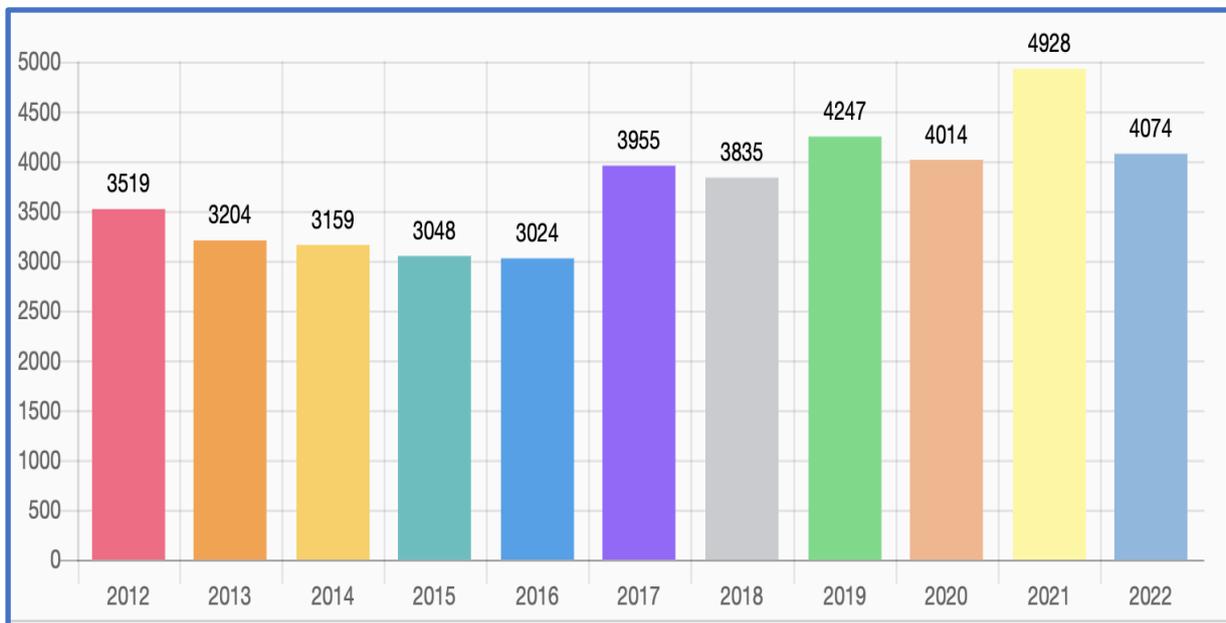
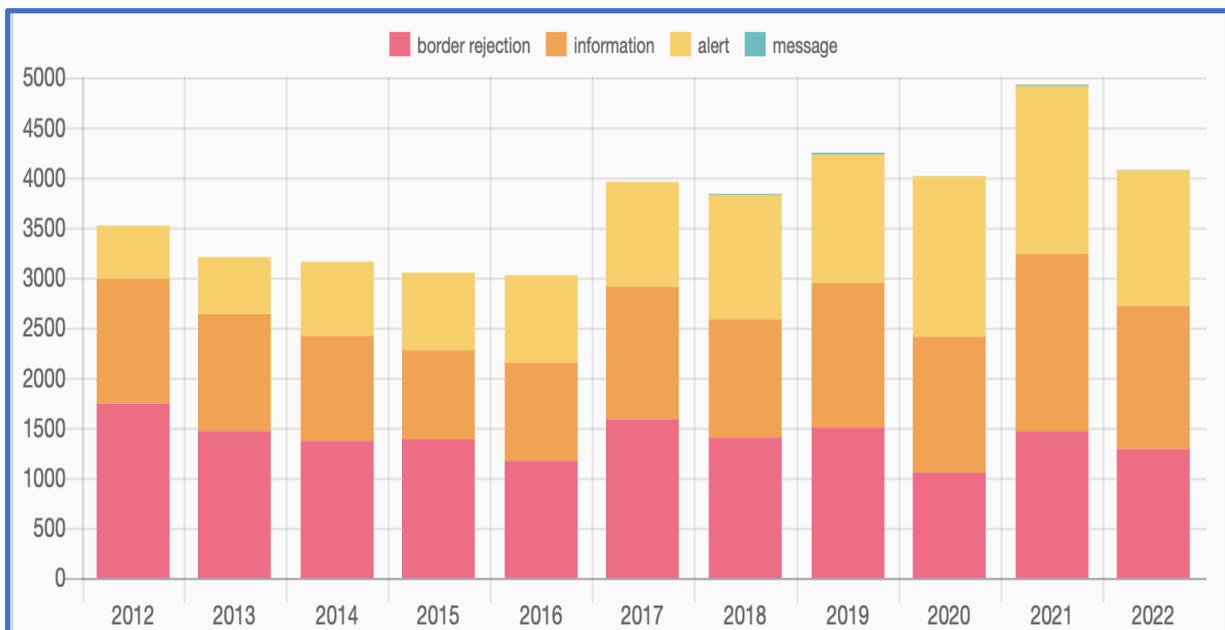


Safefood-Online

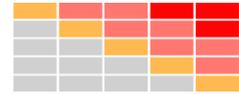
Newsletter



RASFF notifications and notifications from the Monthly Food Fraud Summary Reports (EU)



Notifications according to the type of notification from the dashboard on www.safefood.online.de



Dear Safefood-Online users,

In October we had 364 new notifications in the Safefood-Online database. A detailed evaluation by product groups, products, hazard categories, hazards and countries of origin can be found under Top 1 in this newsletter.

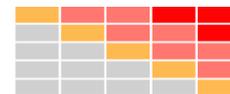
Under Top 2 "News on pesticides and contaminants" we inform on new or amended limits for Ochratoxin A and on benchmark levels for mineral oil hydrocarbons (MOH) in food. The benchmark levels are recommended by the German representatives of the food control authorities of the Federal States and the Food Federation Germany (until June 2019 BLL e. V.)

In this issue of the Safefood-Online Newsletter we have also prepared news about food safety (item 3) and food fraud (item 4).

In the RASFF notifications, you can often find the information "INFOSAN" in the "organizations" field next to the countries concerned. The institution behind is explained under Top 5.

We hope that this issue of the Safefood-Online Newsletter will also be of interest to you and, of course, we welcome your opinion, as this is the only way we can improve.

Your Safefood-Online Team

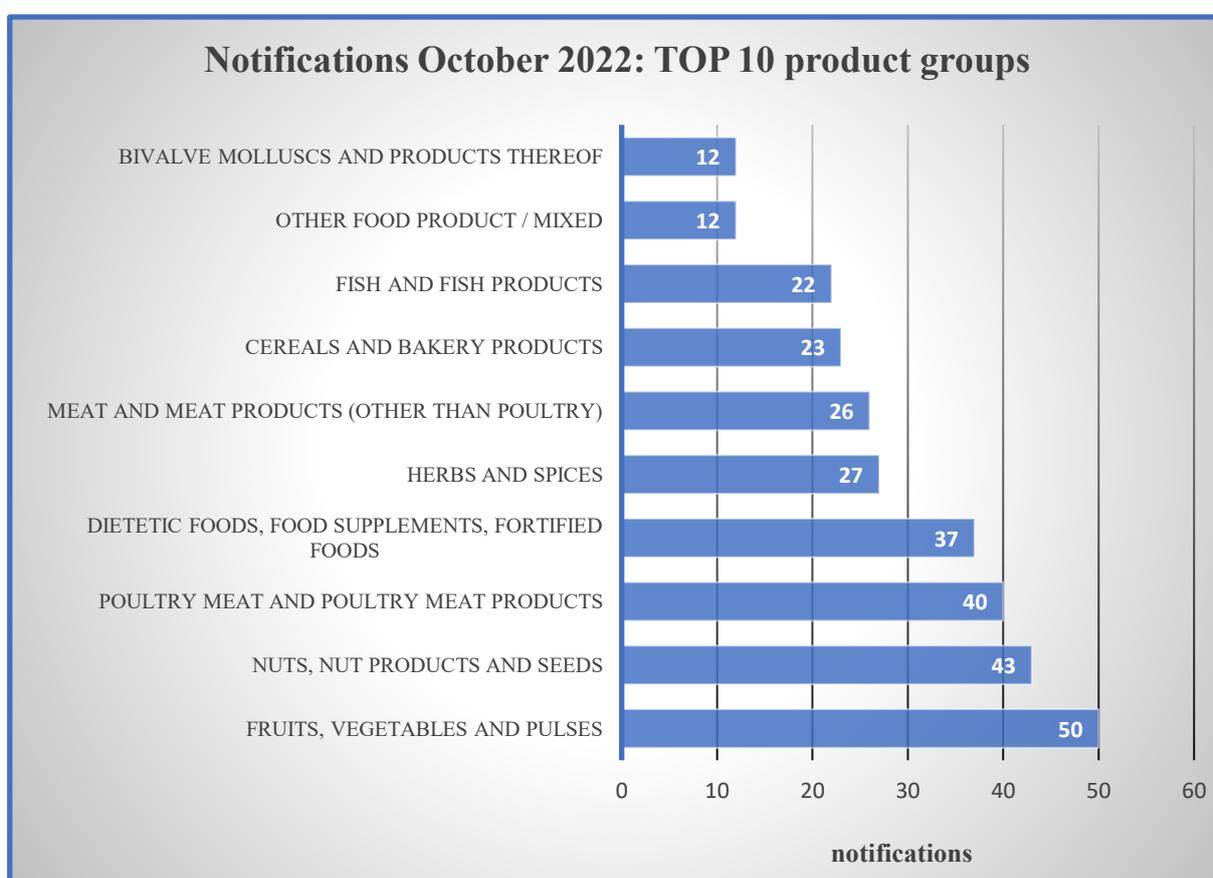


1 Notifications in Safefood Online: October 2022

After 346 notifications in September 2022, there were 364 new notifications in the Safefood Online database in October (an increase of 18 notifications).

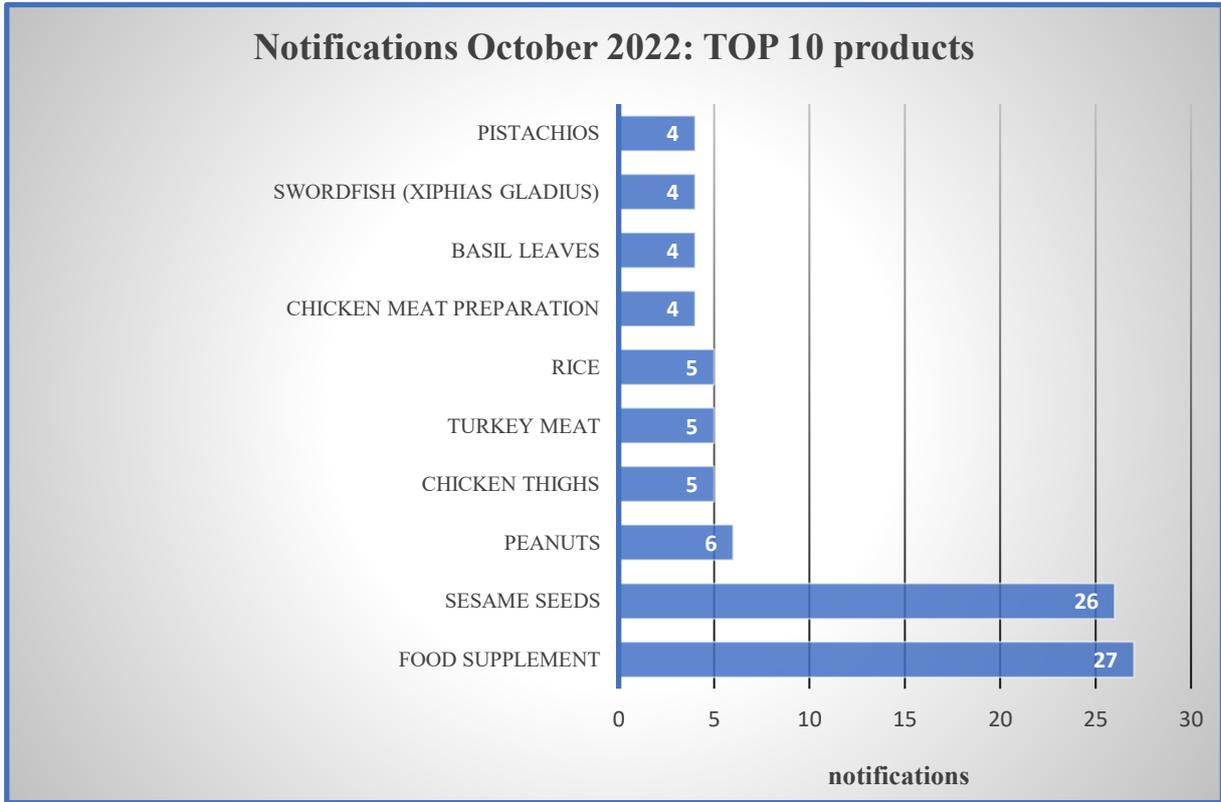
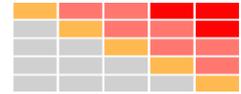
Note: Only the RASFF notifications are included in the comparison, as the notifications from the EU Monthly Food Fraud Summary Report are not published until the middle of the following month.

The product group fruits, vegetables and legumes was in the lead with 50 notifications, followed by the product group nuts, nut products and seeds with 43 notifications and poultry meat and poultry meat products with 40 notifications:



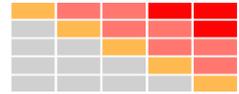
The highest number of notifications in the product group nuts, nut products and seeds was for sesame seeds with 26 notifications. 12 notifications concerned salmonella findings. In 10 of these notifications, the sesame seeds originated from Nigeria. This is a similar picture as in September (see also [Safefood-Online Newsletter September 2022](#)). 11 notifications were made for sesame seeds because the corresponding health certificates were missing.

The ranking by products shows food supplements with 27 reports and sesame seeds with 26 reports in the top positions:

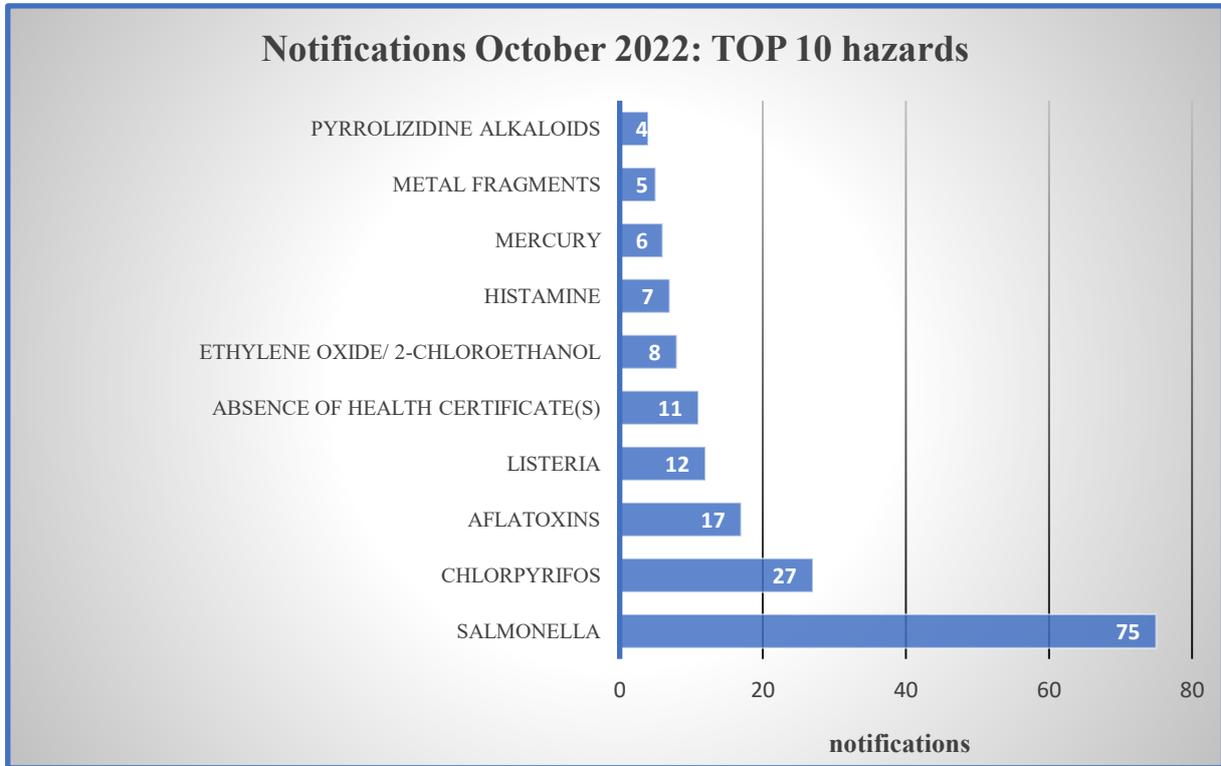


In the evaluation of the notifications according to hazard categories, pathogenic micro-organisms are again in first place with 106 notifications, followed by pesticides (71 notifications) and mycotoxins (22 notifications). Compared to the previous month, the number of notifications for sesame seeds due to Salmonella has decreased significantly (September: 50 notifications, October 12 notifications):

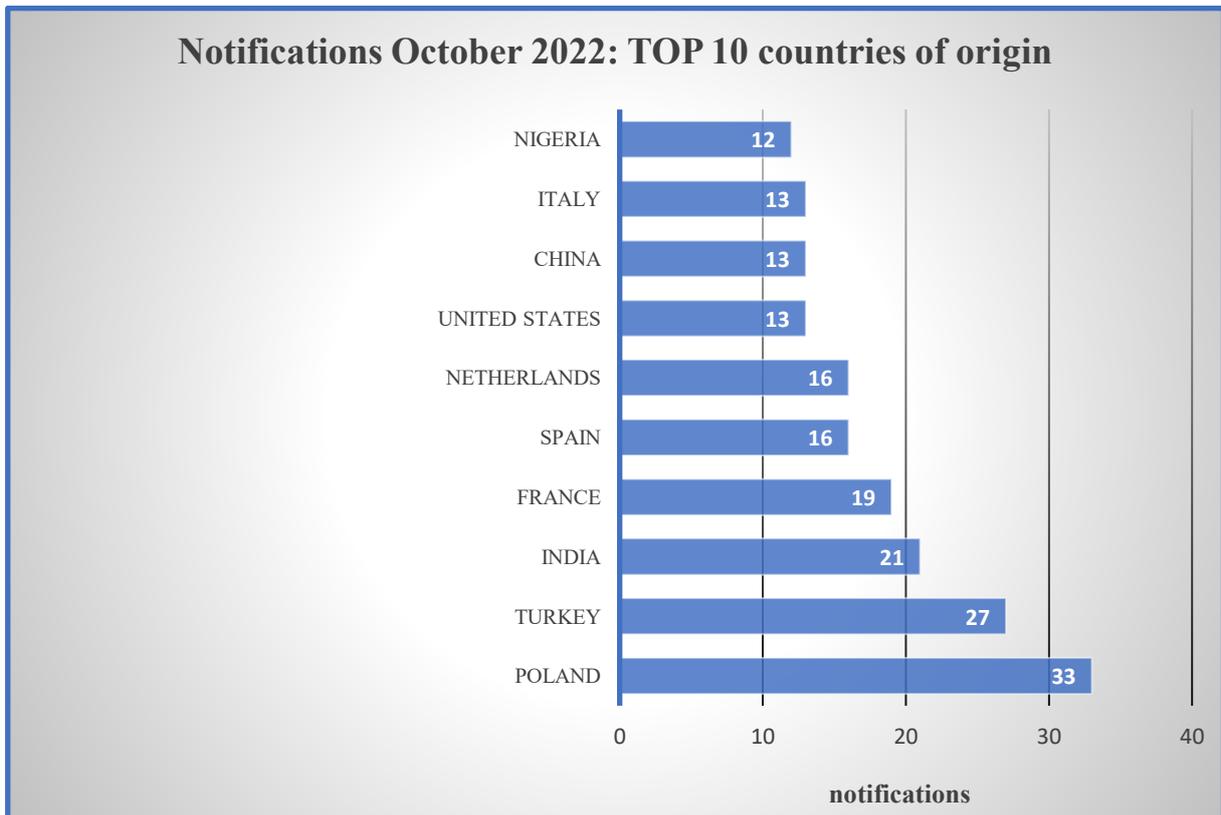


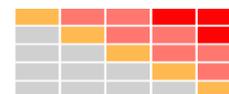


In October 2022, there were in total 75 notifications due to salmonella findings, followed by chlorpyrifos with 27 notifications and aflatoxins with 17 notifications:



The following chart shows the notifications by country of origin:





The highest number of notifications were for products from Poland with 33 notifications. Turkey (27 notifications) and India (21 notifications) are in second and third place.

2 Update on pesticides and contaminants

2.1 New or modified maximum levels for Ochratoxin A

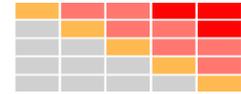
With [Regulation \(EU\) 2022/1370](#) published in the Official Journal of the European Commission on August 8, 2022, the maximum levels for Ochratoxin A were lowered for some foodstuffs (dried grapes, roasted coffee beans and soluble coffee). For a number of other foodstuffs, maximum levels were newly introduced, such as: for spices and dried herbs, sunflower seeds, pumpkin seeds, cocoa powder, hemp seeds and soybeans. The new regulations will apply from January 01, 2023, and foods that were lawfully placed on the market before January 01, 2023, may remain on the market until their date of minimum durability or use-by dates. For further information, in particular on the new or amended maximum levels, please refer to the linked [regulation text](#).

2.2 Benchmark levels for mineral oil hydrocarbons (MOH) in foods

The German Food Association (Lebensmittelverband Deutschland) and representatives of the Working Group of the Federal States on Consumer Protection / Working Group on Food and Commodities, Wine and Cosmetics) have developed [benchmarks for mineral oil hydrocarbons \(MOH\)](#). The project was initiated by a resolution of the German Consumer Protection Minister Conference in 2017. The current update mainly concerns vegan and vegetarian products.

3 NEWS – Food Safety

content
Belgium: Experts in Belgium have taken part in an exercise to improve management of foodborne outbreaks in the country.
ECDC: External quality assessment (EQA) of the performance of laboratories participating in the European Antimicrobial Resistance Surveillance Network (EARS-Net), 2021
Peanut and Tree Nut Processors Association (PTNPA): Handbook for Safe Processing of Nuts
Extensive literature search for N-nitroso compounds in food
Netherlands: more than 800 outbreaks in 2021
Spain: The number of notifications in the Spanish food alert system has set a new record by passing 1,000 in 2021.
EFSA: Roadmap for action on risk assessment of combined exposure to multiple chemicals (RACEMiC)
UK: The Institute of Food Science and Technology (IFST) has created a Food Allergens Knowledge Hub
UK: still battle with food regulation post-Brexit, investigation warns of more delays and uncertainty



[Sweden: More than 50 people have fallen ill in a national outbreak of Salmonella in Sweden with the source yet to be identified](#)

[Investigations on the Transfer of Quinolizidine Alkaloids from Lupinus angustifolius into the Milk of Dairy Cows](#)

[Ireland: The number of food incidents rose the past year but recalls and sampling declined, according to the Food Safety Authority of Ireland's \(FSAI\) annual report.](#)

[EFSA: Updated scientific opinion on plants developed through cisgenesis and intragenesis](#)

[Norway: Smoked salmon has been linked to a Listeria outbreak in Norway that has sickened four people](#)

[EFSA: Transmission of antimicrobial resistance \(AMR\) during animal transport](#)

4 NEWS – Food Fraud

[UK: Food manufacturers are being urged to prioritise quality checks when choosing new CO2 suppliers in order to minimise Food Fraud risk](#)

[UK: Increase in freight crime puts stolen food into supply chain](#)

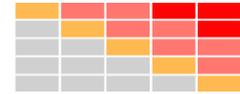
[Europol: Production of fake pesticides on the rise in the EU](#)

[Pakistan: The Punjab Food Authority \(PFA\) has stopped the production of a pickle manufacturing unit in Bhagat Pura and discarded 4,670kg stinky pickle during a raid](#)

[Bangladesh: Authorities tighten grip to check shrimp adulteration](#)

[EU: new Regulation \(EU\) 2022/1923 as regards the use of ascorbic acid, sodium ascorbate and calcium ascorbate in tuna](#)

[UK: The Dover Port Health Authority has confirmed it seized 2.5 tonnes of illegal pork products from 22 vehicles checked over a single weekend at the beginning of October](#)



5 INFOSAN: A global network for Food Safety

Occasionally, we have been asked what the information "INFOSAN" in some RASFF notifications means.

In the RASFF notifications, the field "Organizations" frequently contains the information INFOSAN, as shown here in [notification 2022.0588](#) on carbendazim and carbofuran in longan fruits:

NOTIFICATION 2022.0588
Carbendazim and carbofuran in longan fruit from Cambodia

notified 31 JAN 2022 by Czech Republic | last update 15 FEB 2022 EC validated

Reference	2022.0588	
Subject	Carbendazim and carbofuran in longan fruit from Cambodia	
Notification type	Food	
Notification basis	Official control on the market	
Classification	Information notification for attention	
Risk decision	Serious	

Organisations

Cambodia (o)(op) Czech Republic (n)(d)(op)

INFOSAN (ffa)

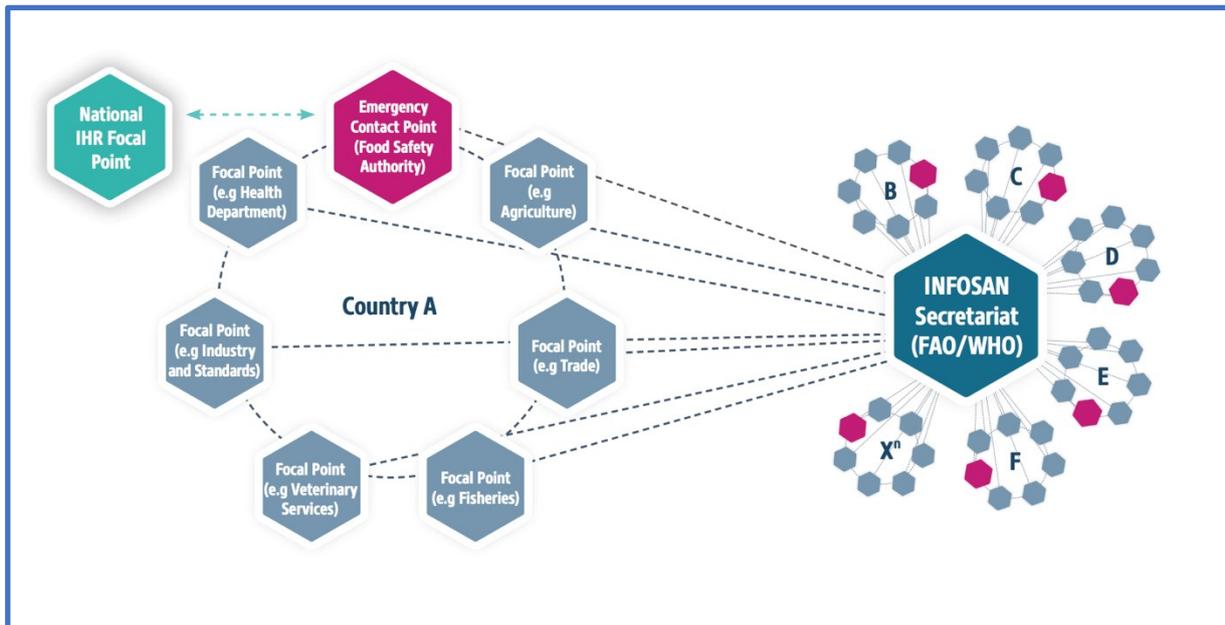
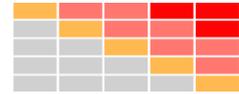
(n) Notifying | (o) Origin | (d) Distribution | (op) Operator
(ffup) Flagged for Follow-Up | (ffa) Flagged For Attention

Date of notification	31-01-2022 17:53:05
Notifying country	Czech Republic
Product	Longan fruit
Product category	Fruits and vegetables

INFOSAN is the International Food Safety Authorities Network, established in 2004 by the WHO (World Health Organization). INFOSAN has more than 600 members from 190 countries. In 2020, more than 120 countries reported via Infosan products exported to their respective countries.

INFOSAN is governed by WHO and FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations) with the INFOSAN Secretariat (WHO/ FAO) as the central contact point for Infosan members.

The following figure shows the structure and functioning of INFOSAN.



(Source: WHO, Infosan Member's Guide, March 2020)

Detailed information on INFOSAN is available in the [INFOSAN Member's Guide](#) on the WHO website. A [quarterly report on notifications](#) is also published there. The report for the period April to June 2022 lists 46 incidents involving the INFOSAN Secretariat.



For the EU, the exchange of information with non-EU countries is regulated in Article 21 of the [Commission Implementing Decision 2019/300](#) establishing a general plan for food and feed safety crisis management.



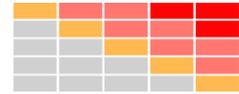
4. The WHO International Network of Food Safety Authorities (INFOSAN) shall be used when trade from or to third countries is affected by the hazard involved without prejudice to the need for additional bilateral exchange of information with trade partners and competent authorities in third countries.

Further information on this topic "[Looking Inside the International \(INFOSAN\)](#)" in the Journal of



can also be found in the article [Food Safety Authorities Network](#) Food Protection from 2020.

Please forward your suggestions, questions and requests regarding this newsletter directly to: info@safefood-online.de



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