

IFS Trend Risk Report December 2024



Dear readers,

Unfortunately, this month we are unable to provide you with a summary of food fraud cases from around the world as usual. Hopefully, next month we are back on track but in the meantime, we hope you enjoy the remaining topics of the report.

The guest article by AFC Risk & Crisis Consult is entitled "Advertising ban on unhealthy food", detailing a recent UK law, coming into force in October 2025, severely restricting the advertising of products high in sugar, fat, or salt. Read the full article on page 3.

"Recalls around the world" can be found on page 3.

Our pesticide analysis shows deviations of the following three products: strawberries, raspberries and sweet peppers. Read the full details which pesticides were detected in these products on page 4.

On page 5, you will find the RAFFS data evaluations dashboard, giving you all necessary information you need with a pleasing visual design.

In our Noteworthy Publication section, you will find a direct link to the podcast "Science on the menu" from EFSA, the European Food Authority. We listed this podcast once before but thought we highlight it again; in case someone missed the link in our June edition – because: it's worth a listen!

In the last section, you can get many interesting news and scientific publications in the field of food safety and packaging.

We hope you enjoy reading our report. If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact us.

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Issue of the month: Advertising Ban on Unhealthy Food

In December 2024, the UK government passes a [law](#) severely restricting the advertising of unhealthy foods. From [October 2025](#), products high in sugar, fat, or salt will no longer be advertised on TV before 9 pm or online. The decision aims to tackle the [rising obesity rates](#), especially among children, and promote healthier eating habits.

The [list of foods](#) affected includes breakfast items such as cereals, waffles, and pancakes, as well as sugary fruit yogurts and ready meals such as hamburgers and stuffed pasta. Soft drinks and other sugary beverages such as fruit juices are also included in the ban.

Highly processed foods, often referred to as "[ultra-processed foods](#)" (UPFs), typically contain high levels of sugar, salt, saturated fat, and a variety of [additives and artificial flavors](#) to enhance their taste. These products tend to have [low nutritional value](#) and can pose health risks such as [obesity and cardiometabolic diseases](#).

For this reason, the [World Health Organization \(WHO\)](#) has recommended stronger policies measures to protect children from the harmful effects of food marketing. The [UK](#) is not alone in taking action against unhealthy food advertising. Countries such as [Chile](#) and [Mexico](#) have also introduced stricter rules on the advertising of unhealthy foods, particularly to children.

Opinions on advertising bans are divided. Proponents argue that advertising bans can improve [dietary habits](#) and reduce the prevalence of [obesity](#) and related diseases. Critics, however, argue that banning advertising would [not solve the underlying problems](#) and that physical activity and nutrition education should be promoted instead.

In many countries, including [Germany](#), a ban on the advertising of unhealthy foods is the subject of controversial debate. It remains to be seen how the situation will develop in these countries.



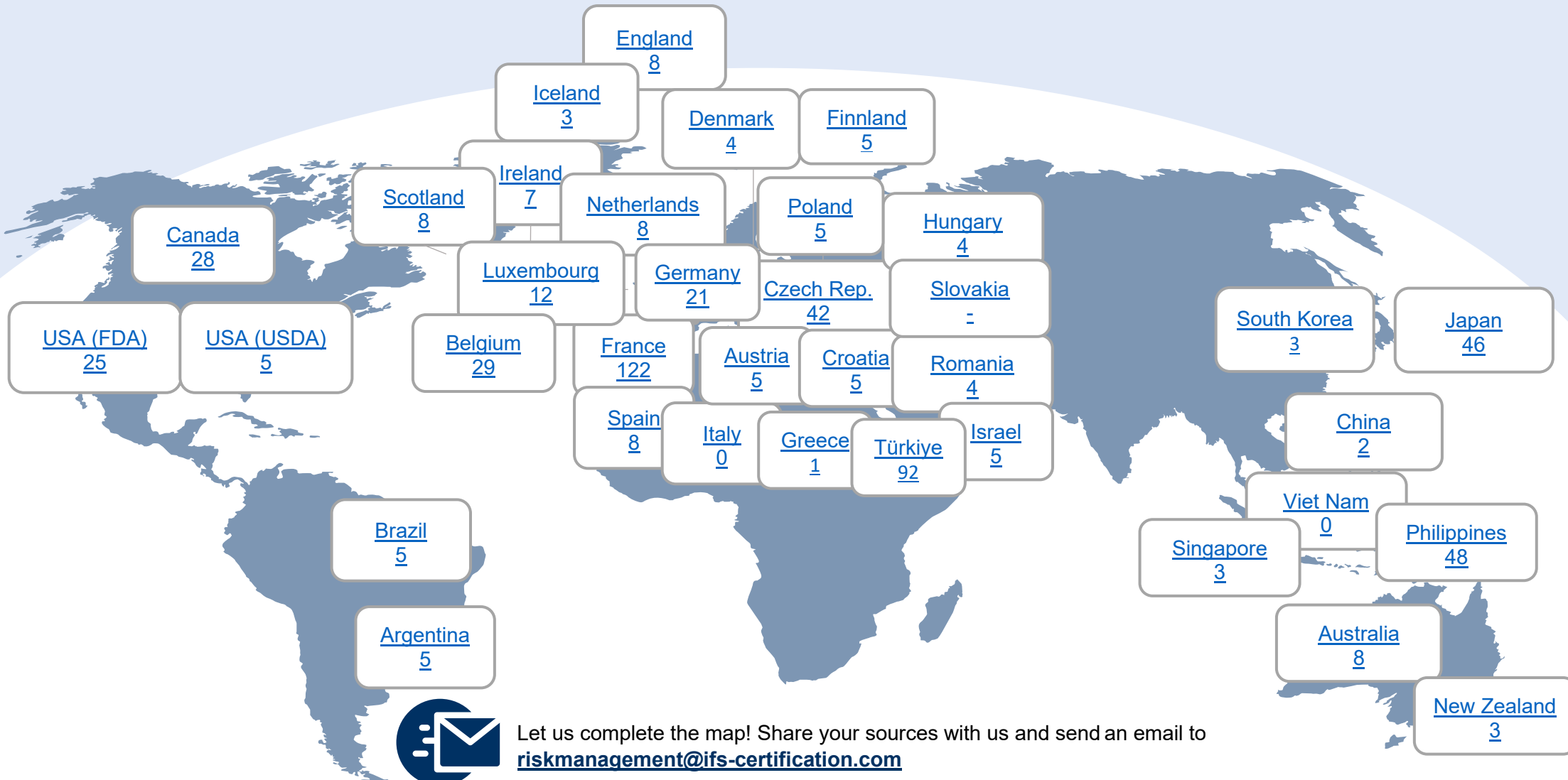
AFC Risk & Crisis Consult

AFC Risk & Crisis Consult GmbH

E-Mail: info@afc-rcc.de

www.afc.net

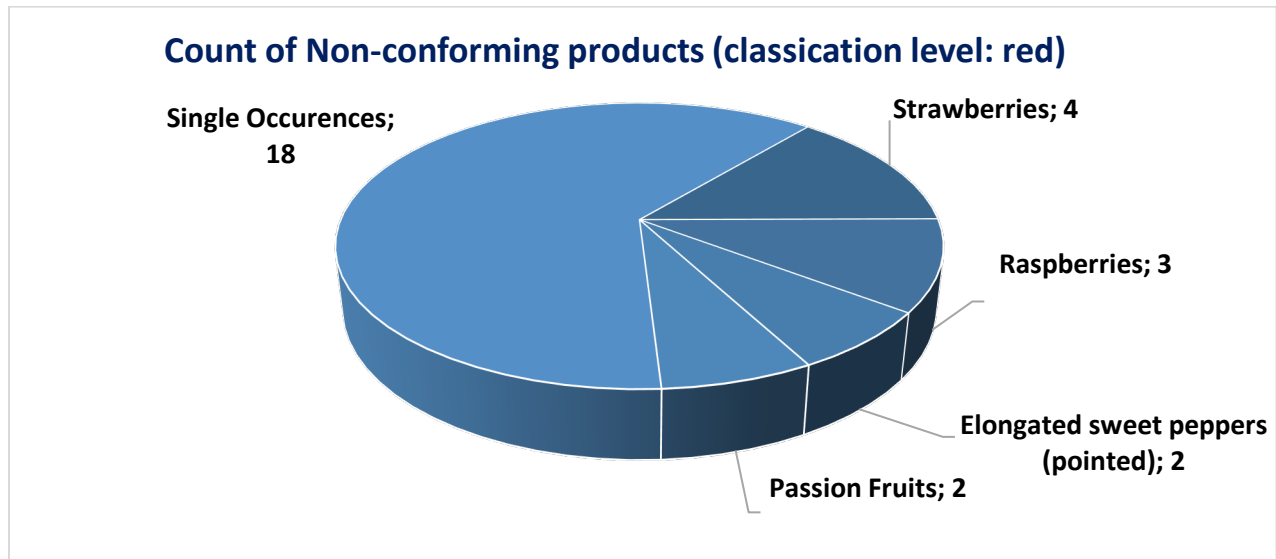
2. Recalls around the world from country/region specific databases (click on the country/region name to visit the source)



Let us complete the map! Share your sources with us and send an email to riskmanagement@ifs-certification.com

3. Evaluation of pesticide analyses

The following analysis was conducted using data from fruitmonitoring.com, which is a joint residue monitoring system for pesticides in fruit and vegetables operated by a group of trading companies in Germany. The data from fruitmonitoring.com is not publicly available. As a service to IFS stakeholders, we provide you with a monthly overview of compliance with maximum residue levels (MRLs) of goods traded in Germany. In the illustration, we show you all samples that have been classified as red because of "Exceeding maximum residue levels".



In December 2024, a total number of **2920 samples** (Date: 14.01.2025) were monitored.

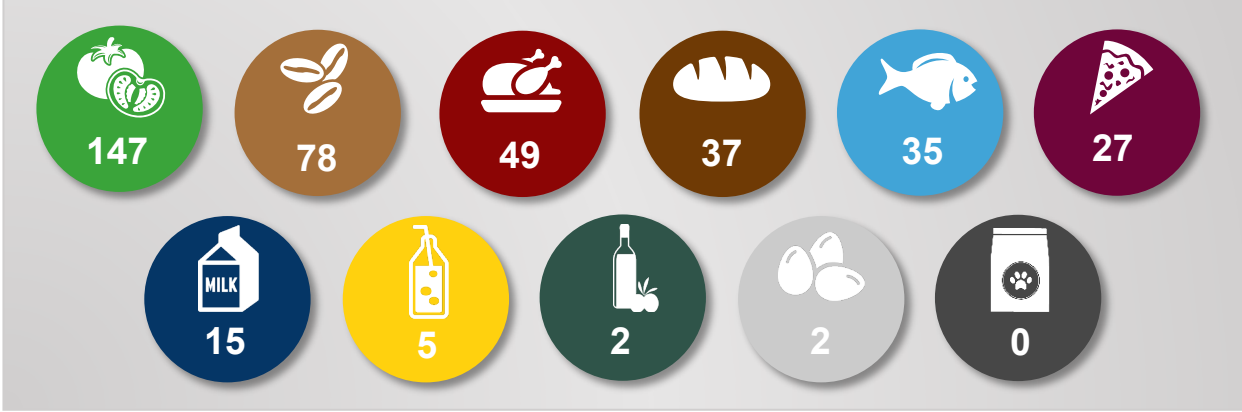
Product/Country/Parameter	Total number analysed in December 2024	Count of deviation December 2024	Historic count (previous 2 years)
Strawberries	47	4	29
Morocco	2	2	1
Meptyldinocap (sum)	-	1	0
Metrafenone	-	1	0
Greece	11	1	6
Trifloxystrobin	-	1	1
Egypt	17	1	0
Bifenazate (sum)	-	1	0
Raspberries	34	3	13
Morocco	29	3	6
Milbemectin (sum)	-	1	0
Bifenazate (sum)	-	1	3
Cyflumetofen	-	1	0
Elongated sweet peppers (pointed)	30	2	7
Morocco	15	2	7
Bifenazate (sum)	-	1	2
Indoxacarb	-	1	0

In the table above, you can see the countries and parameters of the first 3 products which had MRLs >100% for December 2024 and next to it the "historic count" to show how many times the product/country/substance combination were non-conforming (classification level: red) in the last 2 years (01.12.22 – 30.11.2024) prior to the current month.

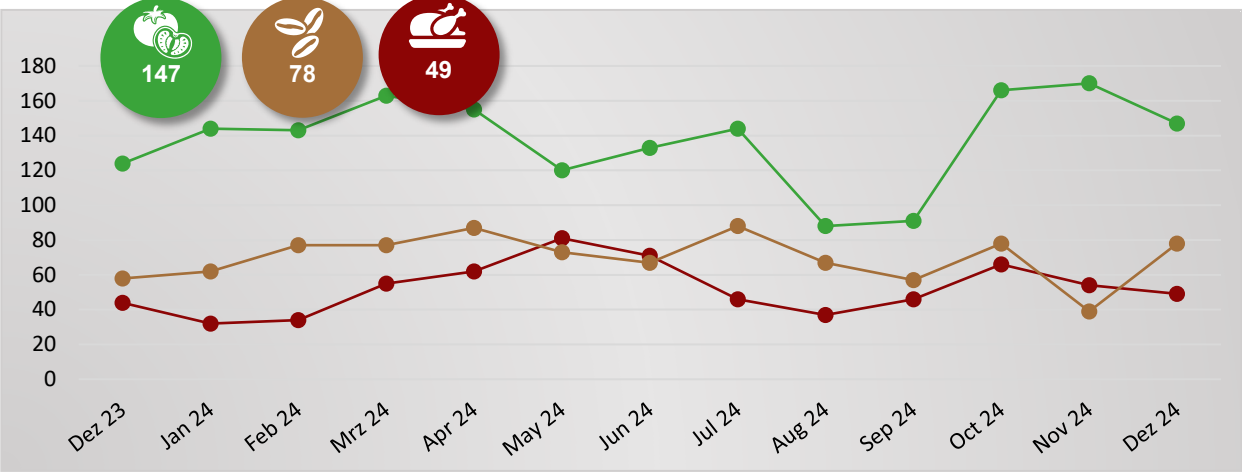
4. RASFF Dashboard: Data evaluation

In the following section you can see an analysis of the RASFF data from December 2024. The notifications from the food category are analysed here, which, this month, amount to 397 and thus count 11 notifications more than in November 2024.

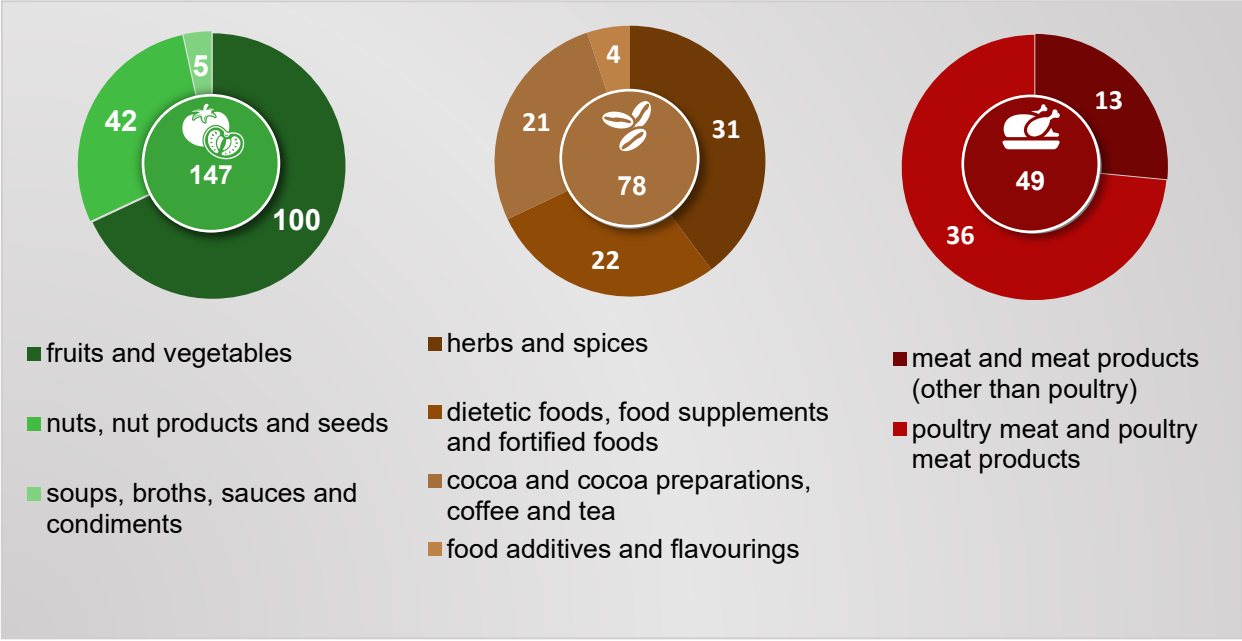
Notifications on the RASFF portal in December 2024 according to the IFS Product Scopes



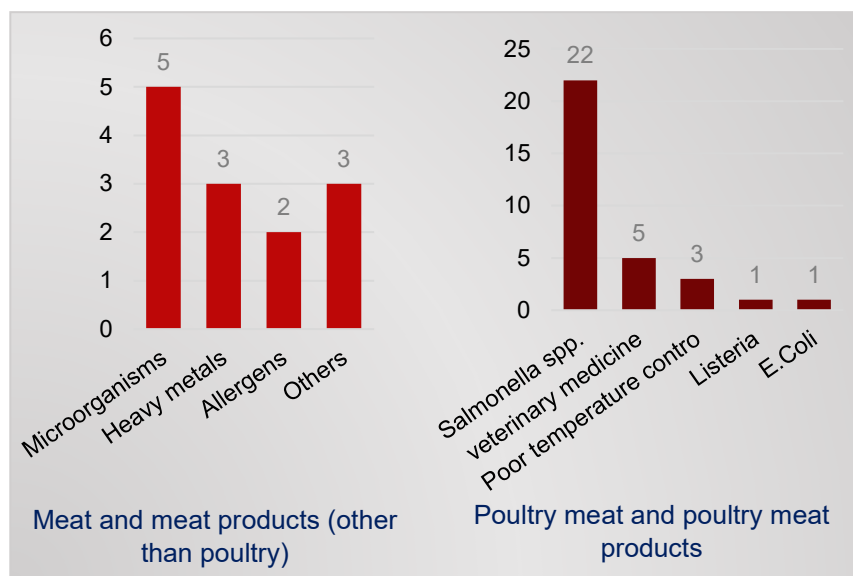
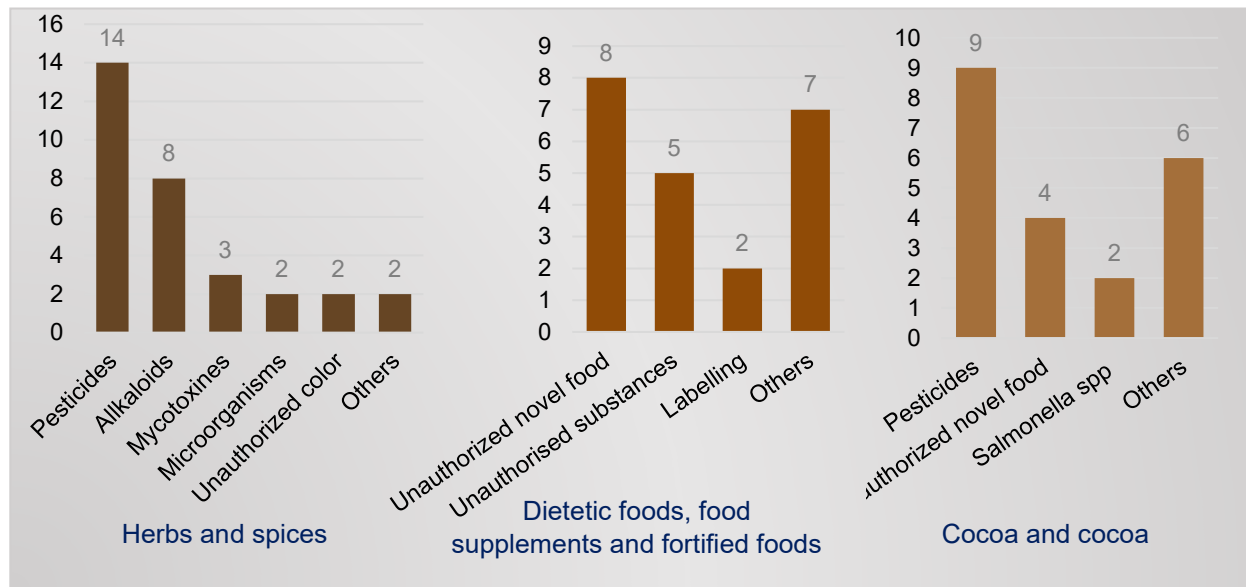
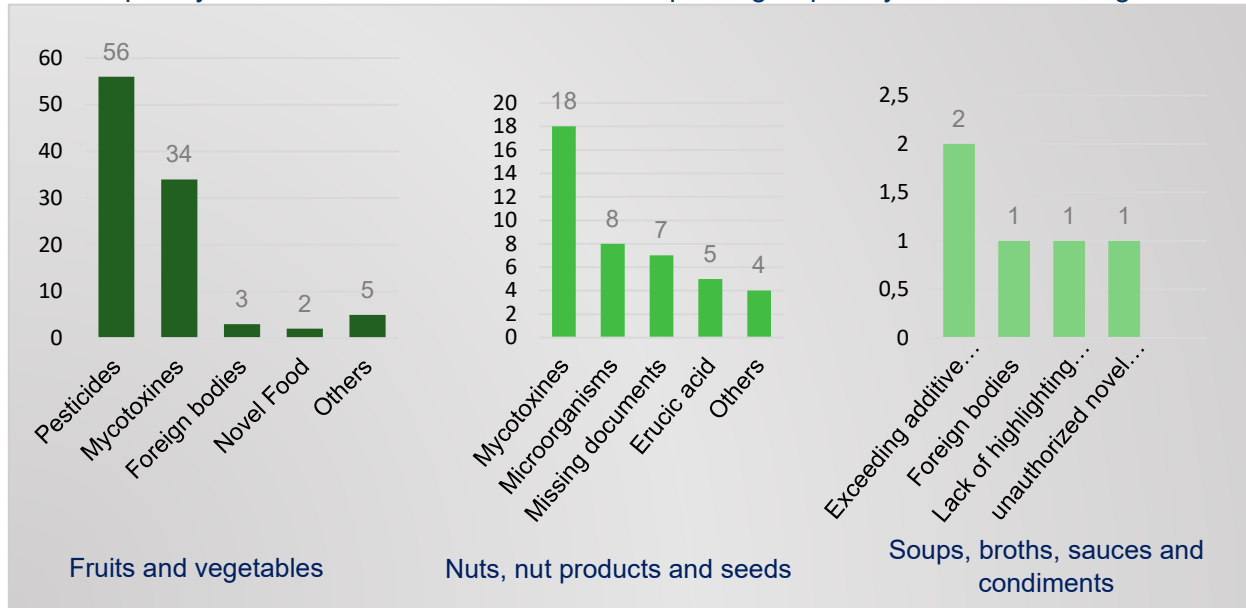
12-month history of the three most frequented IFS Product Scopes



The IFS Product Scopes with notifications from the RASFF category



Most frequently mentioned hazards on the RASFF portal grouped by the RASFF categories



We look forward to your
feedback on the IFS
Trend Risk Report



We look forward to your
feedback!

5. European Market Observatory

The European Commission assembles information related to food products on a regular basis. Here you can find the current official market observation dashboards.



6. Noteworthy publications

We would like to provide you with a direct link to the “Science on the Menu” podcast from EFSA, the European Food Authority, to explore other options than paper-based information. With a podcast you get facts & figures & interesting insights on the go!

In the current episode, the moderators discuss how changing uses of the oceans could affect food supply and if there are risks involved for food safety.

All episodes are available on the EFSA YouTube channel







[Click here to listen to the podcast](#)



EFSAchannel



7. Media articles on food safety

	Topic and Link	Source
	Perception, Trust, and Motivation in Consumer Behavior for Organic Food Acquisition: An Exploratory Study	MDPI
	Science spotlight: Our Top 10 most-read science, research and tech stories in 2024	FoodNavigatorAsia
	FDA bans red dye No. 3 from food and beverages	FoodSafetyTech
	Foot and mouth disease shows up in Germany for first time in 40 years	FoodSafetyNews
	Five arrested following discovery of illegal meat in London	NewFoodMagazine
	CDC warns of Salmonella outbreak linked to cucumbers	NewFoodMagazine
	Two infected with Listeria from Austrian cheese	FoodSafetyNews
	Prevalence and Characterization of Staphylococcus aureus Isolated from Meat and Milk in Northeastern Italy	Journal of Food Protection



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IFS Management GmbH
Am Weidendamm 1A
10117 Berlin, Germany

Phone: +49 30 72 61 053-74

Fax: +49 30 72 61 053-79

E-Mail: riskmanagement@ifs-certification.com

Follow IFS on Social Media



www.ifs-certification.com

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