

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Consumers can be reassured that products subject to an alert notification have been withdrawn or are in the process of being withdrawn from the market.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 2006/9

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:
27/02/2006	Italy	2006.0140	ochratoxin A in durum wheat	CANADA
27/02/2006	Austria	2006.0141	unauthorised colour Sudan 4 in pure zomi palm oil	GHANA VIA UNITED KINGDOM
27/02/2006	Spain	2006.0142	carbon monoxide treatment of chilled vacuum packed tuna loins (Thunnus albacares)	PANAMA VIA THE NETHERLANDS
27/02/2006	Italy	2006.0143	migration of isopropyl thioxanthone from packaging of soya beverage	THE NETHERLANDS
27/02/2006	Germany	2006.0144	migration of 4,4-diaminodiphenylmethane from black nylon ladle	UNKNOWN ORIGIN VIA THE NETHERLANDS
27/02/2006	Belgium	2006.0145	unauthorised substance yohimbine in food supplement	THE UNITED STATES
27/02/2006	Germany	2006.0146	unauthorised feed additive nicarbazin in frozen duck breast fillet	HUNGARY
28/02/2006	Italy	2006.0147	too high count of Escherichia coli in live clams (Tapes semidecussatus)	ITALY
01/03/2006	Italy	2006.0148	too high content of sulphites in cooked prawns	BRAZIL VIA SPAIN
01/03/2006	Czech Republic	2006.0149	carbendazim in baby foods	POLAND
01/03/2006	Italy	2006.0150	Salmonella in frozen cured pork tenderloin (lonza)	SPAIN
03/03/2006	France	2006.0151	Brucella in goat cheese made from raw milk	PORTUGAL

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:
27/02/2006	Italy	2006.AOE	lead in crude sunflowerseed oil	UKRAINE VIA HUNGARY
27/02/2006	Denmark	2006.AOF	Vibrio cholerae in cooked peeled black tiger shrimps	THAILAND
27/02/2006	Italy	2006.AOG	migration of isopropyl thioxanthone from packaging of pasteurised milk	GREECE
28/02/2006	Spain	2006.AOH	cadmium in frozen whole cuttlefish	INDIA
28/02/2006	Germany	2006.AOI	aflatoxins in raw pistachio nuts in shell	IRAN
28/02/2006	Germany	2006.AOJ	aflatoxins in raw pistachio nuts in shell	IRAN
28/02/2006	Germany	2006.AOK	aflatoxins in raw pistachio nuts in shell	IRAN
28/02/2006	United Kingdom	2006.AOL	unauthorised colour Orange II in ground red chilli	NIGERIA

DATE:	NOTIFIED BY:	REF.:	REASON FOR NOTIFYING:	COUNTRY OF ORIGIN:
28/02/2006	Spain	2006.AOM	unauthorised substance nitrofurantoin (metabolite) - furazolidone (AOZ) in frozen prawns (<i>Litopenaeus vannamei</i>)	VENEZUELA
28/02/2006	Denmark	2006.AON	diazinon in clementines	SPAIN
28/02/2006	Italy	2006.AOO	patulin in apple juice concentrate	IRAN
28/02/2006	Spain	2006.AOP	aflatoxins in almonds	THE UNITED STATES
28/02/2006	Norway	2006.AOQ	cadmium in lobster shell in powder form	EL SALVADOR
28/02/2006	Spain	2006.AOR	mercury in frozen Mediterranean spearfish	SENEGAL
28/02/2006	Spain	2006.AOS	cadmium in frozen whole round cuttlefish	YEMEN
28/02/2006	Italy	2006.AOT	aflatoxins in groundnuts in shell	EGYPT
28/02/2006	Spain	2006.AOU	cadmium in frozen whole round cuttlefish (<i>Sepia spp</i>)	YEMEN
28/02/2006	Poland	2006.AOV	unauthorised novel food noni extract	INDIA
28/02/2006	Poland	2006.AOW	cadmium and lead in walnut kernels	UKRAINE VIA LATVIA
28/02/2006	Germany	2006.AOX	fragments of glass in hot ajvar sofko	BULGARIA
01/03/2006	United Kingdom	2006.AOY	aflatoxins in peanut balls	NIGERIA
01/03/2006	United Kingdom	2006.AOZ	aflatoxins in sunflower seeds	THE UNITED STATES
01/03/2006	Italy	2006.APA	Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning (PSP) toxins in live mussels (<i>Mytilus galloprovincialis</i>)	SPAIN
01/03/2006	Hungary	2006.APB	illegal trade of pig carcasses and cut meat	SLOVAKIA
01/03/2006	Italy	2006.APC	aflatoxins in pistachios	THE UNITED STATES VIA ISRAEL
01/03/2006	Ireland	2006.APD	mouse faeces in lentils	TURKEY
01/03/2006	Germany	2006.APE	aflatoxins in roasted and salted pistachios in shell	IRAN
01/03/2006	Cyprus	2006.APF	cadmium in manganese oxide	CHINA
02/03/2006	The Netherlands	2006.APG	aflatoxins in groundnut kernels	SUDAN
02/03/2006	The Netherlands	2006.APH	aflatoxins in peanut kernels	CHINA
02/03/2006	United Kingdom	2006.API	aflatoxins in hazelnut kernels levant	TURKEY
02/03/2006	United Kingdom	2006.APJ	aflatoxins in peanut in shell	CHINA
02/03/2006	Spain	2006.APK	cadmium in frozen raw banana prawns	AUSTRALIA
02/03/2006	The Netherlands	2006.APL	aflatoxins in peanuts	CHINA
02/03/2006	The Netherlands	2006.APM	aflatoxins in peanuts	CHINA
02/03/2006	Germany	2006.APN	aflatoxins in groundnuts in shell	CHINA
02/03/2006	Germany	2006.APO	aflatoxins in pistachios in shell	IRAN
02/03/2006	Germany	2006.APP	aflatoxins in pistachios in shell	IRAN
02/03/2006	Germany	2006.APQ	aflatoxins in pistachios in shell	IRAN
02/03/2006	Greece	2006.APR	cadmium in canned squid	THAILAND
02/03/2006	Italy	2006.APS	unidentified greasy substance on cast iron fondue set and grill	CHINA
03/03/2006	United Kingdom	2006.APT	aflatoxins in chilli powder	INDIA
03/03/2006	United Kingdom	2006.APU	aflatoxins in chilli powder	INDIA
03/03/2006	Germany	2006.APV	aflatoxins in raw pistachio nuts in shell	IRAN
03/03/2006	Germany	2006.APW	aflatoxins in raw pistachio nuts in shell	IRAN
03/03/2006	Czech Republic	2006.APX	ochratoxin A in dried raisins	UZBEKISTAN
03/03/2006	Czech Republic	2006.APY	ochratoxin A in dried raisins	UZBEKISTAN
03/03/2006	Italy	2006.APZ	cadmium, chromium, lead, zinc, copper and manganese in tomato concentrate	TUNISIA
03/03/2006	Italy	2006.AQA	aflatoxins in shelled almonds	THE UNITED STATES
03/03/2006	Italy	2006.AQB	cadmium, chromium, lead, zinc and copper in lotus leaves	CHINA
03/03/2006	Italy	2006.AQC	aflatoxins in shelled almonds	THE UNITED STATES

DATE:	NOTIFIED BY:	REF.:	REASON FOR NOTIFYING:	COUNTRY OF ORIGIN:
03/03/2006	Greece	2006.AQD	aflatoxins in dried nuts	SINGAPORE
03/03/2006	Poland	2006.AQE	moulds and insects in dried figs	TURKEY
03/03/2006	Greece	2006.AQF	aflatoxins in dried nuts	SINGAPORE
03/03/2006	Denmark	2006.AQG	Salmonella in minced pork	GERMANY
03/03/2006	Italy	2006.AQH	unidentified greasy substance on cast iron fondue set and grill	CHINA

TABLE 3: CORRIGENDA TO PREVIOUS NOTIFICATIONS

DATE:	REF.:	NOTIFICATION:	OF WEEK	CORRIGENDUM:
01/03/2006	inf01	2006.AMS	8	Colours Sudan 1, 2 and 3 were not detected in the product.