

## **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**Consumers can be reassured that products subject to an alert notification have been withdrawn or are in the process of being withdrawn from the market.** The Member States have their own mechanisms to carry out such actions, including the provision of detailed information through the media if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 2006/39

**TABLE 1: ALERT NOTIFICATIONS**

Notifications in blue typeface concern feed, all other notifications concern food.

<b>DATE:</b>	<b>NOTIFIED BY:</b>	<b>REF.:</b>	<b>REASON FOR NOTIFYING:</b>	<b>COUNTRY OF ORIGIN:</b>
25/09/2006	France	2006.0633	Salmonella enteritidis in eggs	FRANCE
25/09/2006	United Kingdom	2006.0634	Listeria monocytogenes in Scottish hot smoked salmon	UNITED KINGDOM
25/09/2006	Germany	2006.0635	high content of iodine in dried sea algae	THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA VIA THE NETHERLANDS
25/09/2006	Germany	2006.0636	unauthorised colours Sudan 1, Sudan Red G and Para Red in spice mixture	THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION
25/09/2006	Belgium	2006.0637	unauthorised genetically modified American long grain rice	THE UNITED STATES
26/09/2006	Italy	2006.0638	undeclared sulphites in IQF blanched pink shrimps ( <i>Metapenaeus affinis</i> )	UNITED KINGDOM
26/09/2006	Cyprus	2006.0639	altered organoleptic characteristics of various meat products	THE NETHERLANDS FRANCE ITALY ALL VIA GREECE
27/09/2006	Germany	2006.0640	spoilage of frozen fish and fish cuts ( <i>Cyprinidae</i> sp. - <i>Euthynnus</i> sp. - <i>Sardina pilchardus</i> - <i>Engraulis encrasicolus</i> )	TURKEY
27/09/2006	Austria	2006.0641	unauthorised genetically modified long grain rice	THE UNITED STATES VIA GERMANY
27/09/2006	Austria	2006.0642	unauthorised genetically modified long grain rice	THE UNITED STATES VIA GERMANY
27/09/2006	The Netherlands	2006.0643	unauthorised genetically modified long grain rice	THE UNITED STATES VIA UNITED KINGDOM
27/09/2006	Italy	2006.0644	mercury in swordfish ( <i>Xiphias gladius</i> )	SPAIN
27/09/2006	<a href="#">Estonia</a>	<a href="#">2006.0645</a>	<a href="#">fish protein in cattle feed</a>	<a href="#">LATVIA</a>
27/09/2006	Austria	2006.0646	unauthorised genetically modified rice noodles	CHINA VIA GERMANY
27/09/2006	Germany	2006.0647	unauthorised genetically modified rice noodles	CHINA
27/09/2006	Italy	2006.0648	mercury in sliced smoked swordfish ( <i>Xiphias gladius</i> )	DENMARK
28/09/2006	Germany	2006.0649	unauthorised genetically modified rice noodles	CHINA
28/09/2006	Italy	2006.0650	mercury in smoked swordfish ( <i>Xiphias gladius</i> )	DENMARK
28/09/2006	Germany	2006.0651	game with use-by date exceeded and/or suspected to be unfit for human consumption	FRANCE
28/09/2006	Austria	2006.0652	unauthorised genetically modified long grain rice	THE UNITED STATES
28/09/2006	Austria	2006.0653	unauthorised genetically modified long grain rice	THE UNITED STATES
28/09/2006	Germany	2006.0654	unauthorised genetically modified rice mixture	UNKNOWN ORIGIN

<b>DATE:</b>	<b>NOTIFIED BY:</b>	<b>REF.:</b>	<b>REASON FOR NOTIFYING:</b>	<b>COUNTRY OF ORIGIN:</b>
28/09/2006	Italy	2006.0655	mercury in sliced smoked swordfish (Xiphias gladius)	DENMARK
28/09/2006	Greece	2006.0656	undeclared soya in chocolate dessert	ITALY
28/09/2006	United Kingdom	2006.0657	unauthorised genetically modified American long grain rice	THE UNITED STATES VIA FRANCE
28/09/2006	Germany	2006.0658	cyanide in bitter apricot kernels	TURKEY
29/09/2006	Germany	2006.0659	migration of formaldehyde from 5-piece table set for children	CHINA VIA THE NETHERLANDS
29/09/2006	Germany	2006.0660	bovine fat unfit for human consumption	THE NETHERLANDS
29/09/2006	Germany	2006.0661	unauthorised genetically modified rice noodles	CHINA
29/09/2006	Germany	2006.0662	unauthorised genetically modified rice noodles	CHINA VIA THE NETHERLANDS
29/09/2006	United Kingdom	2006.0663	Salmonella typhimurium in fuet pork salami	GERMANY
29/09/2006	Italy	2006.0664	suspicion of unauthorised placing on the market of milk powder	UNITED KINGDOM
29/09/2006	Austria	2006.0665	unauthorised genetically modified long grain rice	THE UNITED STATES VIA GERMANY
29/09/2006	Austria	2006.0666	unauthorised genetically modified long grain rice	THE UNITED STATES VIA THE NETHERLANDS
29/09/2006	Austria	2006.0667	unauthorised genetically modified long grain rice	THE UNITED STATES VIA GERMANY
29/09/2006	The Slovak Republic	2006.0668	E 210 - benzoic acid unauthorised in dried prunes	GERMANY
29/09/2006	Italy	2006.0669	arsenic, cadmium, chromium, lead, mercury, copper and nickel in ayurvedic food supplement	INDIA
29/09/2006	Cyprus	2006.0670	migration of lead from ceramic pot	ITALY
29/09/2006	France	2006.0671	Diarrhoeic Shellfish Poisoning (DSP) toxins in mussels (Mytilus galloprovincialis)	SPAIN

## TABLE 2: INFORMATION NOTIFICATIONS

Notifications in blue typeface concern feed, all other notifications concern food.

<b>DATE:</b>	<b>NOTIFIED BY:</b>	<b>REF.:</b>	<b>REASON FOR NOTIFYING:</b>	<b>COUNTRY OF ORIGIN:</b>
25/09/2006	France	2006.CCP	aflatoxins in hazelnuts	TURKEY
25/09/2006	Italy	2006.CCQ	inner coating peeling off from oven tray of oven and migration of iron and nickel from oven grill	CHINA
25/09/2006	Italy	2006.CCR	migration of chromium from kitchen knife set and steak knife set	CHINA
25/09/2006	France	2006.CCS	unauthorised use of colour E 160b - annato/bixin/norbixin in spice mixture	VIETNAM VIA GERMANY
26/09/2006	Italy	2006.CCT	too high count of Escherichia coli in clams (Tapes semidecussatus and Tapes philippinarum)	ITALY
26/09/2006	Czech Republic	2006.CCU	aflatoxins in roasted ground hazelnut kernels	GEORGIA
26/09/2006	Poland	2006.CCV	altered organoleptic characteristics of and living insects in coriander seeds	UKRAINE

DATE:	NOTIFIED BY:	REF.:	REASON FOR NOTIFYING:	COUNTRY OF ORIGIN:
26/09/2006	Poland	2006.CCW	dead and living insects in dried figs	TURKEY
26/09/2006	Poland	2006.CCX	dead and living insects in dried apricots	TURKEY
26/09/2006	Poland	2006.CCY	dead and living insects in dried apricots	TURKEY
26/09/2006	United Kingdom	2006.CCZ	unauthorised substance nitrofurantoin (metabolite) - furaltadone (AMAZ) in fresh seabass (Serranidae)	GREECE
26/09/2006	Greece	2006.CDA	E 210 - benzoic acid unauthorised in mini cakes with blueberry filling	BULGARIA
26/09/2006	Greece	2006.CDB	E 210 - benzoic acid unauthorised in mini cakes with strawberry filling	BULGARIA
26/09/2006	Germany	2006.CDC	mercury in frozen blue shark steaks	VIETNAM
26/09/2006	Germany	2006.CDD	migration of nickel from peppermills	CHINA (HONG KONG)
27/09/2006	Italy	2006.CDE	dimethoate in fresh mint	MOROCCO
27/09/2006	Italy	2006.CDF	dimethoate in fresh mint	MOROCCO
27/09/2006	Italy	2006.CDG	dimethoate in fresh mint	MOROCCO
27/09/2006	Austria	2006.CDH	unauthorised genetically modified parboiled American long grain rice	THE UNITED STATES
27/09/2006	Austria	2006.CDI	unauthorised genetically modified American long grain rice	THE UNITED STATES
27/09/2006	Austria	2006.CDJ	unauthorised genetically modified American natural long grain rice	THE UNITED STATES
27/09/2006	Austria	2006.CDK	unauthorised genetically modified American natural long grain rice	THE UNITED STATES
27/09/2006	Belgium	2006.CDL	mercury in fresh swordfish fillets ( <i>Xiphias gladius</i> )	THE UNITED STATES
27/09/2006	United Kingdom	2006.CDM	1,4-dichlorobenzene in honey	NEW ZEALAND
27/09/2006	Greece	2006.CDN	aflatoxins in rice	PAKISTAN
27/09/2006	Greece	2006.CDO	unauthorised substances malachite green and leucomalachite green in frozen pangasius fillets ( <i>Pangasius hypophthalmus</i> )	VIETNAM
27/09/2006	Slovenia	2006.CDP	monocrotophos in apples	SERBIA
27/09/2006	Italy	2006.CDQ	cadmium and mercury in frozen marlin ( <i>Makaira indica</i> )	INDONESIA
28/09/2006	United Kingdom	2006.CDR	unauthorised substance nitrofurantoin (metabolite) - nitrofurazone (SEM) in frozen freshwater headless shell-on prawns ( <i>Macrobrachium rosenbergii</i> )	INDIA
28/09/2006	Italy	2006.CDS	bad state of preservation of and moulds on almonds	THE UNITED STATES
29/09/2006	Greece	2006.CDT	aflatoxins in raw hazelnuts kernels	TURKEY
29/09/2006	Germany	2006.CDU	aflatoxins in raw pistachio nuts with shell	IRAN
29/09/2006	Germany	2006.CDV	aflatoxins in raw pistachio nuts with shell	IRAN
29/09/2006	Italy	2006.CDW	unauthorised placing on the market of herbal infusion containing coca leaves	PERU
29/09/2006	Belgium	2006.CDX	unauthorised genetically modified long grain rice	THE UNITED STATES
29/09/2006	Italy	2006.CDY	Salmonella Aberdeen in soybean meal	ARGENTINA
29/09/2006	Finland	2006.CDZ	migration of chromium, nickel, colour and primary aromatic amines from kitchenware	CHINA
29/09/2006	Belgium	2006.CEA	unsuitable organoleptic characteristics of frozen raw headless shell on shrimps	PAKISTAN