# FOOD SAFETY AND FOOD SECURITY

**Prof. Giorgia Purcaro**, PhD

Gembloux Agro-Bio Tech, University of Liége , Belgium

gpurcaro@uliege.be

LIÈGE université
Gembloux
Agro-Bio Tech

UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI
DI TORINO

# The component of the Food Safety System in Europe

**Prof. Giorgia Purcaro**, PhD

Gembloux Agro-Bio Tech, University of Liége , Belgium

gpurcaro@uliege.be

# EU Food Safety overview

The European Commission aims to assure a high level of **food safety** and **animal & plant health** within the EU through coherent **Farm to Fork** measures and adequate monitoring, while ensuring an effective internal market.

The **implementation** of this **integrated Food Safety policy in the EU** involves various actions, namely:

- to assure **effective control systems** and evaluate **compliance with EU standards** in the food safety and quality, animal health, animal welfare, animal nutrition and plant health sectors within the EU and in non-EU countries in relation to their exports to the EU;
- to manage **international relations** with non-EU countries and international organisations concerning food safety, animal health, animal welfare, animal nutrition and plant health;
- to manage **relations with the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA)** and ensure science-based **risk management**.



https://ec.europa.eu/food/overview_en

# EU Food Safety overview

**EU food safety policy** and action is concentrated in 3 main areas of protection:

- **Food :**
  - **hygiene**: food businesses, from farms to forks, must comply with EU food law, including those importing food to the EU.
  - **Contaminants and residues**: keeps contaminants away from food and animal feed. Maximum acceptable limits apply to domestic and imported food and feed products.
- **Animal health**: sanitary controls and measures for pets, farmed animals and wildlife monitor and manage diseases, and trace the movement of all farm animals.
- **Plant health**: detection and eradication of pests at an early stage prevents spreading and ensures healthy seeds.

# EU Food Safety overview

https://ec.europa.eu/food/overview_en

**FOOD**

Every European citizen has the right to know how the food he eats is produced, processed, packaged, labelled and sold.

The central goal of the European Commission's Food Safety policy is to ensure a high level of protection of human health regarding the food industry — Europe's largest manufacturing and employment sector.

The Commission's guiding principle, primarily set out in its White Paper on Food Safety, is to apply an integrated approach from farm to fork covering all sectors of the food chain.

**ANIMALS**

The objective of the Animal Health policy is to raise the health status and improve the conditions of the animals in the EU, in particular food-producing animals, whilst permitting intra-Community trade and imports of animals and animal products in accordance with the appropriate health standards and international obligations.

The general aim of the Animal Welfare policy is to ensure that animals don't need to endure avoidable pain or suffering and obliges the owner/keeper of animals to respect minimum welfare requirements.

The EU zootechnical legislation aims at the promotion of free trade in breeding animals and their genetic material considering the sustainability of breeding programs and preservation of genetic resources.

**PLANTS**

The European Commission takes actively part in the setting of international phytosanitary and quality standards for plants and plant products.

EU legislation has, over the years, provided for the harmonised protection of our 'green resources'. Issues like pesticides, plant variety rights or Genetically Modified Organisms are some of the topics you will find in this section.

# EU Food Safety overview

https://ec.europa.eu/food/overview_en

## FOOD SAFETY: OVERVIEW

- RASFF - FOOD & FEED SAFETY ALERTS
- AGRI-FOOD FRAUD
- LABELLING AND NUTRITION
- FOOD IMPROVEMENT AGENTS
- BIOLOGICAL SAFETY
- NOVEL FOOD
- CHEMICAL SAFETY
- ANIMAL FEED
- ANIMAL BY-PRODUCTS
- FOOD WASTE

## HORIZONTAL TOPICS RELATED TO FOOD SAFETY

- GENERAL FOOD LAW
- FUNDING, PROCUREMENT & GRANTS
- FITNESS CHECK OF THE FOOD CHAIN
- EXPERT GROUPS
- FUTURE FOOD SAFETY BUDGET AND POLICY
- COMMITTEES
- OFFICIAL CONTROLS AND ENFORCEMENT
- EU REFERENCE LABORATORIES AND CENTRES
- INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
- CONSULTATIONS AND FEEDBACK
- HEALTH AND FOOD AUDITS AND ANALYSIS
- FARM TO FORK STRATEGY
- BETTER TRAINING FOR SAFER FOOD
- MEDIA

# EU Food Safety overview

https://ec.europa.eu/food/overview_en

**FOOD SAFETY: OVERVIEW**

- RASFF - FOOD & FEED SAFETY ALERTS
- AGRI-FOOD FRAUD
- LABELLING AND NUTRITION
- FOOD IMPROVEMENT AGENTS

## RASFF - FOOD & FEED SAFETY ALERTS

### RASFF - FOOD & FEED SAFETY ALERTS

- RASFF portal
- RASFF consumers' portal
- How does RASFF work
- Implementing Regulation and Guidance
- Members of RASFF network
- Country fact sheets
- Reports and publications
- Fipronil incident

## AGRI-FOOD FRAUD

### AGRI-FOOD FRAUD

- What does it mean?
- EU Food Fraud Network
- Administrative Assistance and Cooperation System
- EU coordinated actions
- Events, documents & useful links

- FOOD IMPROVEMENT AGENTS
- NOVEL FOOD
- ANIMAL FEED
- FOOD WASTE
- LABELLING AND NUTRITION
- BIOLOGICAL SAFETY
- CHEMICAL SAFETY
- ANIMAL BY-PRODUCTS

# EU Food Safety overview

https://ec.europa.eu/food/overview_en

**FOOD SAFETY: OVERVIEW**

- ANIMAL HEALTH
- ANIMAL DISEASES
- TRACES
- ANIMAL WELFARE
- LIVE ANIMALS
- IDENTIFICATION
- ANIMALS PRODUCTS
- ZOOTECHNICS
- SEMEN, OVA & EMBRYOS
- VETERINARY BORDER CONTROL
- MOVEMENT OF PETS

**HORIZONTAL TOPICS RELATED TO FOOD SAFETY**

- GENERAL FOOD LAW
- FUNDING, PROCUREMENT & GRANTS
- FITNESS CHECK OF THE FOOD CHAIN
- EXPERT GROUPS
- FUTURE FOOD SAFETY BUDGET AND POLICY
- COMMITTEES
- OFFICIAL CONTROLS AND ENFORCEMENT
- EU REFERENCE LABORATORIES AND CENTRES
- INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
- CONSULTATIONS AND FEEDBACK
- HEALTH AND FOOD AUDITS AND ANALYSIS
- FARM TO FORK STRATEGY
- BETTER TRAINING FOR SAFER FOOD
- MEDIA

# EU Food Safety overview

https://ec.europa.eu/food/overview_en

**FOOD SAFETY: OVERVIEW**

- ANIMAL HEALTH
- ANIMAL DISEASES
- TRACES
- ANIMAL WELFARE
- LIVE ANIMALS
- IDENTIFICATION

**FOOD SAFETY: OVERVIEW**

- ANIMAL HEALTH
- ANIMAL DISEASES
- TRACES
- ANIMAL WELFARE
- IDENTIFICATION
- ZOOTECHNICS
- VETERINARY BORDER CONTROL

**TRACES**

- How does TRACES work
- Legal Basis
- Certificates, documents and features
- Facts & Figures
- Bovine Exchange (BOVEX)
- Information Material
- Contact us

- HEALTH AND FOOD AUDITS AND ANALYSIS
- FARM TO FORK STRATEGY
- BETTER TRAINING FOR SAFER FOOD
- MEDIA

# EU Food Safety overview

https://ec.europa.eu/food/overview_en

## FOOD SAFETY: OVERVIEW

- GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISMS
- PLANT HEALTH & BIOSECURITY
- PESTICIDES
- PLANT PROPERTY RIGHTS
- PLANT REPRODUCTIVE MATERIAL

## HORIZONTAL TOPICS RELATED TO FOOD SAFETY

- GENERAL FOOD LAW
- FUNDING, PROCUREMENT & GRANTS
- FITNESS CHECK OF THE FOOD CHAIN
- EXPERT GROUPS
- FUTURE FOOD SAFETY BUDGET AND POLICY
- COMMITTEES
- OFFICIAL CONTROLS AND ENFORCEMENT
- EU REFERENCE LABORATORIES AND CENTRES
- INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
- CONSULTATIONS AND FEEDBACK
- HEALTH AND FOOD AUDITS AND ANALYSIS
- FARM TO FORK STRATEGY
- BETTER TRAINING FOR SAFER FOOD
- MEDIA

# EU Food Safety overview

https://ec.europa.eu/food/overview_en

**FOOD SAFETY: OVERVIEW**

- GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISMS
- PLANT HEALTH & BIOSECURITY
- PESTICIDES
- PLANT PROPERTY RIGHTS

**FOOD SAFETY: OVERVIEW**

- GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISMS
- PESTICIDES
  - PESTICIDES
    - EU Pesticides database
    - Sustainable use of pesticides
    - Approval of active substances
    - Authorisation of Plant Protection Products
    - Maximum Residue Levels
    - REFIT Evaluation
- PLANT REPRODUCTIVE MATERIAL
- PLANT HEALTH & BIOSECURITY
  - PLANT HEALTH & BIOSECURITY
    - Legislation
    - Trade within the EU
    - Non-EU trade
    - Protected zones
    - Plant health interceptions (EUROPHYT)
    - Harmful organisms outbreaks in the EU
    - Expert groups and working groups
- PLANT PROPERTY RIGHTS

- BETTER TRAINING FOR SAFER FOOD
- MEDIA

# EU Food Safety overview

https://ec.europa.eu/food/overview_en

**FOOD SAFETY: OVERVIEW**

- RASFF - FOOD & FEED SAFETY ALERTS
- AGRI-FOOD FRAUD
- LABELLING AND NUTRITION
- FOOD IMPROVEMENT AGENTS

## RASFF - FOOD & FEED SAFETY ALERTS

### RASFF - FOOD & FEED SAFETY ALERTS

- RASFF portal
- RASFF consumers' portal
- How does RASFF work
- Implementing Regulation and Guidance
- Members of RASFF network
- Country fact sheets
- Reports and publications
- Fipronil incident

## AGRI-FOOD FRAUD

### AGRI-FOOD FRAUD

- What does it mean?
- EU Food Fraud Network
- Administrative Assistance and Cooperation System
- EU coordinated actions
- Events, documents & useful links

- FOOD IMPROVEMENT AGENTS
- NOVEL FOOD
- ANIMAL FEED
- FOOD WASTE
- LABELLING AND NUTRITION
- BIOLOGICAL SAFETY
- CHEMICAL SAFETY
- ANIMAL BY-PRODUCTS

# Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed
# RASFF

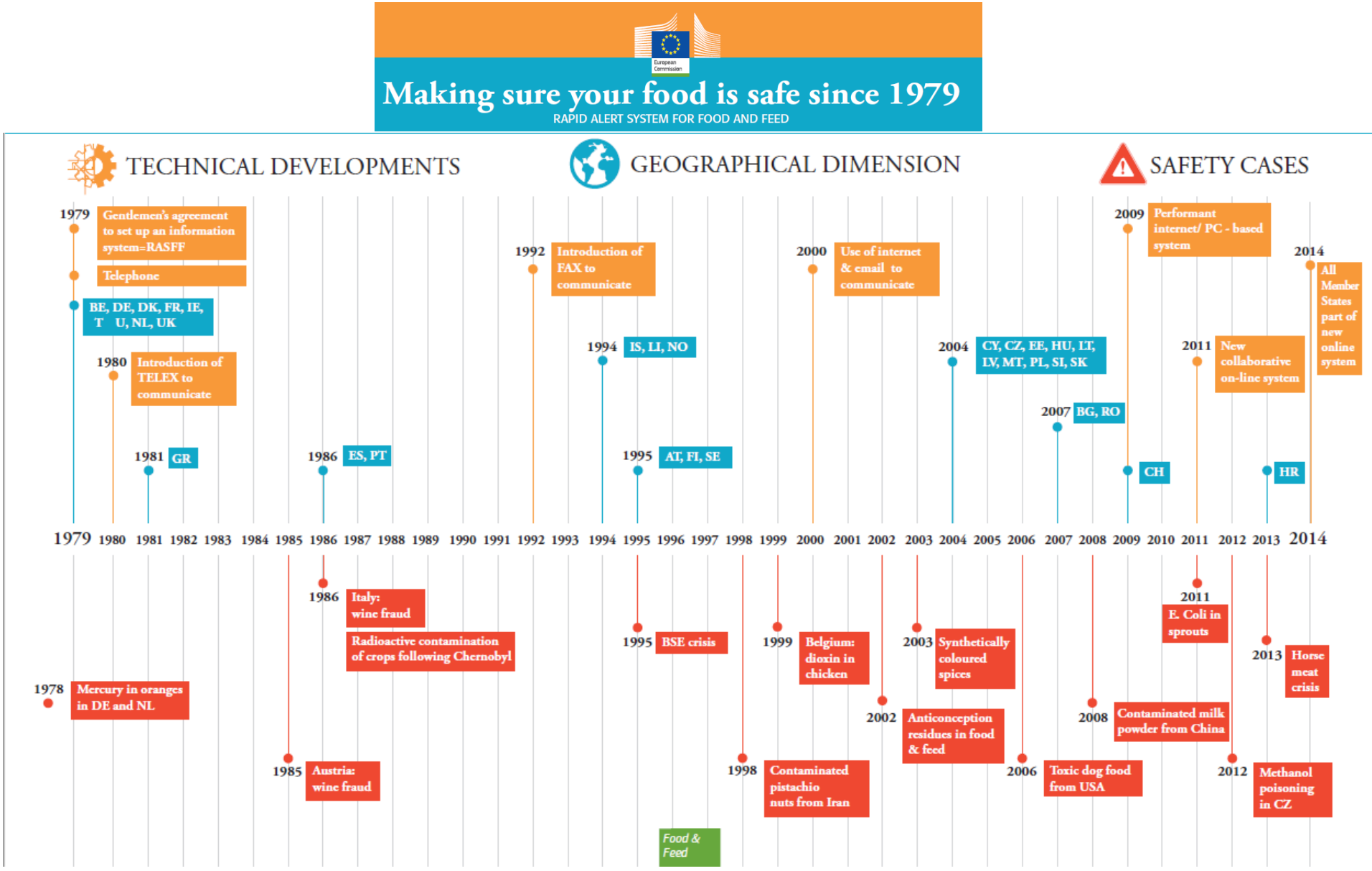
RASFF was put in place to **provide food and feed control authorities with an effective tool to exchange information about measures taken responding to serious risks detected in relation to food or feed**. This exchange of information helps EU countries to act more rapidly and in a coordinated manner in response to a health threat caused by food or feed. More in-depth analysis of RASFF performance is available in annual reports.

The legal basis of the RASFF is Regulation EC/178/2002 laying down the general principles and requirements of food law.

In Articles 50, 51 and 52 scope and procedures of the RASFF are defined

# Rapid alert System for Food and Feed
# RASFF

RASFF
Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed



RASFF
Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed

# Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed
# RASFF
# Members

- all EU Member States
- EEA (European Economic Area) countries (Norway, Liechtenstein and Iceland) and the EFTA (European Free Trade Association) Secretariat coordinating the input from the EEA countries
- the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) and
- the European Commission as manager of the system.
- following an agreement that came into force on 1 January 2009, Switzerland is a partial member of the system as far as border rejections of product of animal origin are concerned.

# Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed
# RASFF

RASFF members **contact point that is responsible for sending RASFF notifications to the Commission**.

Before that happens, a lot of work has already been done:

1. Food or feed control on the market or at the border.
2. Product is found non-compliant and needs to be reported inside the national system.
3. The authority decides if the issue falls under the scope of the RASFF and reports it to the national RASFF contact point.
4. The national contact point verifies and completes the RASFF notification where necessary and forwards it to the European Commission.
5. Templates are used to collect all information on the RASFF notification form.

Italian contact point: Ministero della salute

# Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed
# RASFF

The **European Commission**:

- ✓ is responsible for managing the system,
- ✓ is providing knowledge and a technological platform to facilitate transmission and handling of the RASFF notifications.
- ✓ receives all notifications from members of the network and performs the following checks on them, prior to making them available to all members of the network:
    - a completeness check
    - legislative requirements
    - verification if the subject of the notification falls within the scope of the RASFF
    - translation into English of the information on the notification form
    - classification of the notification
    - members of the network flagged for action
    - recurrences of similar problems relating to the same professional operator and/or hazard/country of origin.

The Commission must inform a non-member of RASFF (third countries) if a product subject to a notification has been exported to that country or when a product originating from that country has been the subject of a notification. In this way, the country can take corrective measures where needed and appropriate.

# Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed
# RASFF

## Types of RASFF notifications

**Alert** : a **serious health risk** is on the market and when **rapid action is required**.
The RASFF member that identifies the problem and takes the relevant actions (e.g. withdrawal of the product) triggers the alert. The goal is to give all RASFF members the information to confirm whether the product in question is on their market, so that they can also take the necessary measures.

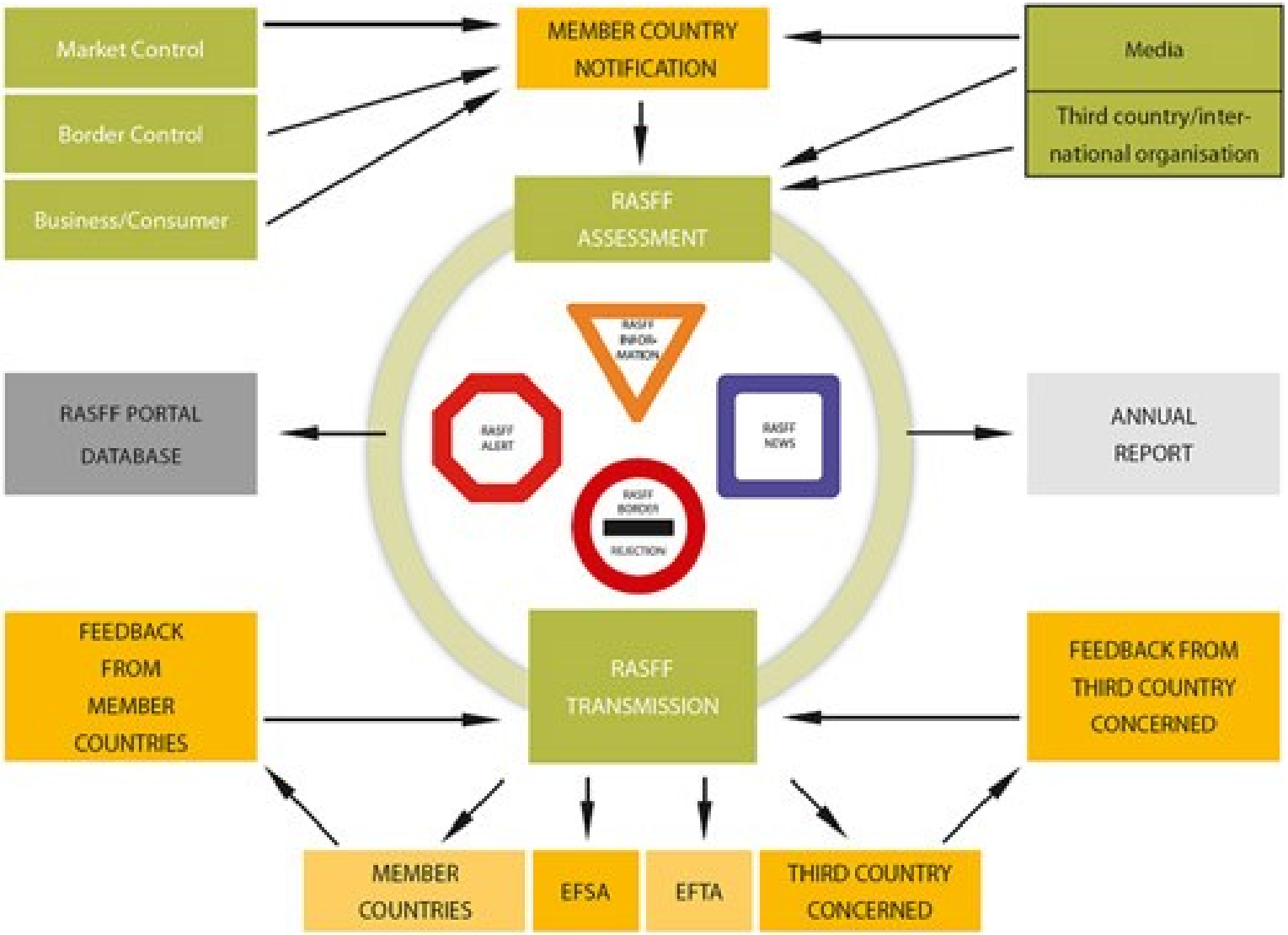
**Information:** a risk has been identified, but the other members **do not have to take rapid action**.
because 1) the product has not reached their market; or
2) is no longer present on their market or
3) because the nature of the risk does not require rapid action.

**Border rejections** : consignments that have been tested and **rejected at the external borders of the EU** (and the European Economic Area – EEA) when a health risk has been found. The notifications are sent to all EEA border posts in order to reinforce controls and to ensure that the rejected product does not re-enter the EU through another border post.

**News**: Any information related to the safety which has not been communicated as an alert or an information notification, but which is **judged interesting** for the control authorities, is transmitted to the members under the heading **News**.

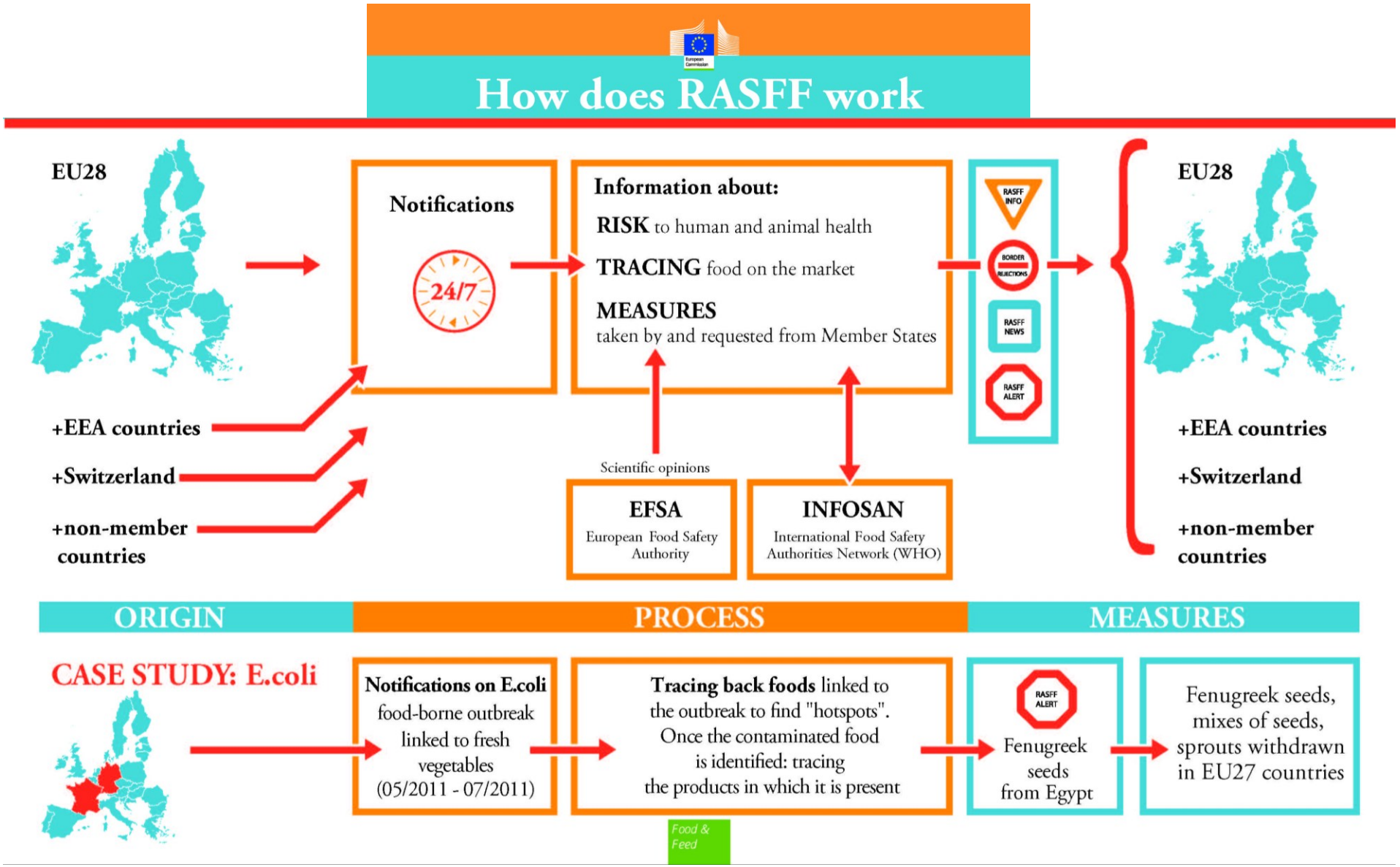
RASFF
Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed

# Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed
# RASFF



RASFF
Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed

# Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed
# RASFF



RASFF
Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed

# Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed
# RASFF

## Notifications list

Consult 02/09/2020

First | Previous 100 | Notifications **1 to 100** of 60915 | Next 100 | Last

| | Classification | Date of case | Reference | Notifying country | Subject | Product Category | Type | Risk decision | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | information for follow-up | 01/09/2020 | 2020.3511 | Portugal | food supplement from Switzerland, via Spain infested with moulds | dietetic foods, food supplements, fortified foods | food | undecided | Details |
| 2. | alert | 01/09/2020 | 2020.3521 | Germany | Salmonella (present /125g) in dried calf gullets from Poland | feed materials | feed | serious | Details |
| 3. | alert | 01/09/2020 | 2020.3522 | France | Salmonella (presence /25g) in chilled salad made of rice, vegetables, eggs and tuna | other food product / mixed | food | serious | Details |
| 4. | alert | 01/09/2020 | 2020.3520 | Germany | plastic fragments in milk chocolate from Switzerland | cocoa and cocoa preparations, coffee and tea | food | serious | Details |
| 5. | information for attention | 01/09/2020 | 2020.3516 | France | Listeria monocytogenes (22000 CFU/g) in chilled pork confit from France | meat and meat products (other than poultry) | food | serious | Details |
| 6. | information for attention | 01/09/2020 | 2020.3513 | Poland | Salmonella enterica ser. Enteritidis (in 1 out of 5 samples /25g) in chilled chicken thigh from Poland | poultry meat and poultry meat products | food | serious | Details |
| 7. | alert | 01/09/2020 | 2020.3512 | Belgium | glass fragments in pickled gherkins in glass jars from Turkey, via Germany | fruits and vegetables | food | serious | Details |

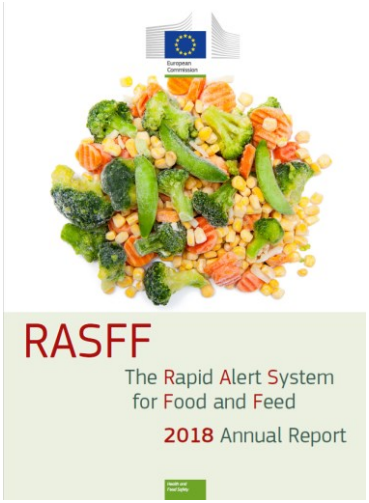
# Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed
# RASFF

rasff_country-fact-....pdf
sanco2.ppt
rasff_timeline.pdf
disclaimer.pdf
djien_liem_present....ppt
0_MC - an introd....pptx
Show all

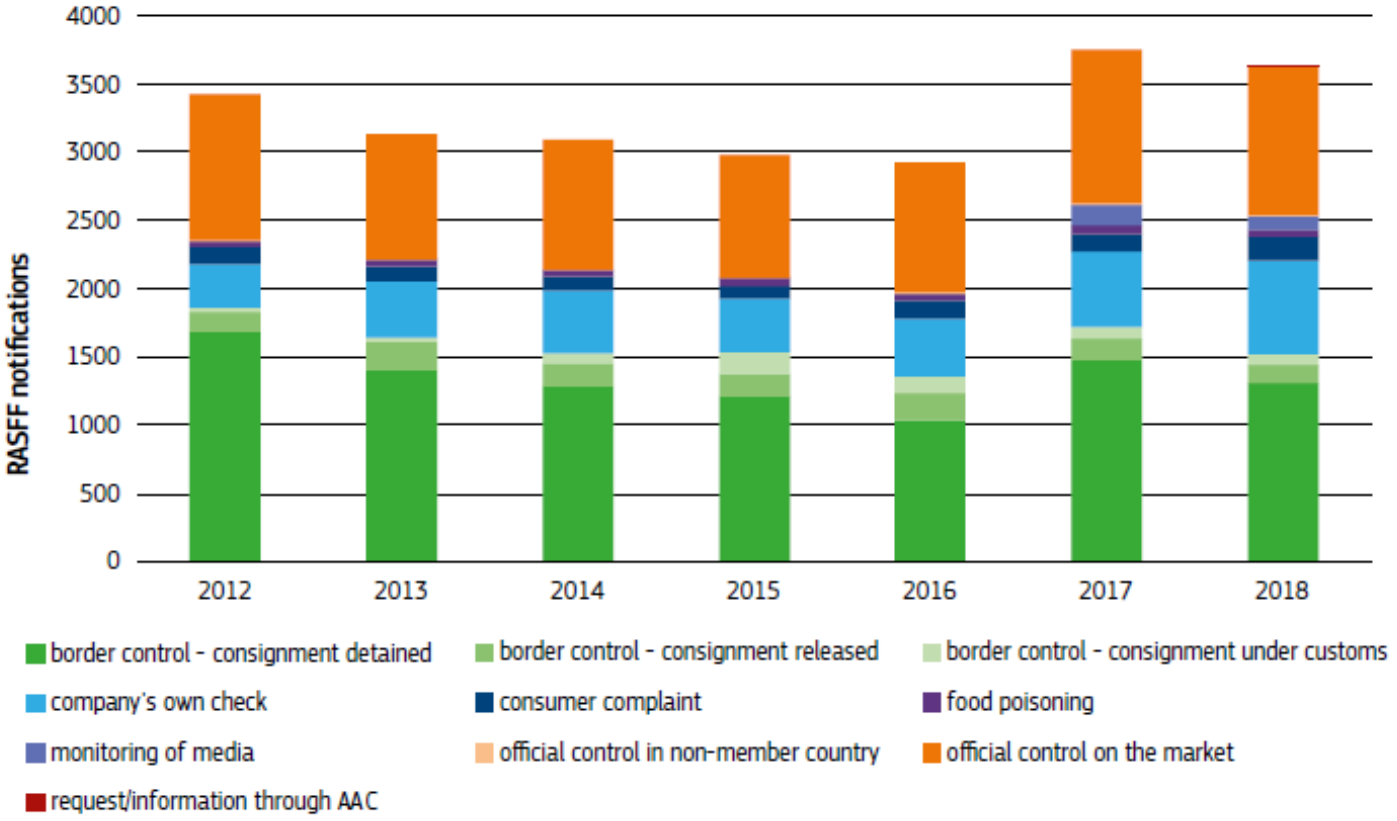
RASFF
Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed

# Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed
# RASFF

## Annual Report

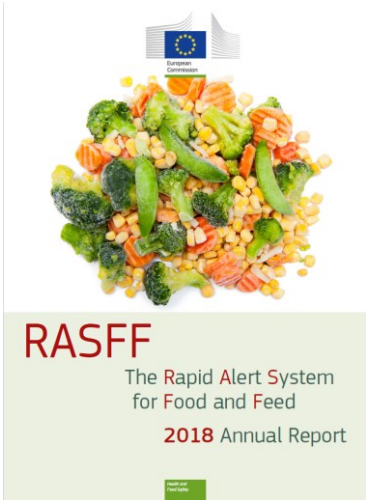



**Where do RASFF notification come from?**



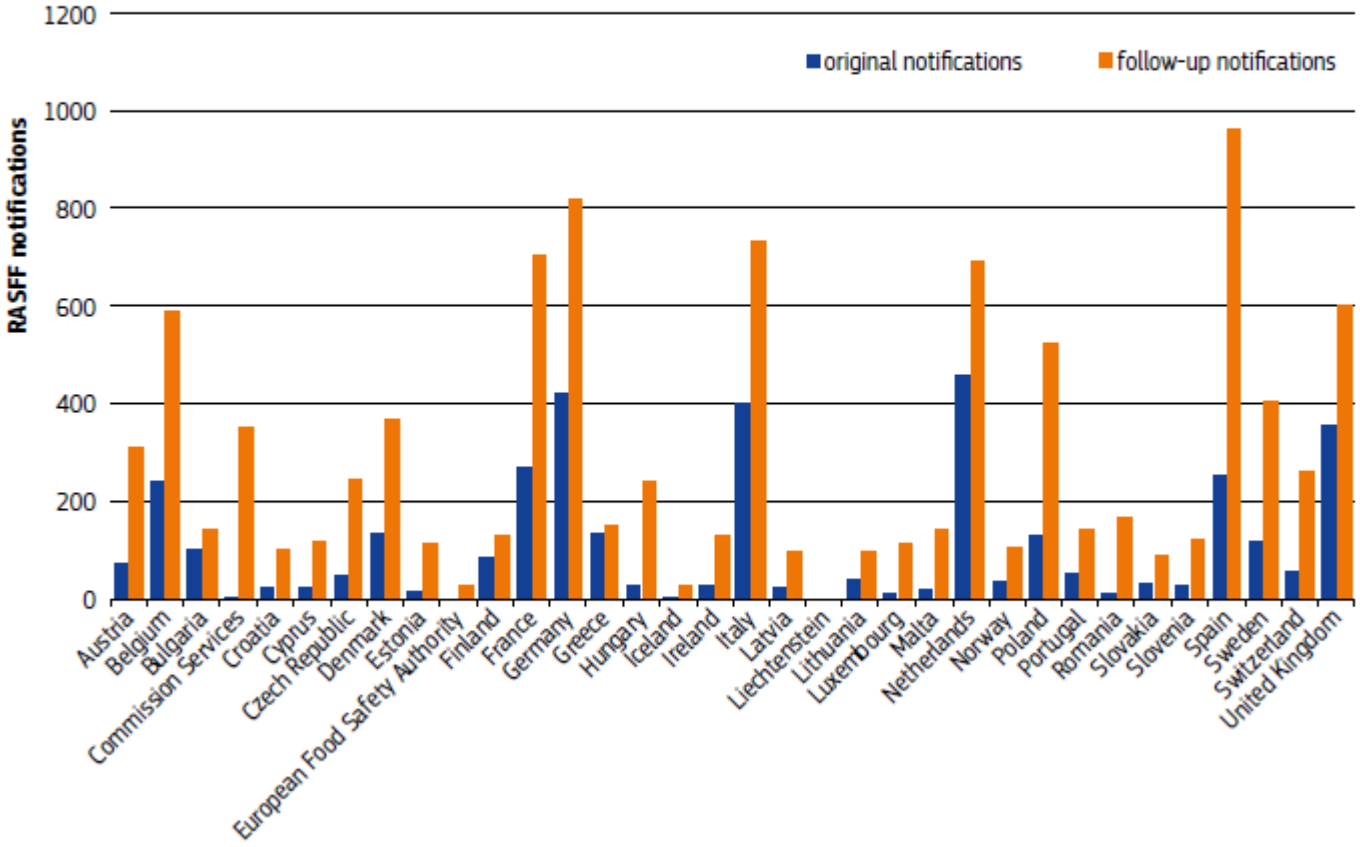
# Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed
# RASFF

## Annual Report



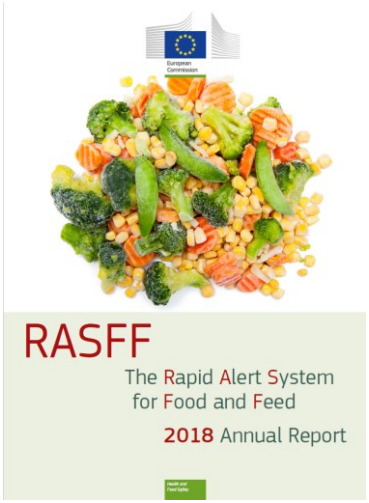

### RASFF notifications by notifying country in 2018

*Original and follow-up notifications by notifying country in 2018*



# Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed
# RASFF

## Annual Report




### *Top 10 number of notifications by notifying country*

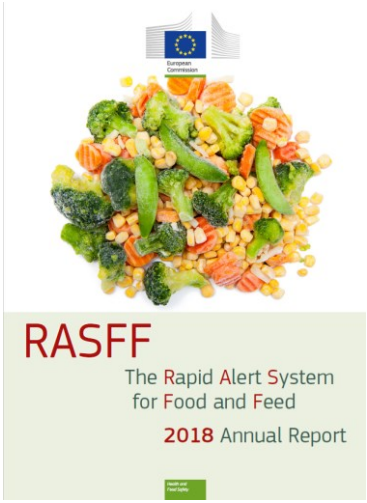
Number of notifications counted for each combination of hazard/product category/notifying country.

| hazard | product category | notifying country | notifications |
|---|---|---|---|
| aflatoxins | nuts, nut products and seeds | Netherlands | 126 |
| aflatoxins | nuts, nut products and seeds | Germany | 65 |
| aflatoxins | nuts, nut products and seeds | Spain | 51 |
| 2,4-dinitrophenol (DNP) | dietetic foods, food supplements, fortified foods | United Kingdom | 41 |
| Salmonella | poultry meat and poultry meat products | Netherlands | 40 |
| aflatoxins | nuts, nut products and seeds | Italy | 40 |
| mercury | fish and fish products | Italy | 34 |
| Salmonella | nuts, nut products and seeds | Greece | 34 |
| aflatoxins | nuts, nut products and seeds | United Kingdom | 32 |
| parasitic infestation with Anisakis | fish and fish products | Italy | 30 |

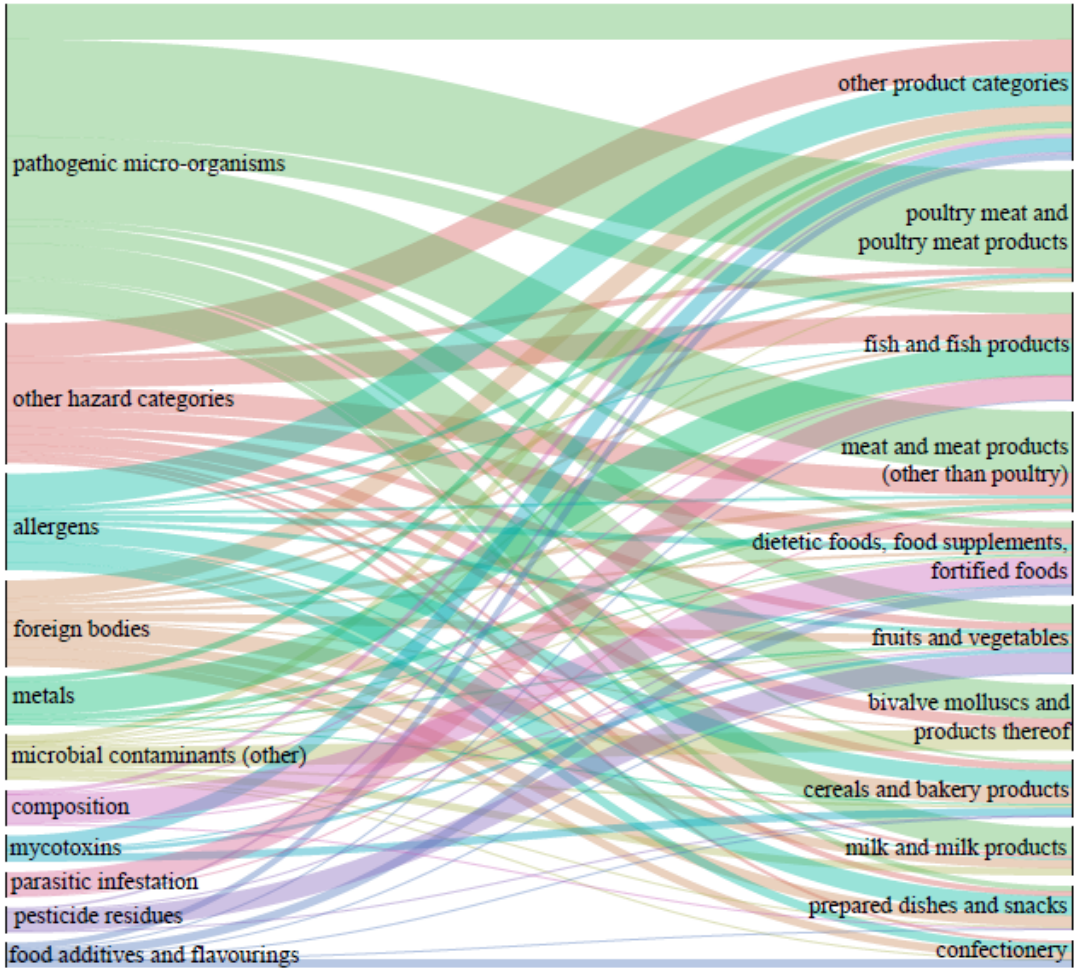
RASFF
Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed

# Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed
# RASFF

## Annual Report

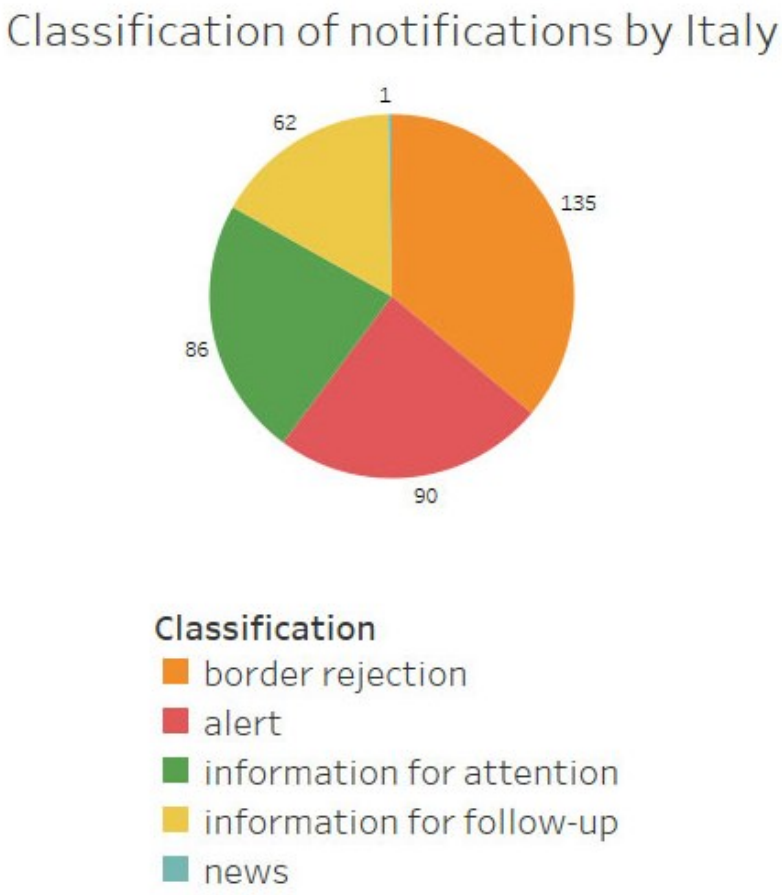



*2018 top 10 hazard and product categories on food products originating from member countries*



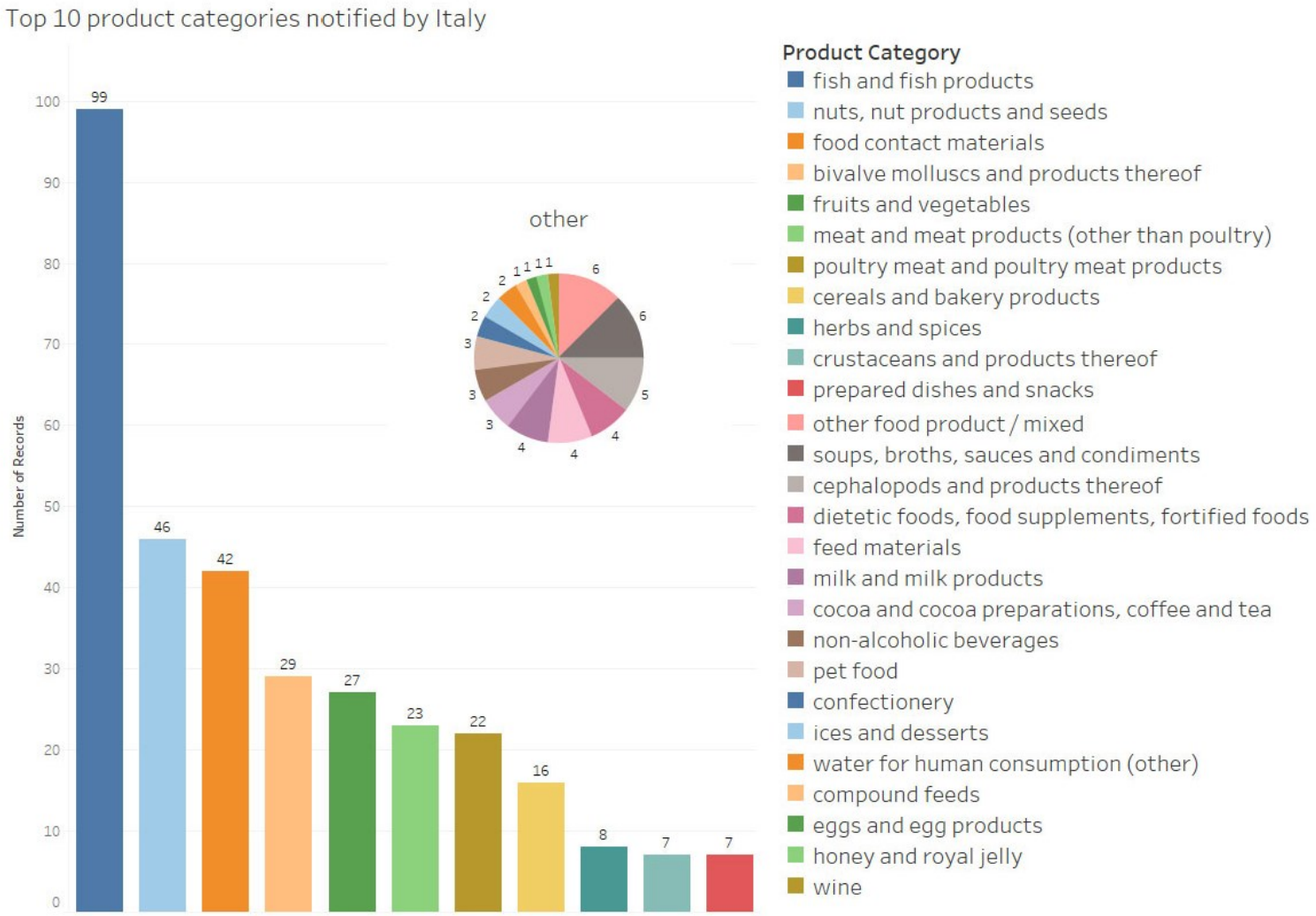
# Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed
# RASFF

## Annual Report by Member State
## Italy



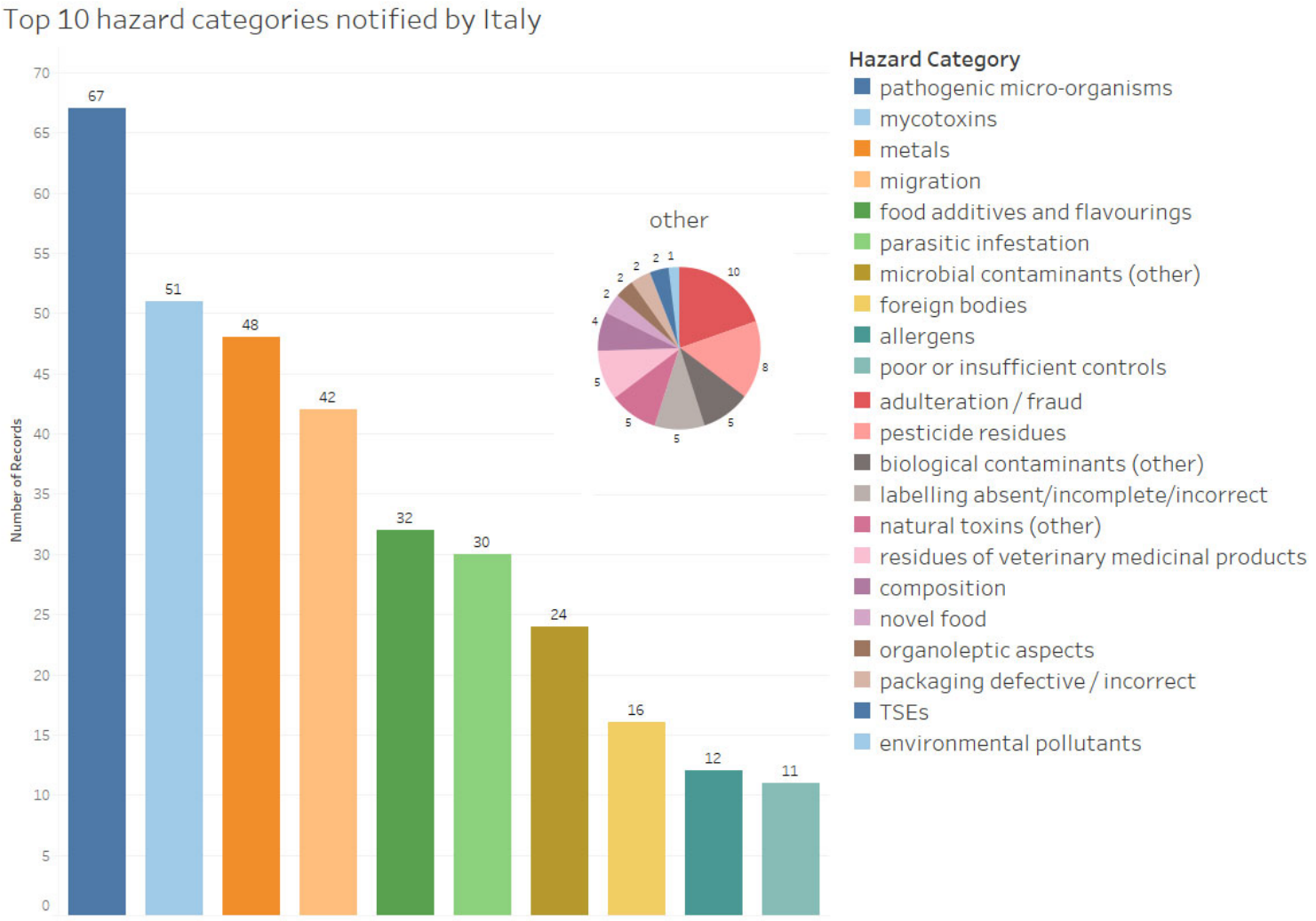
# Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed
# RASFF

## Annual Report by Member State
## Italy



# Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed
# RASFF

## Annual Report by Member State
## Italy



# Food Fraud

The complex nature of our globalized agri-food supply chain and the economic motivation to provide cheaper food products increase the possibility of **FRAUD**.

Some examples:

**1981**: Scandals such as the "rapeseed oil" fraud intended for industrial use affected about 20.000 people and led between 370 to 835 fatalities in Spain,

**1999**: dioxin in Belgium

**2008:** milk adulterated with melamine in China resulting in more than 50.000 sick babies and six fatalities

**2012-2014**: methanol poisoning from the sale of illegal spirits causing around 59 casualties in Czechia and Poland

**2013**: horse meat in beef products

**2017**: fipronil in eggs

# Food Fraud

## What is a fraud

Food fraud is about intentional actions taken by businesses or individuals for the purpose of deceiving purchasers and gaining an undue advantage therefrom, in violation of the EU agri-food chain legislation. These intentional infringements may also constitute a risk to human, animal or plant health, or to animal welfare or to the environment as regards GMOs and plant protection products.

Eg. Seed oil sold as olive oil

## Operative criteria

1. **Violation of EU law** codified in the EU agri-food chain legislation.
2. **Intention** can be verified through a number of factors which lead to said that certain non-compliances are intentional

E.g., replacement of a high quality ingredient with a lower quality one, in big quantities.

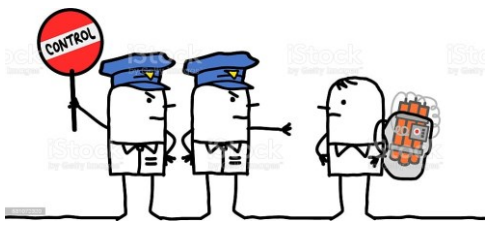
3. **Economic gain** the non-compliance must bring some form of economic advantage.
4. **Deception of Customers** is the last criteria and allows completing the circle. It entails some form of deception such as altered colouring or altered labels which mystify the true quality (or, in worse cases even the nature). Moreover, often the deceptive element may also come in the form of a public health risk, due to the fact that some real properties of the product are hidden (i.e. in the case of undeclared allergens).

# Food Fraud

The complex nature of our globalized agri-food supply chain and the economic motivation to provide cheaper food products increase the possibility of **FRAUD**.

**Control authorities**

are losing credibility




**Companies**

are losing money

Estimated as ~30 billion/year

**Consumers**

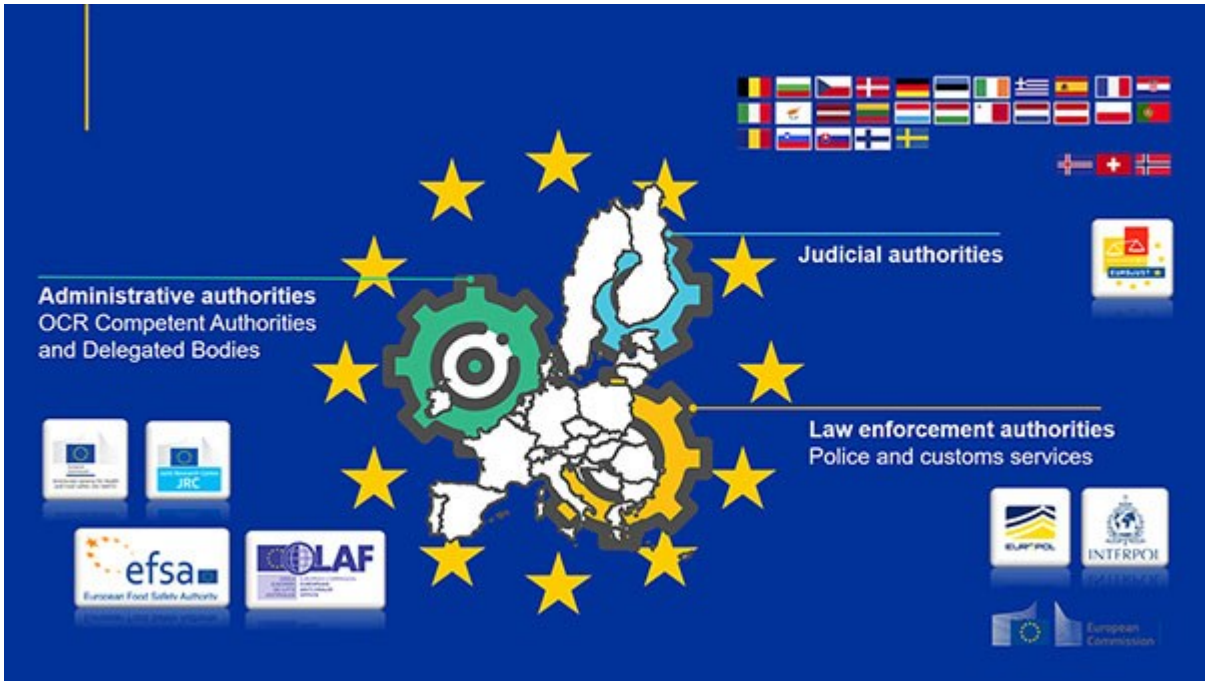
are losing trust in food.

This creates a major paradox: "***EU food is safer than ever, yet consumer's trust is low***".

# The European Food Fraud Network

the European Parliament's 2013 resolution called on the Commission *"to give food fraud the full attention it warrants and to take all necessary steps to make the prevention and combating of food fraud an integral part of EU policy"* and *"to make the prevention and combating food fraud an integral part of an EU policy"*.

## The European Food Fraud Network



# The European Food Fraud Network

the European Parliament's 2013 resolution called on the Commission *"to give food fraud the full attention it warrants and to take all necessary steps to make the prevention and combating of food fraud an integral part of EU policy"* and *"to make the prevention and combating food fraud an integral part of an EU policy"*.

the Member States and the Commission agreed on a first set of concrete measures to reinforce the EU's action against food fraud.

- Creation of the Assistance and Cooperation system (AAC) in **2015**
- **improved interaction** between the RASFF and the AAC with full integration by the end of **2020**
- the creation of single contact points for both systems.

The EU re-shaped its agri-food chain official control policies and developed them further with a view to both enhancing citizen's trust and increasing overall efficiency.

# The European Food Fraud Network

## Assistance and Cooperation System (AAC)

The **AAC** is an IT system developed and managed by the European Commission. An EU country can contact the competent authorities of another EU country and share information in a secure manner, which can lead to administrative actions, administrative sanctions or judicial proceedings. This exchange of information is an essential element for effective cross border investigation and for strategic assessment of the threat of fraud.

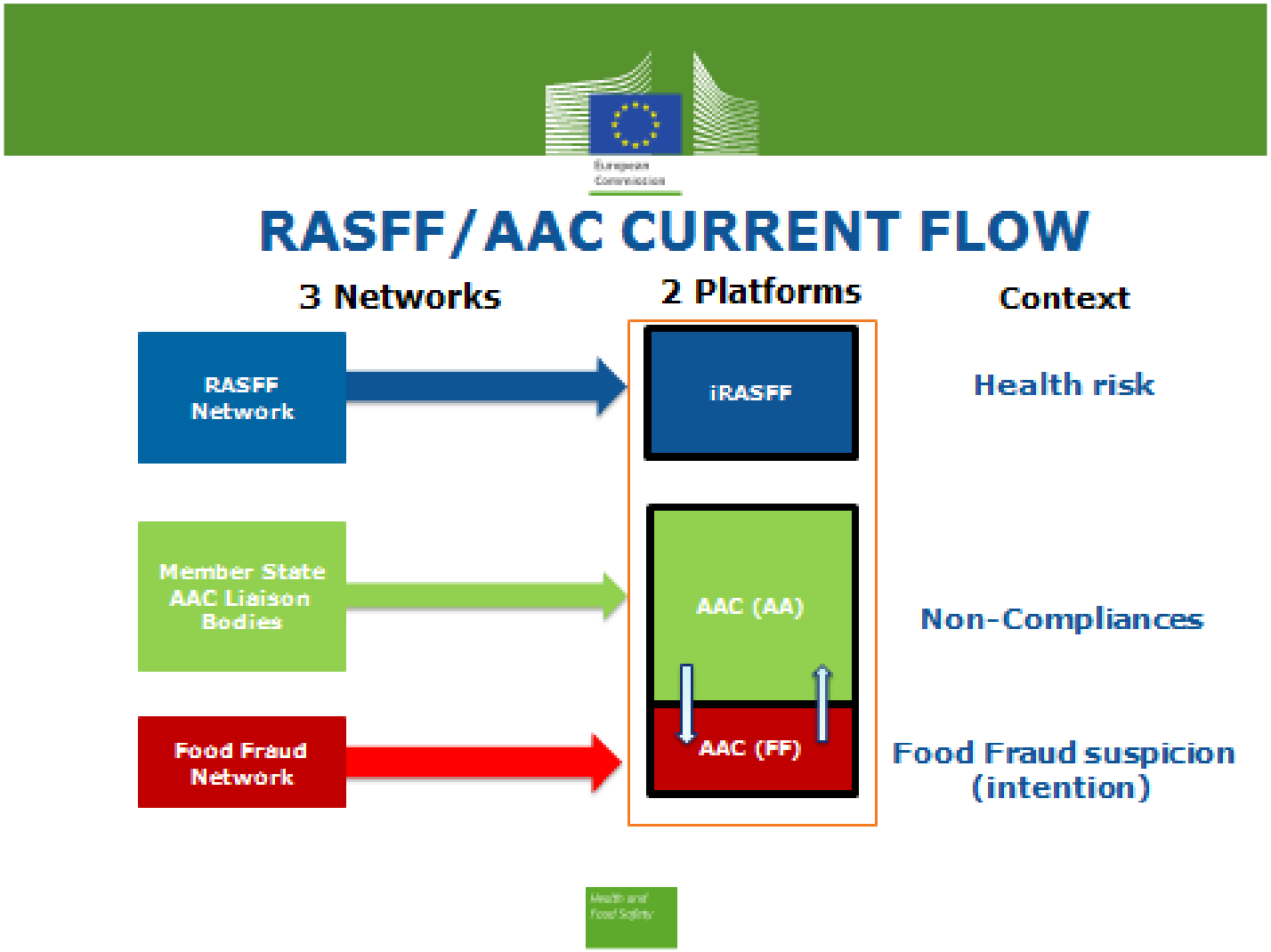
The AAC is split into two instances:

1- dealing with **non-compliances classified as fraudulent activities** along the agri-food chain (**AAC-FF**)

2- dealing with **any other non-compliance** (**AAC-AA**).

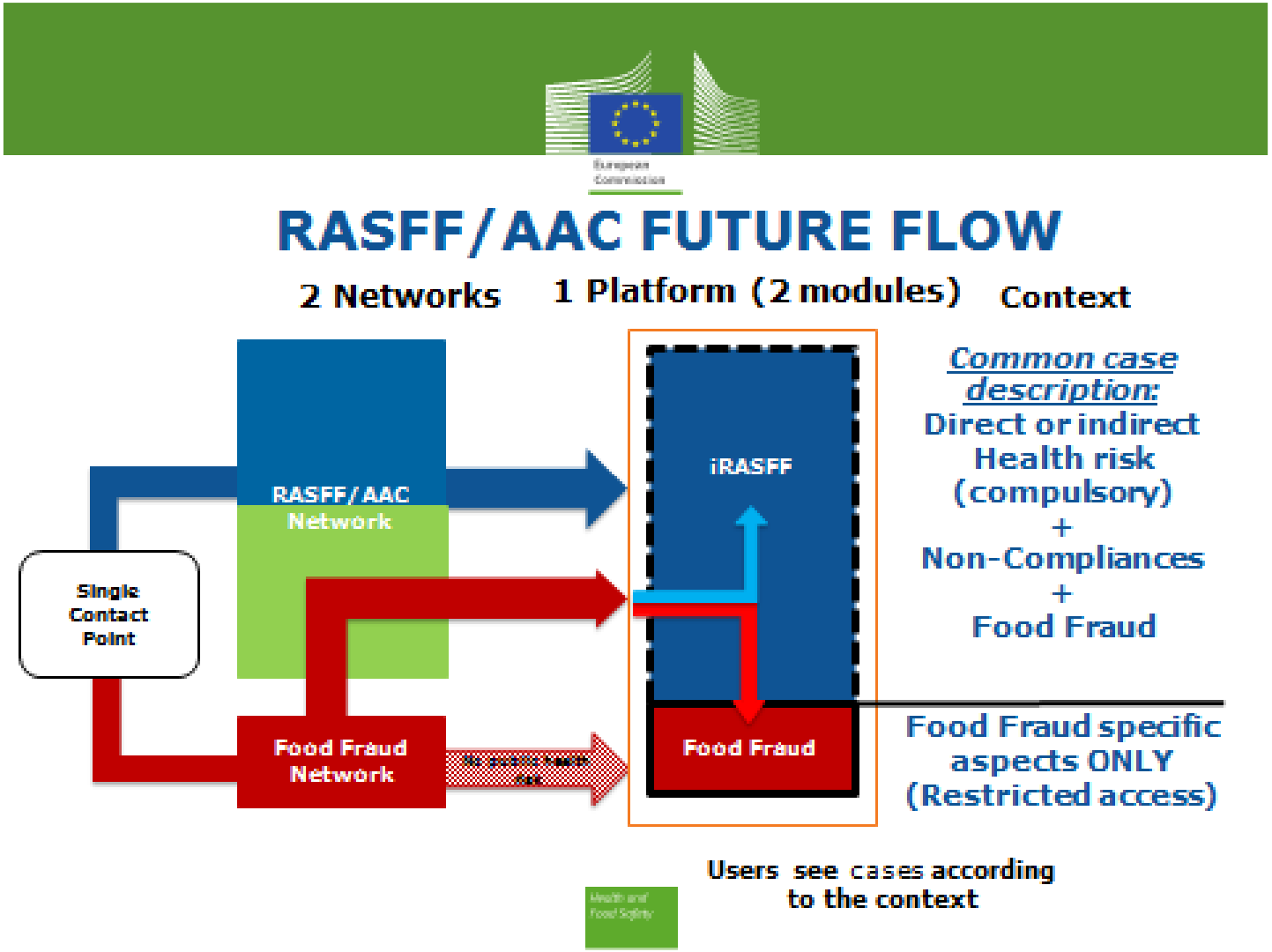
# The European Food Fraud Network

## AAC and RASFF



# The European Food Fraud Network

## AAC and RASFF




Fully integrated by the end of 2020

# The European Food Fraud Network

European Commission

## FOOD FRAUD: Olive oil case

### The ES/UK olive oil fraud case

Blends of 30 % of refined olive oil and
70 % of extra virgin olive oil
Sold as extra virgin instead of olive oil
> Labelling issue (wrong category)
> Quality of sold oil lower than expected

### What is the difference ?

**Olive oil**

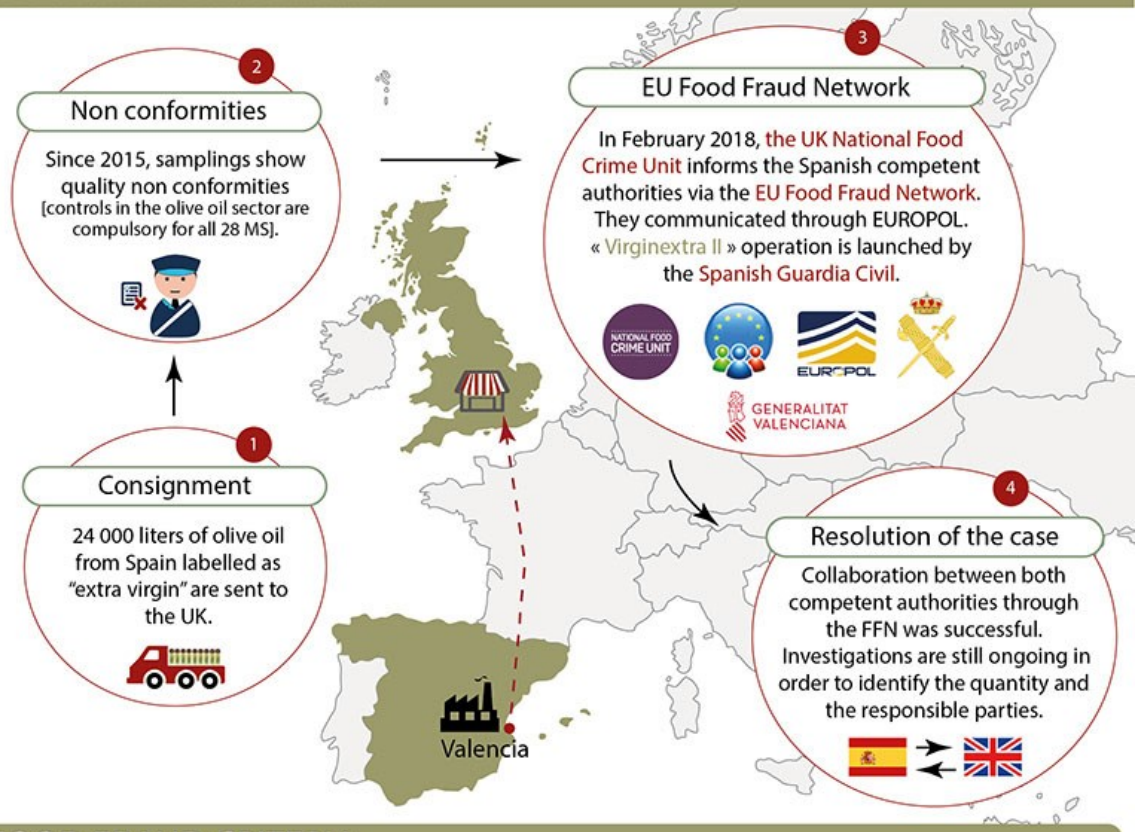
A blend of extra virgin/virgin olive oils plus refined olive oil
Intended for direct sale to consumers

**Extra virgin olive**

- Obtained from the olives solely by mechanical or other physical means
- Highest level of quality, both from a physico-chemical and from an organoleptic point of view: fruity with no defects
- Subject to stringent parameters

**Refined olive oil**

- Obtained from the refining of lampante olive oil (to remove defects)
- Depending on the chemical-physical conditions, minor or relevant changes in oil composition can occur
- Not intended for direct sale to consumers




## FOOD FRAUD CRITERIA

### Violation of EU Law

Breach of marketing standards for olive oil

1. Mislabelling [Reg (EC) 29/2012, Reg (EEC) 2568/91]
2. Oil quality requirements not corresponding to extra virgin olive oil [Reg (EC) 29/2012, Reg (EU) 1308/2013]
3. Provision on food information to consumers [Reg (EU) 1169/2011]
4. General food law [Reg (EC) 178/2002]

### Intention

24.000 liters of « olive oil » were intentionally mislabeled as « extra virgin olive oil »

### Economic gain

Difference between the price of extra virgin olive oil (EVOO) and the price of olive oil (OO) multiplied by 30% (percentage of adulteration)

€EVOO - €OO
[market price]
x 30%

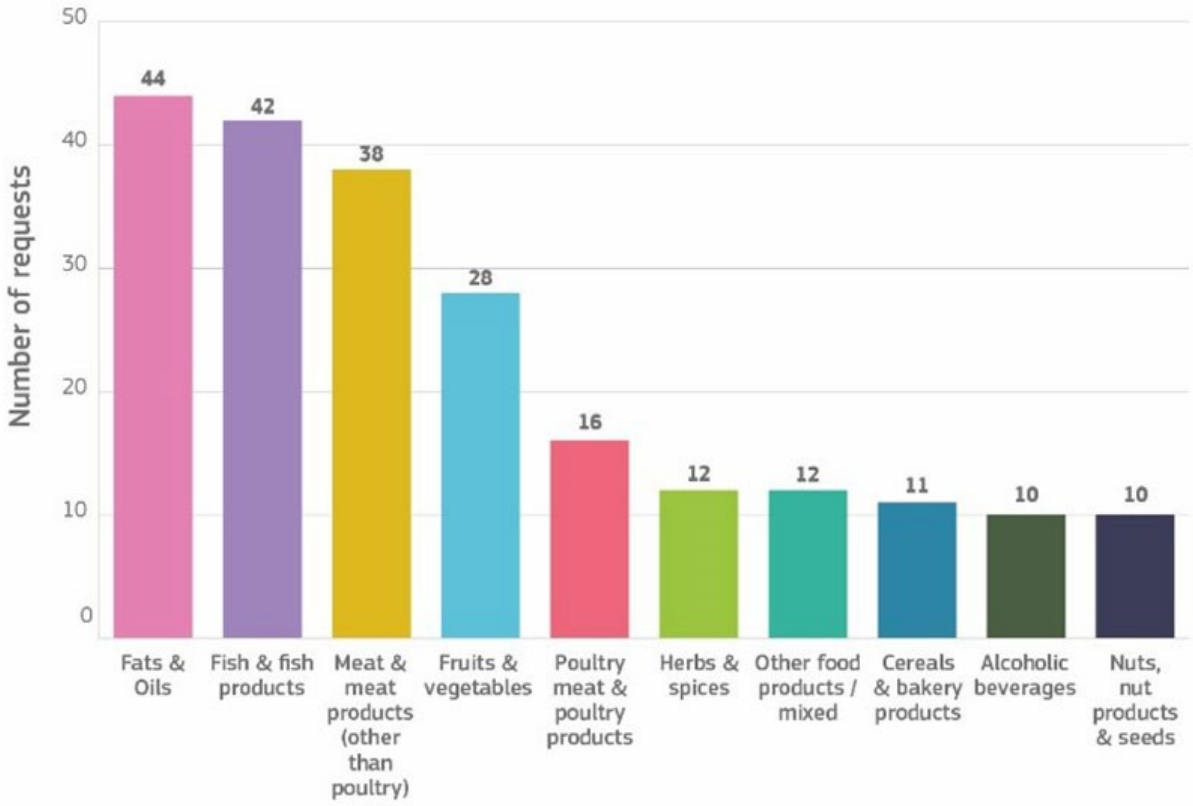
### Deception of customer

« Olive oil » sold as « extra virgin olive oil » misleading consumers

# The European Food Fraud Network

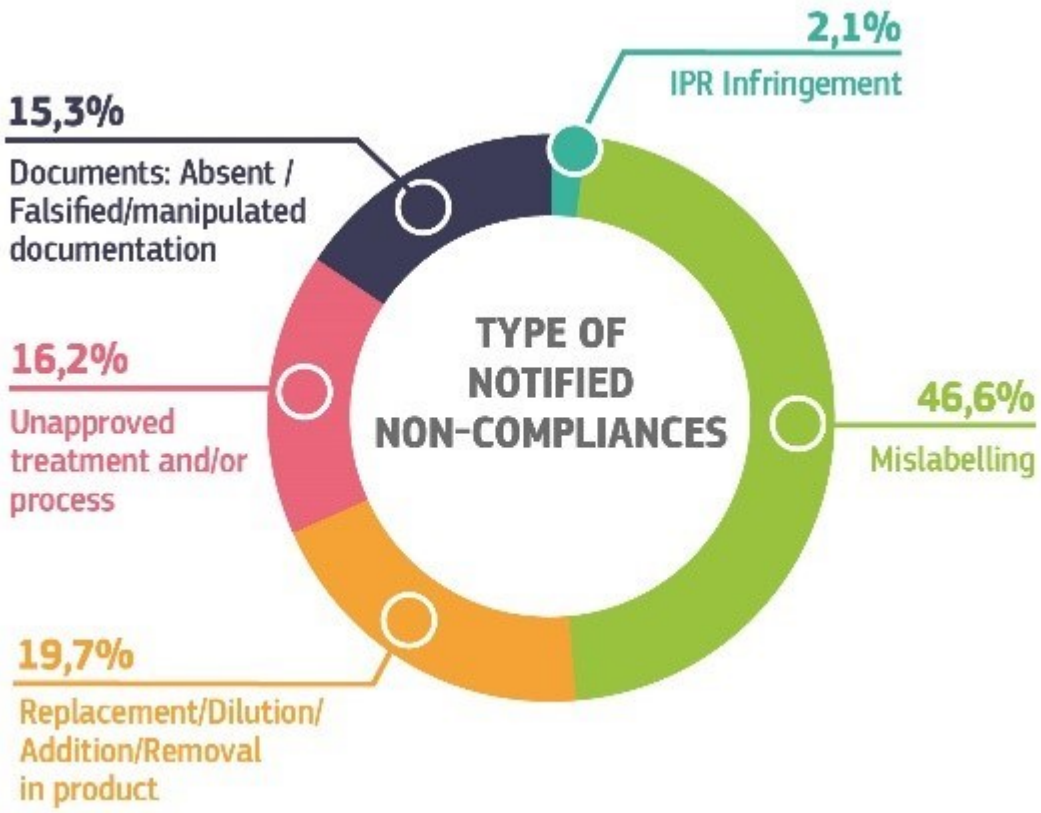
Food Fraud requests created in the AAC system per year

The top 10 product categories in the system in 2019



# The European Food Fraud Network

Type of notified non-compliances in the system in 2019



# Traces

## TRAde Control and Expert System

**1997** outbreak of classic swine fever in Europe → Resolution from the European Parliament (A5-396/2000) inviting the EC to improve the **traceability** of animal

**2003** Commission Decision 2003/24/EC was adopted to allow for the development of a new computer system integrating the functions of the **ANIMO** and **SHIFT systems** into a single architecture, subsequently called "**Traces**" by Commission Decision 2003/623/EC.

**2004** Commission Decision 2004/292/EC made the system gradually compulsory for the Member States of the European Union as of **1st January 2005**.

**2005** **Traces** compulsory

**2019** the Commission developed a new version of TRACES, called **TRACES-NT** (TRACES New Technologies), enabling the entire process of production of documents to be performed electronically as of that date.

The Commission adopted on 30 September 2019 **the IMSOC Regulation - Implementing Regulation 2019/1715** - with the objective to lay down the rules for the functioning of the **IMSOC (Information Management System for Official Controls)** and its system components (**TRACES, iRASFF, ADIS, EUROPHYT**).

# Traces

TRACES is the European Commission's multilingual online platform for sanitary and phytosanitary certification required for the **importation** of

- **animals,**
- **animal products,**
- **food and feed** of non-animal origin
- **plants**

**into the European Union, and the intra-EU trade and EU exports of animals and certain animal products**.

Its main objective is to streamline the certification process and all linked entry procedures and to offer a fully digitised and paperless workflow

TRACES covers DG SANTE's policy areas in relation to public health, animal health and plant health:

# Traces

TRACES **facilitates:**

- **the exchange of data, information** and documents between all involved trading parties and control authorities. → **simplifies and speeds** up the administrative procedures.

- to **trace back and forth** all the movements of animals, animal products, food and feed of non-animal origin and plants → contributes to the **reduction** of the **impact of disease outbreaks**
- allows for a **quick response** to counter certain serious risks along the agri-food chain.

- enhances **cooperation and coordination** between the competent authorities of EU countries and non-EU countries, but also between the traders themselves and their competent authorities. When a decision is taken on a consignment, the involved parties are notified and have access to the relevant documents. → quick detection of fake certificates and therefore contributes to the **enhancement of trust and better collaboration.**

The **statistical tool** allows the extraction of valuable data in relation to imports into the EU, exports from the EU and intra-Union trade.

# Traces

TRACES is an efficient tool to ensure:

- **Traceability** (monitoring movements of consignments, both within the EU and from non-EU countries);
- **Information exchange** (enabling trade partners and competent authorities to easily exchange information on the movements of their consignments and by significantly speeding up administrative procedures);
- **Risk management** (reacting rapidly to health threats by tracing the movements of consignments and facilitating the risk management of rejected consignments).

Protecting health
Facilitating trade

# Traces

European
Commission

# EUROPHYT

Is a **notification and rapid alert system** dealing with interceptions for plant health reasons of consignments of plants and plant products imported into the EU or being traded within the EU itself. EUROPHYT is established and run by the Directorate General for Health and Food Safety of the European Commission.

The main features of the EUROPHYT Network are:

•**Notification of interceptions**: Plant health authorities of the EU Member States and Switzerland enter data about interceptions they have made of non-compliant consignments into EUROPHYT electronically, via a direct web-link.

•**A Rapid Alert System**: EUROPHYT immediately notifies the plant health authorities of Member States and Switzerland of each interception. In the case of interceptions of imports from non-EU countries, the plant health authority of the exporting country also receives immediate notification in the form of an e-mail.

•**Database and information system**: All notifications are stored in a structured database. Members of the EUROPHYT network have full access to the data, making it possible to analyse trends and produce statistics.

•**Reports**: Standard weekly, monthly and annual reports are produced for different users.

# EU Food Safety overview
# Information Management System for Official Controls
# « IMSOC »

1. **Implement electronically** most of the provisions of the new ***OCR*** (Official Controls Regulation (EU) ***2017/625***)

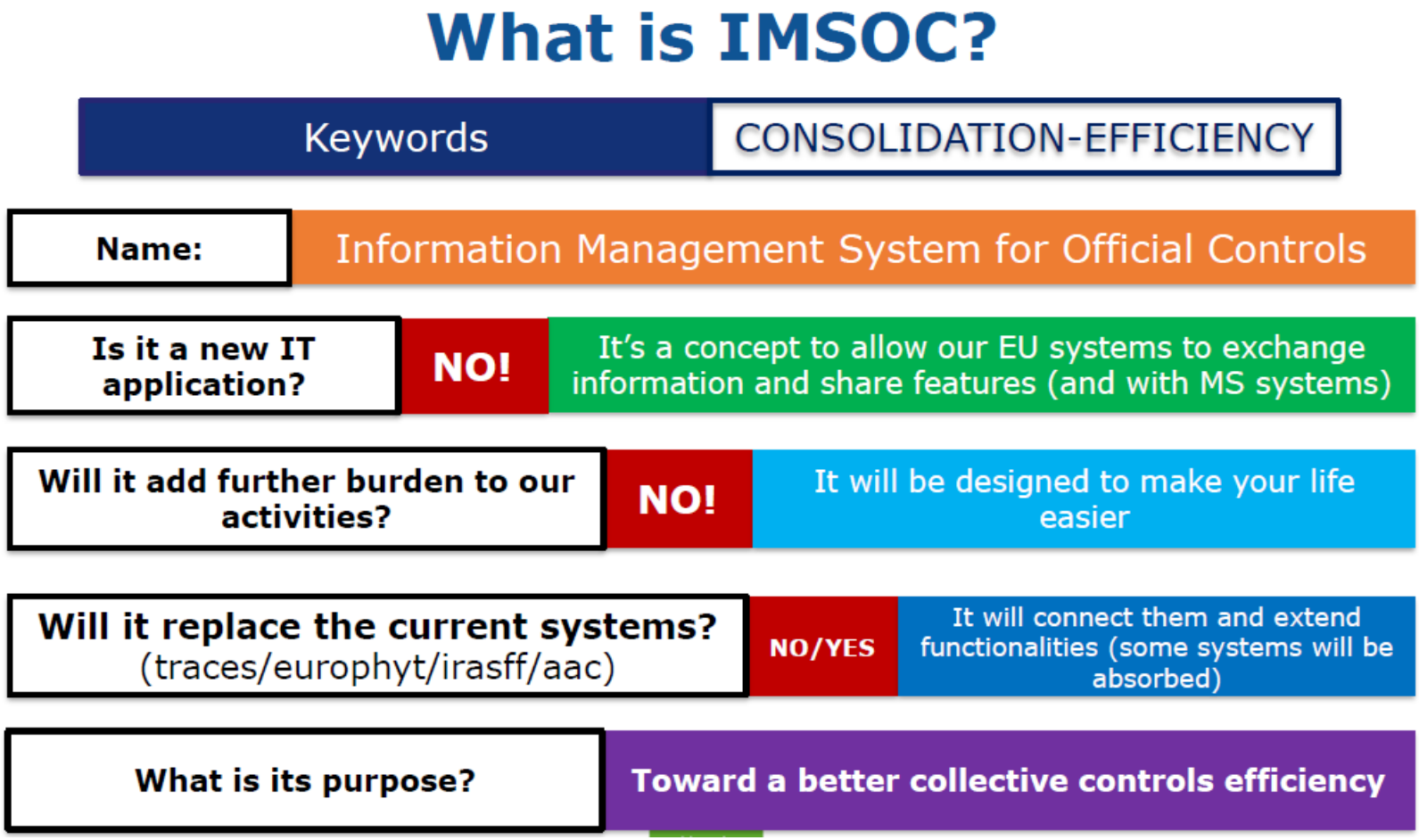
2. **Exchange** between Member States & Commission of all data-documents needed to perform Official Controls (Certification and e*OCR*ertification)

3. **Implement Administrative Assistance and Cooperation** and unify the systems in relation to risk to human health, plant health, animal health and welfare

4. **Provide tools** to collect and manage the reports on official controls provided by Member States to the Commission

5. **Streamline communication** to/from non-EU Countries and international organisations

# EU Food Safety overview



# EU Food Safety overview
# Information Management System for Official Controls
# « IMSOC »

## IMSOC system components

# EU Food Safety overview
# Information Management System for Official Controls
# « IMSOC »