



Issue | November 2023



# NEWS LETTER

## Dear Safefood-Online users,

In November, there were 432 new notifications in Safefood-Online. The evaluations can be found again under point 1 in this newsletter.

News on pesticides and contaminants" (point 2) provides information on the current status of the proposed regulation on the sustainable use of plant protection products and the status of the further authorisation of glyphosate. We also report on the "European Partnership for the Risk Assessment of Chemicals" (PARC) project.

We have again linked news around Food Safety and Food Fraud under point 3 linked.

Point 4 presents the "One Health European Joint Programme and informs about the corresponding conference "One Health for all, all for one Health"

As part of the **World Antimicrobial Awareness Week (WAAW)** from 18 - 24 November 2023, the German Federal Office of Consumer Protection and Food Safety (BVL) organised the WAAW-Event:

**Combating Antimicrobial Resistance – Strategies and Challenges**

Federal Office of Consumer Protection and Food Safety

**PROGRAMME - DAY 1**  
20.11.2023

12.00 - 12.50 Registration  
13.00 - 13.15 Welcome speech Friedel Cramer, President, BVL  
13.15 - 13.30 Welcome speech SES Bender, Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture, Germany

**Section "One Health"**  
13.30 - 13.55 Ana Luisa Ferreira Mateus, WOAH - "WOAH and AMR: what we have learnt over the last few years"  
14.00 - 14.25 Bernd-Alois Tenhagen, Speaker IACRA - "Investigating the association of antimicrobial consumption and resistance in humans and animals on the European level - The IACRA-reports"  
14.30 - 14.55 Ed Topp, INRAE, France - "The environmental dimension of antimicrobial resistance"  
15.00 - 15.25 Guido Werner, RKI - "Antimicrobial resistance across sectors - the devil is in the (molecular) detail"  
15.30 - 15.45 Short discussion Section "One Health"  
15.45 - 16.15 Coffee Break

**Section "European Medicines Agency Network"**  
16.15 - 16.40 Thomas Heberer, BVL - "Antimicrobial Resistance: A key area of the European Medicines Agency Regulatory Network Strategy (EMANS)"  
16.45 - 17.10 Maria Jesús Lamas Diaz, HMA, AEMPS Spain - "National Competent Authorities addressing AMR: cooperation and coordination among member states"  
17.15 - 17.40 Zoltan Kunzsg, EMA - "The latest AMR related activities of the European Medicines Agency - Implementation of the Regulation (EU) 2019/18"  
17.45 - 18.00 Short discussion "Section European Medicines Agency Network"  
18.30 Dinner

**WAAW" Event**  
Combating Antimicrobial Resistance – Strategies and Challenges  
20. - 21. November 2023  
Berlin

**HANDLE ANTIMICROBIALS WITH CARE**

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\* World AMR Awareness Week

News Medical Life Science had an **interview** with Kitty van Weezenbeek, Director "Surveillance, Prevention and Control of AMR" at the WHO.

We hope that also this issue of the Safefood-Online Newsletter is interesting for you and we are of course looking forward to your opinion.

Your Safefood-Online Team

**Combating Antimicrobial Resistance - Strategies and Challenges.** The programme of the two-day event can be found [here](#). The **presentations** are also available on the BVL website.

# 1. Notifications in Safefood-Online: November 2023

Compared to the last month the number of new notifications in Safefood-Online decreased slightly in November:

- November: 432 notifications
- October: 455 notifications
- September 373 notifications

The notifications are divided into:

- 124 alerts
- 153 border rejections
- 155 information messages

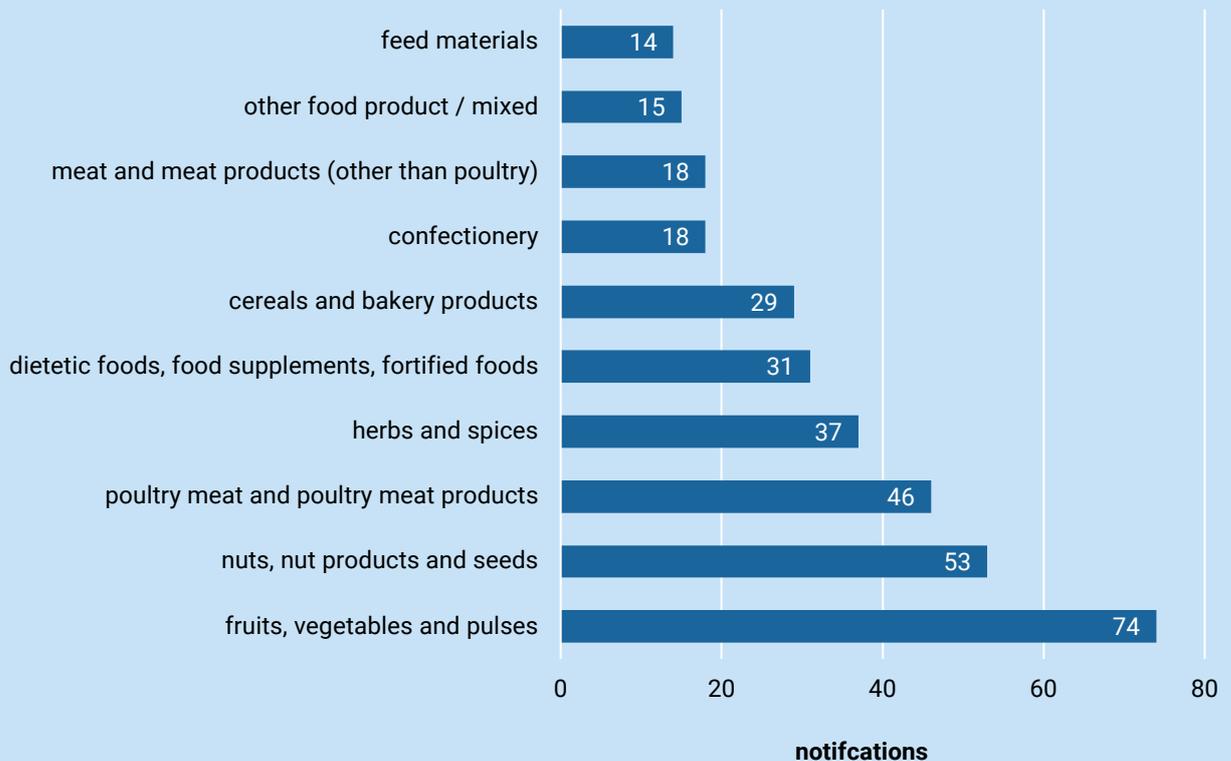


## Remark:

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.

Fruits, vegetables and pulses remains in first place in the evaluation by product category with 74 notifications. 47 notifications concerned findings of pesticides, 14 of which were due to chlorpyrifos residues. The nuts, nut products and seeds product group is in second place with 53 notifications, followed by the product category poultry meat and poultry meat products with 46 notifications:

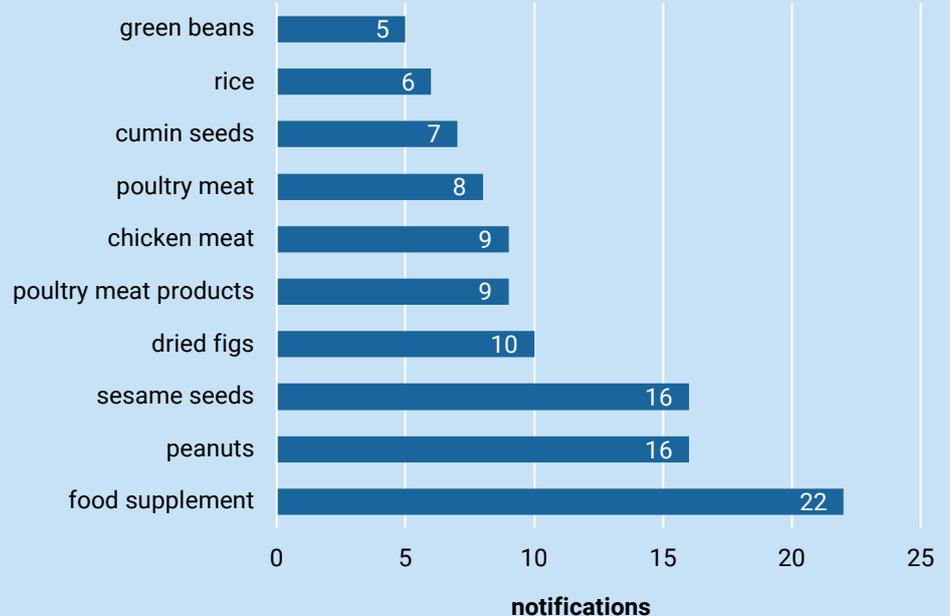
## Notifications November 2023: Top 10 product categories



# 1. Notifications in Safefood-Online: November 2023

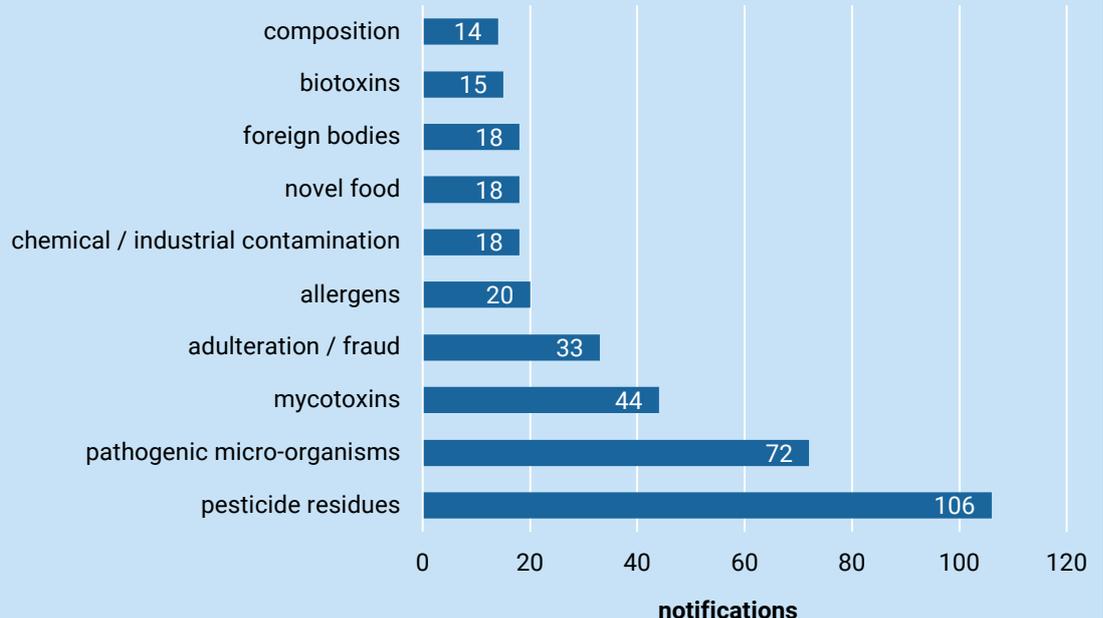
Food supplements are in first place in the evaluation by product with 22 notifications, followed by sesame seeds and peanuts with 16 notifications each. In the case of sesame seeds, missing (health) certificates were the reason for notification in 12 cases and salmonella in 4 cases:

## Notifications November 2023: Top 10 products



In the evaluation of notifications by hazard category, pesticides are in first place with 106 notifications. 39 notifications related to chlorpyrifos and 20 to chlorate (poultry meat and poultry meat products from China). Pathogenic micro-organisms and mycotoxins are following with 72 notifications with 44 notifications:

## Notifications November 2023: Top 10 hazard categories

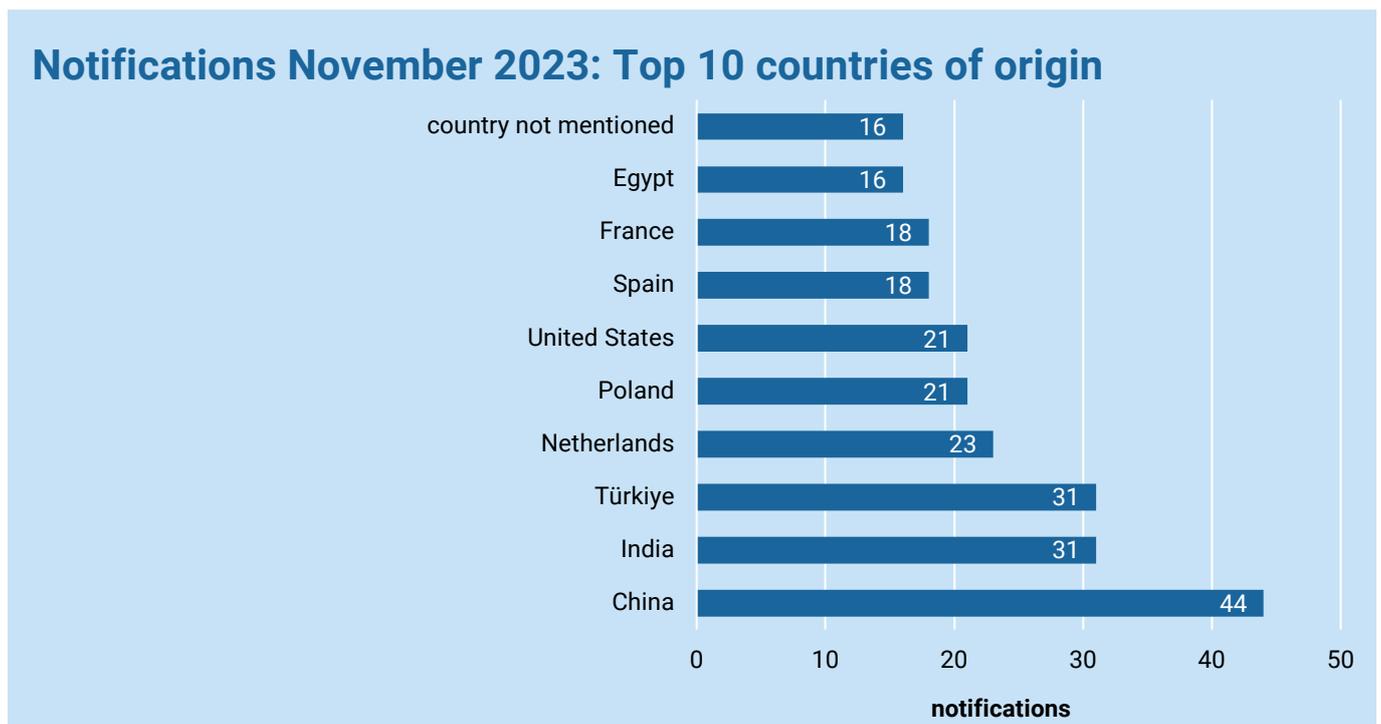


# 1. Notifications in Safefood-Online: November 2023

As in October, the hazards with the most notifications in November were salmonella (47 notifications), chlorpyrifos (39 notifications) and aflatoxins (32 notifications):



Finally, the notifications are evaluated according to the country of origin of the products:



In 44 notifications, the products came from China. India followed in second place with 31 notifications and Turkey in third place, also with 31 notifications.

## 2. Update on pesticides and contaminants



### Reducing the use of plant protection products in the EU

On Wednesday, 22 November 2022, the European Parliament voted against the proposed regulation on the sustainable use of plant protection products in the EU:

299 members voted against  
207 members supported the proposal  
121 members abstained from voting

Further information on the project can be found on the EU's website "[Sustainable use of pesticides](#)".

Press comments:  
Feed-Navigator: [MEPs reject bill to cut pesticide use in half](#)

### Glyphosate Update

On 13 October 2023, the Member States voted on the **draft regulation** submitted by the Commission. See also the **Annex to the draft regulation**. As there was neither a qualified majority for nor against the proposed regulation, the EU Commission referred the regulation to the Appeal Committee, which met on 16 November 2023. The Appeal Committee did not issue an opinion (i.e. there was neither a qualified majority for or against the Commission's proposal).

In line with EU legislation, the Commission is now obliged to take a decision before 15 December 2023, when the current approval period expires. Based on the comprehensive assessments carried out by EFSA and the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) together with the

Member States, the Commission will now proceed with the renewal of the authorisation for a period of ten years under certain conditions and restrictions. See also the **Summary Report of the Appeal Committee**.

In line with EU law, the Commission was obliged to take a decision before December 15, 2023 (the expiry of the current approval deadline). Based on the comprehensive assessments carried out by EFSA and the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) together with the Member States, the Commission has now extended the authorisation for a period of ten years under certain conditions and restrictions. The corresponding **Implementing Regulation 2023/2660** was published in the Official Journal of the European Union on November 29, 2023.

Further information on the glyphosate authorisation process can be found [here](#).

### European Partnership for the Assessment of Risks from Chemicals (PARC)

The project "**European Partnership for the Risk Assessment of Chemicals**" analyses the effects of chemicals on humans and the environment. See also



Source: EU-PARC Website

the BfR communication "**The German PARC National Hub**".

Under the leadership of the BfR and the Portuguese authority INSA, the **PARCopedia** platform was set up to serve knowledge management and the exchange of information on the risk assessment of chemicals.



## Food Safety

- 🕒 EFSA: Microbiological hazards associated with the use of water in the post-harvest handling and processing operations of fresh and frozen fruits, vegetables and herbs
- 🕒 EFSA: Risks for animal health related to the presence of ochratoxin A (OTA) in feed
- 🕒 EFSA: Annual Report of the Scientific Network on BSE-TSE 2023
- 🕒 Pro Veg International: Plant-based foods in Europe: What do consumers want?
- 🕒 German BfR: Germs in food - food-borne infections and how to prevent them
- 🕒 Food Standards Australia-New Zealand (FSANZ): Annual Report 2022-2023
- 🕒 EFSA: Scientific opinion on the tolerable upper intake level for folate
- 🕒 UK: Our Food 2022 - Executive Summary
- 🕒 Flaxseed allergy on the rise, study claims
- 🕒 German BfR: Omega-3 fatty acid supplements can increase the risk of atrial fibrillation in heart patients
- 🕒 ECDC: Antimicrobial resistance in the EU/EEA (EARS-Net) - Annual epidemiological report for 2022
- 🕒 ECDC: Antimicrobial resistance targets: how can we reach them by 2030?
- 🕒 German BfR: ZooNotify: New data portal makes the occurrence of zoonosis pathogens and their resistances visible
- 🕒 Food Drink Europe Position Paper: New Genomic Techniques
- 🕒 Food Standard Scotland: Risk assessment to support development of advice and guidance to manage outbreaks of norovirus in oysters
- 🕒 EFSA: Annual Report of the Scientific Network on Microbiological Risk Assessment 2023



## Food Fraud

- 🕒 UK: The National Food Crime Unit has launched an investigation into alleged food fraud after claims a poultry company has been 'misrepresenting' housed birds as free range
- 🕒 Device shows promise in determining Food Fraud more accurately
- 🕒 Lithuania: 18 t of food with fake expiry dates found in warehouse
- 🕒 DG Health and Food Safety: Overview report Fighting fraudulent practices in the agri-food chain
- 🕒 JRC-Technical Report: Fighting fraudulent and deceptive practices in the agri-food chain

## 4. Topic of the month

### One Health European Joint Programme



The “European One Health Joint Programme” was launched at the beginning of 2018 to support research into food-borne zoonoses, antibiotic resistance and new infection risks. Further information on the background to the One Health project can be found on the websites of [the EU Commission](#) and the [“One Health European Joint Programme”](#).

On 13. November 2023, the conference “One Health for all, All for One Health” took place in Luxembourg under the auspices of the EU Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety. The agenda and presentations can be found [here](#).



The [final report of the One Health EJP project](#) was published in September 2023. Among other things, the report presents the research results from 30 projects

In Germany, the Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR), the Friedrich Loeffler Institute (FLI) and the Robert Koch Institute were involved in the project. See also the BfR's [communication 54/2023](#) from October 31, 2023

In issue 6 of June 2023, the German health journal “Gesundheitsblatt” also devoted several articles to the topic of “One Health”. The articles can be found [here](#) if you are interested.



### Feedback

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