2007	The Netherlands	2007.AGC	aflatoxins in peanut runner	ARGENTINA
29/01/2007	Italy	2007.AGD	aflatoxins in pistachio nuts in shell	IRAN
30/01/2007	Germany	2007.AGE	abnormal smell of whole rabbits and parts of rabbits	CHINA
30/01/2007	Italy	2007.AGF	aflatoxins in pistachio nuts in shell	IRAN
30/01/2007	Denmark	2007.AGG	Salmonella typhimurium DT 104 in whole fresh chicken	FRANCE
30/01/2007	Germany	2007.AGH	aflatoxins in roasted and salted pistachio nuts with shell	TURKEY
30/01/2007	Germany	2007.AGI	aflatoxins in pistachio kernels	TURKEY
30/01/2007	Italy	2007.AGJ	aflatoxins in raw hazelnuts without shell	TURKEY
30/01/2007	Germany	2007.AGK	fraudulent use of health mark for Alaska pollock fillets (Theragra chalcogramma)	CHINA
30/01/2007	Finland	2007.AGL	migration of chromium from cake knives	CHINA
30/01/2007	Spain	2007.AGM	Escherichia coli in pangasius fillets with lemon leaves (Pangasius hypophthalmus)	VIETNAM
30/01/2007	Italy	2007.AGN	too high level of total migration from enamelled teapots and grills	ARGENTINA
30/01/2007	Italy	2007.AGO	aflatoxins in pistachios	IRAN
30/01/2007	Italy	2007.AGP	aflatoxins in pistachio nuts with shell	IRAN
30/01/2007	Portugal	2007.AGQ	aflatoxins in peanuts in shell	CHINA
31/01/2007	Lithuania	2007.AGR	use-by date exceeded of frozen hake (Merluccius hubbsi)	PANAMA VIA SPAIN
31/01/2007	Malta	2007.AGS	unauthorised novel food slimming product containing Hoodia gordonii	CANADA
31/01/2007	Malta	2007.AGT	unauthorised novel food slimming product containing Hoodia gordonii	UNKNOWN ORIGIN VIA UNITED KINGDOM
31/01/2007	Germany	2007.AGU	oxamyl in green long peppers	TURKEY
31/01/2007	Malta	2007.AGV	missing identification code on individual packaging of dried figs	TURKEY
31/01/2007	Germany	2007.AGW	unauthorised substance isofenphos-methyl in red sweet peppers	SPAIN VIA FRANCE
31/01/2007	Spain	2007.AGX	unauthorised establishment for live bivalve molluscs	SPAIN
31/01/2007	The Netherlands	2007.AGY	aflatoxins in almonds	THE UNITED STATES
31/01/2007	The Netherlands	2007.AGZ	aflatoxins in groundnuts	SUDAN
31/01/2007	The Netherlands	2007.AHA	aflatoxins in groundnuts	BRAZIL

DATE:	NOTIFIED BY:	REF.:	REASON FOR NOTIFYING:	COUNTRY OF ORIGIN:
31/01/2007	France	2007.AHB	unauthorised colours Sudan 1 and Sudan 4 and unauthorised use of colour E 160b - annato/bixin/norbixin in spice mixture	LEBANON
31/01/2007	United Kingdom	2007.AHC	aflatoxins in groundnut kernels for bird seed	GHANA
31/01/2007	United Kingdom	2007.AHD	aflatoxins in melon seeds	NIGERIA
31/01/2007	United Kingdom	2007.AHE	aflatoxins in almond candy	CHINA
31/01/2007	United Kingdom	2007.AHF	aflatoxins in chilli powder masala	PAKISTAN
01/02/2007	United Kingdom	2007.AHG	aflatoxins in pumpkin seeds	CHINA
01/02/2007	France	2007.AHH	too high content of colour E 102 - tartrazine and of colour E 124 - Ponceau 4R / cochineal red A in tandoori masala	INDIA
01/02/2007	Spain	2007.AHI	unauthorised colour Sudan Red B in sauce	MEXICO
01/02/2007	Greece	2007.AHJ	aflatoxins in peanuts	CHINA
01/02/2007	Italy	2007.AHK	illegal import of various meat and fishery products	CHINA
01/02/2007	Belgium	2007.AHL	unauthorised substance nitrofuran (metabolite) - furazolidone (AOZ) in raw fresh frozen black tiger prawns (Penaeus monodon)	INDIA
01/02/2007	Belgium	2007.AHM	Salmonella in and absence of health certificate(s) for meat and bone meal	GERMANY
01/02/2007	Malta	2007.AHN	unauthorised novel food slimming product containing Hoodia gordonii	THE UNITED STATES
01/02/2007	France	2007.AHO	too high content of undeclared sulphite in coconut preserve	VIETNAM
01/02/2007	United Kingdom	2007.AHP	residue level above MRL for tetracycline in frozen head on cooked shrimps	SRI LANKA
01/02/2007	Germany	2007.AHQ	oxamyl and unauthorised substance isofenphos-methyl in yellow peppers	SPAIN VIA FRANCE
02/02/2007	United Kingdom	2007.AHR	aflatoxins in melon seeds	NIGERIA
02/02/2007	France	2007.AHS	too high content of sweetener E 954 - saccharin in ginger in vinegar	CHINA
02/02/2007	Spain	2007.AHT	too high content of sulphite in frozen Norway lobster (Nephrops norvegicus)	SPAIN
02/02/2007	United Kingdom	2007.AHU	aflatoxins in hazelnut kernels	TURKEY
02/02/2007	Portugal	2007.AHV	cadmium in frozen octopus	INDONESIA
02/02/2007	France	2007.AHW	undeclared sulphite and E 200 - sorbic acid and unauthorised use of colour E 129 - Allura Red AC in dried strawberries	CHINA

TABLE 3: CORRIGENDA TO PREVIOUS NOTIFICATIONS

DATE:	REF.:	NOTIFICATION:	OF WEEK	CORRIGENDUM:
31/01/2007	inf01	2007.AFE	4	triadimenol is mentioned in the subject line, however trimethoprim was found in the honey

TABLE 4: WITHDRAWALS OF PREVIOUS NOTIFICATIONS

DATE:	REF.:	NOTIFI- CATION:	OF WEEK	REASON FOR WITHDRAWAL:
30/01/2007	inf01	2007.AAB	1	This notification is identical to notification 2006.COZ and is therefore withdrawn