

# Monthly Summary of Articles on Food Fraud and Adulteration

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## Food Fraud Cases

French charity associations have discovered that minced meat patties (7 million patties) produced in Poland mostly contained fat and skin also in addition to starch and soya, which are not authorised ingredients for this type of product.

[Courrier Picard](#): 07/06/19



Meat



Substitution

Italian authorities have seized eight tons of eggs whose expiry date had been fraudulently extended in the packing centre to prolong the durability of the product.

[Ministero della Salute](#): 10/06/19



Eggs



Intentional  
distribution of  
expired goods/  
Mislabelling

About 35 % of the Parma and San Daniele hams do not fulfil the requirements to bear the PDO label. Pigs traditionally used for producing the ham were crossed with races that grow faster, obtaining animals that retain more water in the muscle. The higher moisture content makes the meat not suitable for the production of the cured hams under the Parma and San Daniele PDO hams.

[Il Fatto Alimentare](#): 10/06/19



Meat



Mislabelling/  
Substitution

The inspectors that grant the Prosciutto di Parma and San Daniele PDO labels have resigned following the irregularities that have recently been affecting the certification body responsible for the mentioned PDOs. In May, inspectors revealed that 2.5 million hams did not comply with the requirements to bear the PDO labels.

[Il fatto Alimentare](#): 13/06/19



Meat



Substitution

Jordanian authorities have detained three people for importing expired nuts and coffee beans.

[The Jordan Times](#): 12/06/19



Nuts and coffee



Intentional  
distribution of  
expired goods

The OPSON VIII report has been published. The report provides a summary of the outcomes of coordinated actions conducted by Europol and Interpol to crack down on food fraud between December 2018 and April 2019. In particular, it is the first time the exercise has tackled organic food, which is often sold at higher prices than the equivalent conventional one. This premium attracts fraudsters who aim to maximise profits by selling conventional food under the organic label. Illicit alcohol, cereals and grains and condiments, ranked in the order of products most widely seized.

[Europol](#): 21/06/19



Various



Various

An "intermediaire" sells Spanish strawberries in France for distribution as a French product.

[Capital](#): 22/06/19



Fruit



Origin masking

Fifty companies have been accused of selling online "al tartufo" processed food in which the truffles were replaced by the synthetic aroma compound bismethylthiomethane (truffle sulphide).

[Quicosenza](#): 22/06/19



Mushrooms



Substitution

Italian authorities have seized 1-ton mussels that lacked appropriate information to trace the product.

[L'Eco](#): 24/06/19



Seafood



Mislabelling

In the frame of a broad action, Italian authorities have seized 12 tons of food found to be counterfeit PDO or PGI products. The seizures occurred in different companies and were related to different products: ham, bresaola, cheese, etc.

[L'Ora](#): 25/06/19



Various



Counterfeit

Pakistani authorities have seized 14 tons adulterated spices in more than eight production sites. In the frame of the same campaign, 10 tons of rice bark was also found.

[Pakistan observer](#): 28/06/19



Spices



Substitution

A honey producer in New Zealand has been found guilty of adding methylglyoxal and dihydroxyacetone to 14 tons of honey during its processing to imitate manuka honey, in which both compounds naturally exist.

[NZ Herald](#): 28/06/19



Honey



Artificial enhancement

## Other interesting articles

27/06/2019 – Detecting wine fraud without opening the bottle



Spain

The Spanish University of Pais Vasco has developed a tool to detect fraud in wine without uncorking the bottle. The tool allows for the extraction of volatile compounds from the head space of wine bottles, which are characteristic of each wine variety, PDO, vinification process, etc.



Wine

[Diario Vasco](#)

*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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