In Australia, a leading honey distributor and some supermarket chains have been accused of selling fake honey based on nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) analyses for screening and sugar testing. One of the retailers withdrew the suspicious samples from the Australian market.

**ABC News:** 2 September 2018

Three tons of tomato sauces (6000 jars) were seized by Italian authorities for lack of traceability documentation.

**Salerno Today:** 3 September 2018

More than a fifth of meat product samples tested by the UK Food Standards Agency in England, Wales and Northern Ireland in 2017 were found to be partly or totally made up of unspecified meat not mentioned on the label. Lamb was the meat most frequently affected, so was minced meat.

**BBC:** 5 September 2018

Italian authorities discovered rice of Asian origin falsely labelled as Italian during a series of controls carried out to enforce the implementation of the obligation to indicate the geographical origin of rice.

**Il Giornale di Sicilia:** 6 September 2018

Italian authorities found 300 kilogrammes of expired meat in a restaurant and more than 80 kilogrammes of meat and fish not fit for human consumption were seized in a camping village.

**Cronache Maceratessi & Corriere Romagna:** 9 September 2018

Indian Food Safety officers seized 40 hectolitres of expired cooking oil filled in barrels, which were previously used for storing pesticides in Kashmir during raids that coincided with the wedding season. Officials also seized expired milk and Wazwan (food speciality from Kashmir) containing industrial dyes considered as hazardous to human health.

**International Business Times:** 11 September 2018

According to the Indian Food Safety and Standards Authority nearly 70 % of milk and dairy products sold in India do not conform to the legal standards. In some cases, contamination derives from detergents used in cleaning processes of containers. It is estimated that about 90 % of products that do not respect the criteria set in Indian legislation are related to food fraud. Indian authorities have therefore developed rapid test methods allowing consumers to quickly detect adulteration.

**Republica:** 12 September 2018
Indian authorities discovered more than 700 litres of adulterated mustard oil in Punjab following raids on adulterators conducted across the state. Different types of fraud were identified, including adulterated edible oil sold as mustard oil, mislabelling of the geographical origin and other counterfeited brands.

*The Hindu*: 12 September 2018

Italian authorities seized more than 2 tons of lower quality olive oil sold as “extra-virgin” which contained oil from other seed oils in concentrations higher than what is allowed by European legislation.

*Fanpage*: 13 September 2018

Italian authorities seized 90 kilos of raw ham in a sausage factory that would have been sold as “Crudo di Parma”. The ham was not produced according to the mandatory compliance process to be labelled as “Crudo di Parma”.

*Libertà*: 21 September 2018

According to the 2016 report published by the French Institution DGCCRF, almost half of the olive oils sold in France are falsely labelled, with many claiming as being of higher quality than what they actually are and do not conform to regulation. Many oils contained other vegetable oils.

*Le Monde*: 23 September 2018

Italian authorities seized 200 kilogrammes of fish in markets and restaurants for lack of traceability documentation and the non-respect of sanitary rules.

*Palermo Today*: 24 September 2018

Italian authorities seized 3000 hectolitres of poor quality wine worth an estimated EUR 400,000 to which synthetic aromas were suspected to have been added to deceive consumers.

*Ministero delle politiche agricole alimentari, forestali e del turismo*: 26 September 2018

The owners of food processing and distribution companies in Long Island, USA, have been accused for selling squid falsely labelled as octopus, which is highly priced.

*The Island Packet*: 27 September 2018

More than 400 hectolitres of undeclared must and wine in fermentation valued at almost EUR 3 Million have been seized in two different Italian companies. Frauds were related to sugar added before fermentation to increase the alcohol content. Other chemicals including tartaric acid and sulphuric acid were also stored on the premises.

*Ministero della Salute*: 27 September 2018

The owner of a food processing company from the USA declared in court to have sold crab from Asia, Central and South-America labelled as Atlantic blue crab. The fraudulent practice was attributed to the decrease in catches of the genuine Atlantic blue crab for which he could not meet consumers’ demand.

*Fis*: 27 September 2018

Italian authorities investigated a cheese producer who exported to Canada tons of cheese produced in Sardinia, but sold with the false labels of the pecorino crotonese PDO cheese (origin of Calabria).

*Il Dispaccio*: 28 September 2018

More than 1500 kilogrammes adulterated spices were seized in India. Dyes not fit for human consumption were added to spices which were then sold using the labels of some reputed spices brands. Also, coriander stalks were used to prepare coriander powder.

*The Times of India*: 29 September 2018
Spanish authorities seized a large number of different types of fish unsuitable for human consumption that were to be sold in open markets without the required authorisations.

La Verdad : 30 September 2018

Other interesting articles

As from 1st January 2019, the American Olive Oil Association requires more information on labels for olive oil containers. The labels must specify a two-year best-by date, precise information about the country of origin, an indication of other components in case the oil is not 100 % olive oil, and recommendations for use and storage of the product.

Olive Oil Times : 06/09/2018

25/09/18 - Valdepeñas, Spanish wine PDO to include grape variety on the label.
As from November, Valdepeñas, a Spanish wine PDO from Castilla-La Mancha region will indicate on its label the grape variety used to produce the wine.

Agrodigital

27/09/2018 - The US’s FDA moves ahead to update legislation on use of names for dairy products and products of vegetable origin.
The United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has begun a series of actions aimed at updating legislation to avoid the misuse of terms such as milk and cheese on products of vegetable origin (soya, almonds, etc.) with nutritional values different from those of the dairy products.

US Food & Drug Administration

Disclaimer: The presentation of articles reflects their media coverage. In any case, it does not reflect the frequency of food fraud in a particular country and/or concerning a specific food product. The European Commission does not take any responsibility for the validity of the information extracted from the media channels scanned. The views expressed shall not be regarded as stating an official position of the European Commission.

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