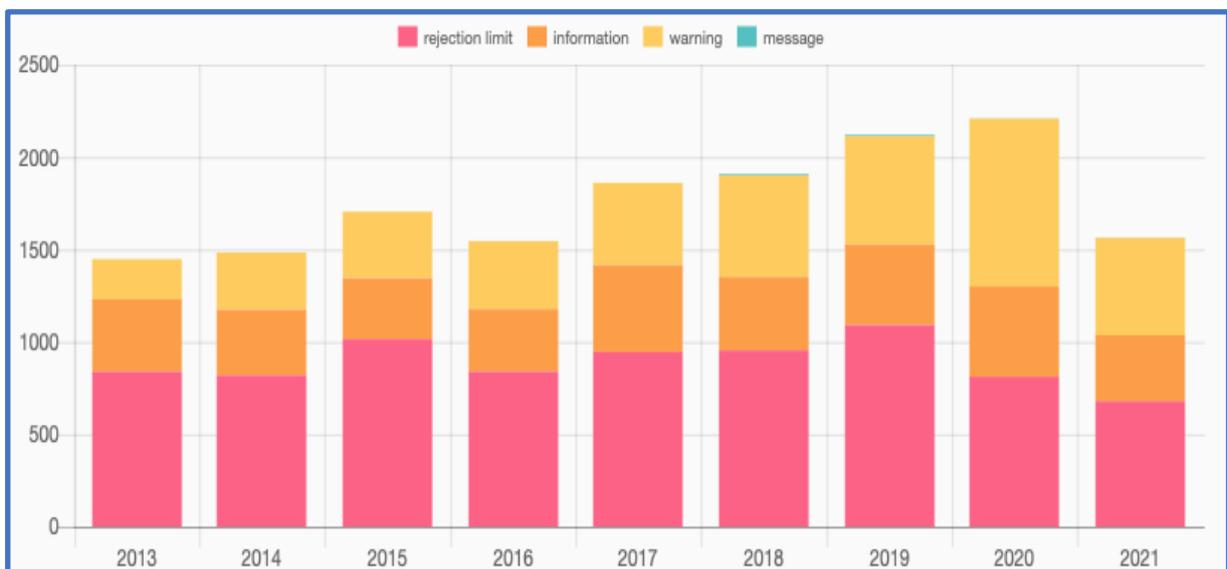


Safefood-Online

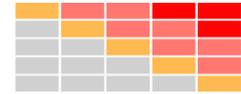
Newsletter



(RASFF notifications and monthly Food Fraud notifications (EU))



Notifications according to the type of notification (from the dashboard on www.safefood.online.com)



Dear Seafood-Online user,

In addition to the evaluation of the RASFF notifications from July 2021, you will find information on the legal aspects of ethylene oxide and 2-chloroethanol. As usual we also provide you with a media review on the topics of food safety and food fraud. You will also find information about the latest changes to MRLs.

Under "Questions and answers on the Safefood-Online database" we explain the difference between the output options in the HACCP export module (output with combined hazards or output with individual hazards).

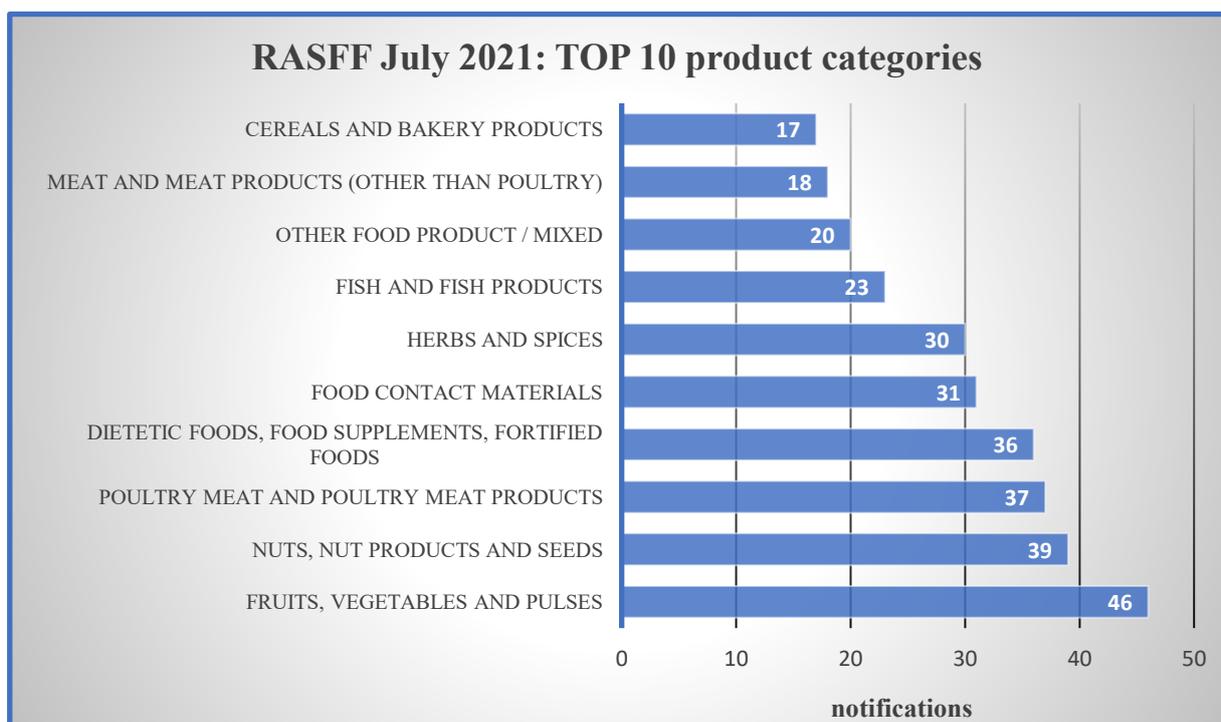
We hope this edition of the Safefood-Online newsletter will also be of interest to you and would of course be pleased to hear your opinion, as this is the only way we can improve.

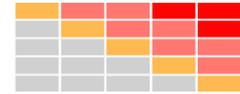
Your Safefood-Online Team

1 RASFF notifications July 2021

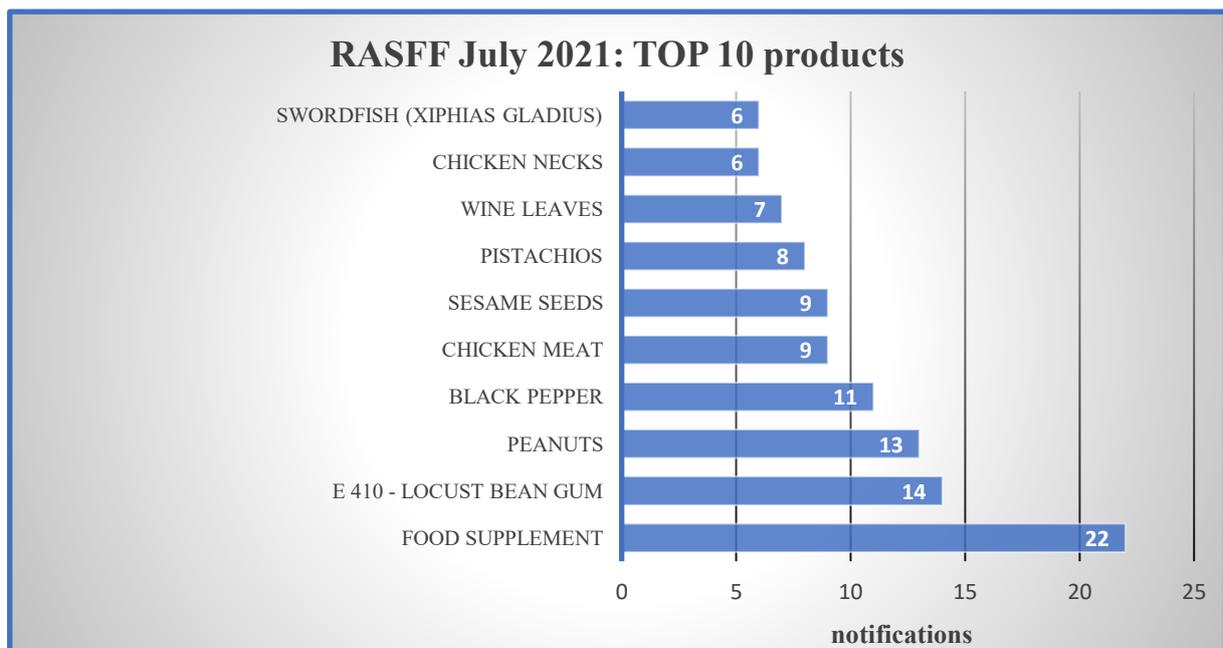
Compared to the previous month, the number of notifications decreased slightly (July 409, June 430 notifications).

Most notifications were again in the product category "fruits, vegetables and pulses" (46 notifications), followed by "nuts, nut products and seeds" (39 notifications) and "poultry meat and poultry meat products" (37 notifications):

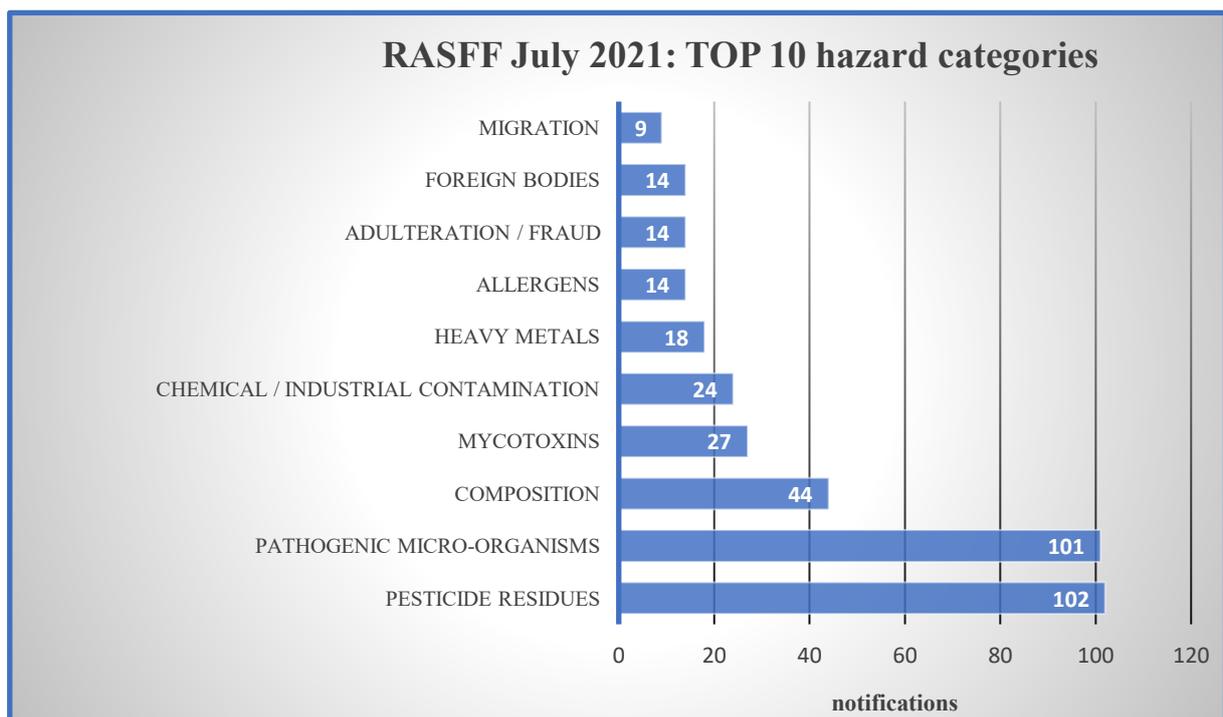


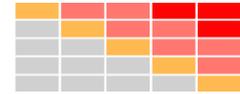


At the top of the TOP 10 products are food supplements with 22 notifications. It is striking that 9 notifications are due to ethylene oxide/ 2-chloroethanol. The additive E 410 (locust bean gum) follows in second place with 14 reports. Also, in this case all notifications are due to findings of ethylene oxide/ 2-chloroethanol. Further information can be found in this news-letter under point 2: “Legal evaluation of ethylene oxide/ 2-chloroethanol”. Peanuts are following in third place with 13 reports:

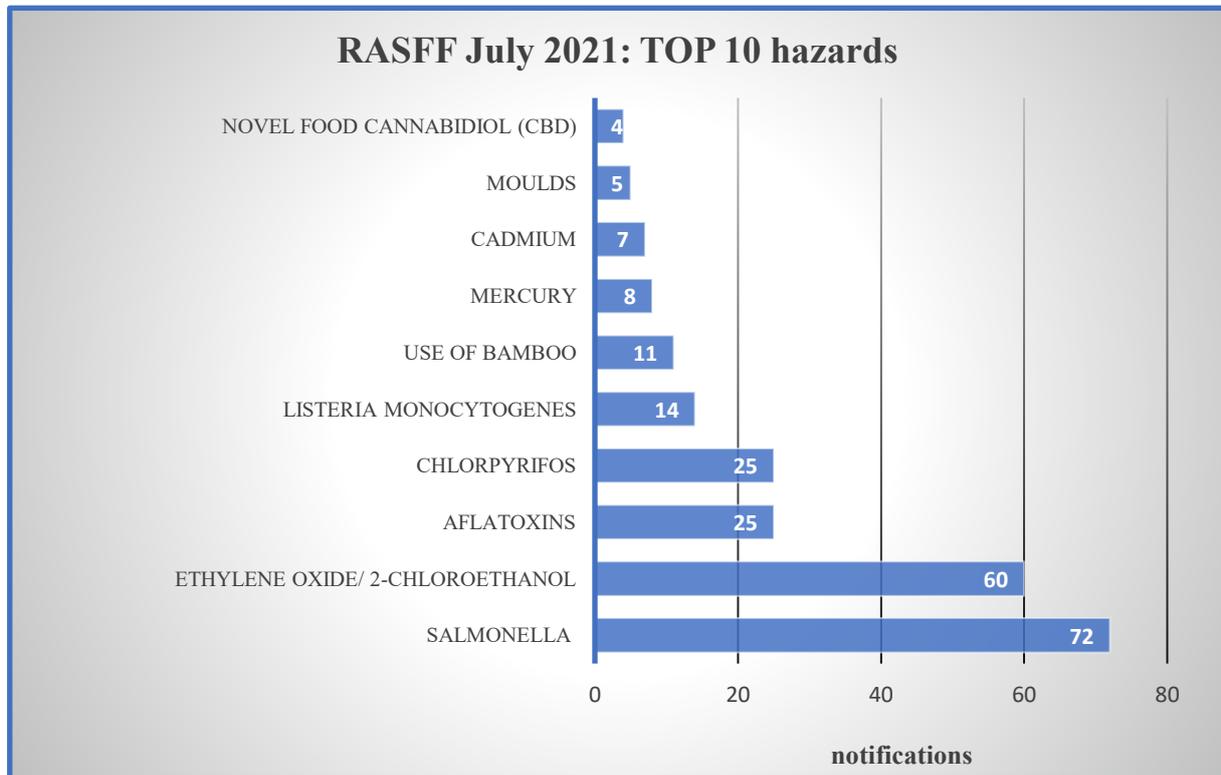


By far the most notifications in July 2021 are found in the hazard categories pesticides (102 notifications) and pathogenic microorganisms (101 notifications). The hazard categories composition and mycotoxins are following with 44 and 27 notifications:





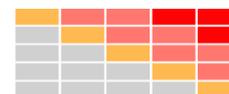
Ethylene oxide/ 2-chloroethanol are assigned to the hazard category pesticides. The high number of notifications in this hazard category is therefore due to these two substances (60 of 102 notifications). Most notifications on pathogenic microorganisms concern salmonella (72 notifications):



2 Legal evaluation of ethylene oxide

In the past, there have been many discussions on the legal aspects of products containing pesticide residues or other substances for which there are legally defined maximum residue levels where the products have been used in further processed products. This is also currently the case with ethylene oxide/ 2-chloroethanol: The starting point was the detection of ethylene oxide in a stabiliser (with locust bean gum E 410) for ice cream production (RASFF notification 2021.2966 of 8 June 2021). At EU level, the "Food and Feed Crisis Coordinators" dealt with this issue (3 meetings on 29 June, 30 June and 13 July). As a result, it was stated ([summary record](#)):

- ⇒ for products containing the additive E410 contaminated with ethylene oxide, no safe level of exposure for consumers can be defined, so that any level to which consumers may be exposed represents a potential risk for consumers
- ⇒ to ensure a high level of health protection, it is therefore necessary that food or feed business operators who have placed such products on the EU market withdraw these products from the EU market and recall them from consumers under the control of the competent national authorities



This explains the high number of notifications on ethylene oxide/ 2-chloroethanol (60 notifications in July 2021). Many notifications do not directly concern locust bean gum E 410), but rather processed products containing locust bean gum, such as ice cream containing locust bean gum as a stabiliser.

Press releases on this topic:

Food Safety News:	Ethylene oxide scandal spreads to food additive
Food Navigator:	https://www.foodnavigator.com/Article/2021/07/19/No-safe-level-of-exposure-EC-orders-mass-recall-of-products-contaminated-with-ethylene-oxide?utm_source=RSS_Feed&utm_medium=RSS&utm_campaign=RSS

Foodwatch has also picked up this issue and is requesting the recall of all products containing the additive locust bean gum ("[additive contaminated with carcinogenic ethylene oxide](#)") and has started a petition ("[Ethylene oxide: Get off the shelves!](#)") on 29.07.2021.

See also the current statement by *Crone, Grube*, on the food law assessment of findings of the substances ethylene oxide and 2-chloroethanol in sesame seeds and processed foods containing sesame seeds, ZLR 2021, 398 ff.

In the light of the increasing notifications for ethylene oxide/ 2-Chloroethanol, the possible risks should be intensively examined and corresponding quality assurance measures implemented.

3 Pesticides and Contaminants

Commission Regulation 2021/590 amending Annexes II and IV to Regulation (EC) No 396/2005:

In the last newsletter, we already referred to EU Regulation 2021/590 of April 12, 2021.

The EU Commission has published 3 more Regulations concerning changes in MRLs:

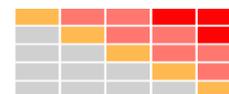
[Commission Regulation \(EU\) 2021/616](#) of April 13, 2021

[Commission Regulation \(EU\) 2021/618](#) of April 15, 2021

[Commission Regulation \(EU\) 2021/644](#) of April 15, 2021

4 NEWS

product/ issue	content
Truffles (Food Fraud)	elemental and stable isotope composition to characterize truffles
Novel Food	EFSA: Safety of frozen and dried formulation from migratory (<i>Locusta migratoria</i>) locust



Food Fraud	EU agency helps dismantle fraudulent rum network
Oysters	UK: Norovirus outbreak linked to oysters
Salmonella	France: 50 people sick with Salmonella after eating a type of dry cured sausage
Food Safety	Belgium: Outbreaks down but recalls increased in 2020
GMO	Philippines: approval of nutrient-enriched "Golden Rice" (GMO)
Food Fraud	OPSON X (2020/2021) - adulteration of honey

5 Questions and answers regarding the database Safefood-Online

There are 2 output options in the "HACCP export" module:

- ⇒ Output with all combined hazards
- ⇒ Output with individual hazards

How do the two options differ?

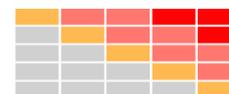
With the query "With all combined hazards" in the main menu "HACCP Export" it is possible to create an HACCP export for raw materials/ingredients based on all messages available in the database. In the query, all hazards known so far are summed up (here using the example of hazelnuts, period 01.01.2019 - 27.07.2021):

Raw material / feed	Known hazards	Country of origin	RL1	RL3
hazelnuts	afatoxins [46]	Georgia [22], Turkey [15], Azerbaijan [9]	D5	E5
	Salmonella spp. [2]	Georgia [2]	E1	
	absence of certified analytical report, absence of health certificate(s) [1]	Turkey [1]	B1	
	undeclared almond, undeclared cashew nut [1]	Netherlands [1]	E1	
	infested with larvae of insects [1]	Georgia [1]	B1	
	improper health certificate(s) [1]	Turkey [1]	B1	
	Cladosporium spp. [1]	Turkey [1]	E1	
	absence of health certificate(s) [1]	Russia [1]	B1	

With the query "With individual hazards" in the "HACCP Export" module all hazards are separated according to the hazard category and displayed in a table. Within the database there are currently six hazard categories:

These hazard categories are divided into further subgroups:

1. biological hazards (four additional subgroups)
2. chemical hazards (nine additional subgroups)
3. physical hazards (foreign bodies subgroup)
4. allergenic hazards (subgroup allergens)
5. fraud / deception (six additional subgroups)



6. other (five additional subgroups)

Here the result of the query above, but as an output with individual hazards:

Raw material / feed	Known hazards	Country of origin	RL1	RL2	RL3
hazelnuts	biological hazards			E2	E5
	pathogenic micro-organisms				
	Cladosporium spp. [1]	Turkey [1]	E1		
	Salmonella spp. [2]	Georgia [2]	E1		
	TSEs				
	not known				
	non-pathogenic micro-organisms				
	not known				
	insects / parasitic infestation				
	infested with larvae of insects [1]	Georgia [1]	B1		
	chemical hazards			D5	
	biotoxins				
	not known				
	biocontaminants				
	not known				
	pesticide residues				
	not known				
	heavy metals				
	not known				
	hormones / residues of veterinary medicinal products				
	not known				
	chemical / industrial contamination				
	not known				
	mycotoxins				
	aflatoxins [46]	Azerbaijan [9], Georgia [22], Turkey [15]	D5		
	migration				
	not known				
	physical hazards			none	
	foreign bodies				
	not known				
allergenic hazards			E1		
allergens					
undeclared almond [1]	Netherlands [1]	E1			
undeclared cashew nut [1]	Netherlands [1]	E1			

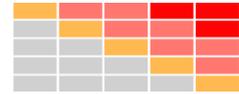
Overview of the different output options and the corresponding risk classification:

	RK1	RK2	RK3
Output with combined hazards	Risk classification of individual hazards, i.e., salmonella		Risk classification for the total product (all hazards/ hazard categories)
Output with individual hazards	Risk classification of individual hazards, i.e., salmonella	Risk classification for the hazard category, i.e., biological hazards)	Risk classification for the total product (all hazards/ hazard categories)



Please forward your suggestions, questions and requests regarding this newsletter directly to:

info@safefood-online.com



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safefood-online GmbH

Birkenweg 18
D-68723 Schwetzingen
Phone: +49 (0) 62 02 / 92 36 97
Fax: +49 (0) 62 02 / 92 36 96
E-mail: info@safefood-online.com
Internet: www.safefood-online.com

Personally liable partner:
Dr. Bernhard Müller

Registered Office: Schwetzingen
Commercial Register: Amtsgericht Mannheim, HRB 710365

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