

Fraud in the food chain and consequences for food safety

Welcome and introduction to the symposium
objectives

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In the following table, you can see the food fraud cases detected in March 2022. Please be aware that cases are not limited to the month and may have occurred over a longer period.

| IFS Product Scope | Ingredient | Reason | Country | Detected in | Source |
|-------------------|--------------------|----------------------------------|----------------|-------------|----------------------|
| | Various food | Adulterated with colours | India | Mar 22 | Link |
| | Lamb meat products | Adulterated with beef and pork | United Kingdom | Mar 22 | Link |
| | Pickled turnips | Unapproved enhancement | Lebanon | Mar 22 | Link |
| | Apple Jam | Less apple than indicated | Czech Republic | Mar 22 | Link |
| | Chocolate bars | Counterfeit | United Kingdom | Mar 22 | Link |
| | Beverages | Counterfeit | Pakistan | Mar 22 | Link |
| | Wine | Counterfeit | United Kingdom | Mar 22 | Link |
| | Wine | Adulterated with sugar | Czech Republic | Mar 22 | Link |
| | Wine | Counterfeit | China | Mar 22 | Link |
| | Wine | Adulterated with sugar | Bulgaria | Mar 22 | Link |
| | Vegetable oils | Diluted with other oil | India | Mar 22 | Link |
| | Cumin | Adulterated with sesame | Spain | Mar 22 | Link |
| | Spices | Unauthorised flavour enhancement | Pakistan | Mar 22 | Link |
| | Tea powder | Adulterated with colours | India | Mar 22 | Link |

Food Fraud cases in March 2022

- Global problem
- Different food products involved
- Different reasons reported
 - Adulteration with colours, flavours, sugar, other (cheaper) animal, oil products
 - Counterfeit
 - Content not complying descriptions
 - Etc.

Drivers from different parts of the Food Fraud ecosystem

- **Socio-economic** drivers as price, consumer demand and attitudes, taxes, tariffs, food shortages, political and market instability
- Drivers from **food sector**: profit margins, production yields and capacity, ingredients shortages
- **Regulations and standards**: penalties, analytical capacity; gaps and lack of tracability, measures and contour measures

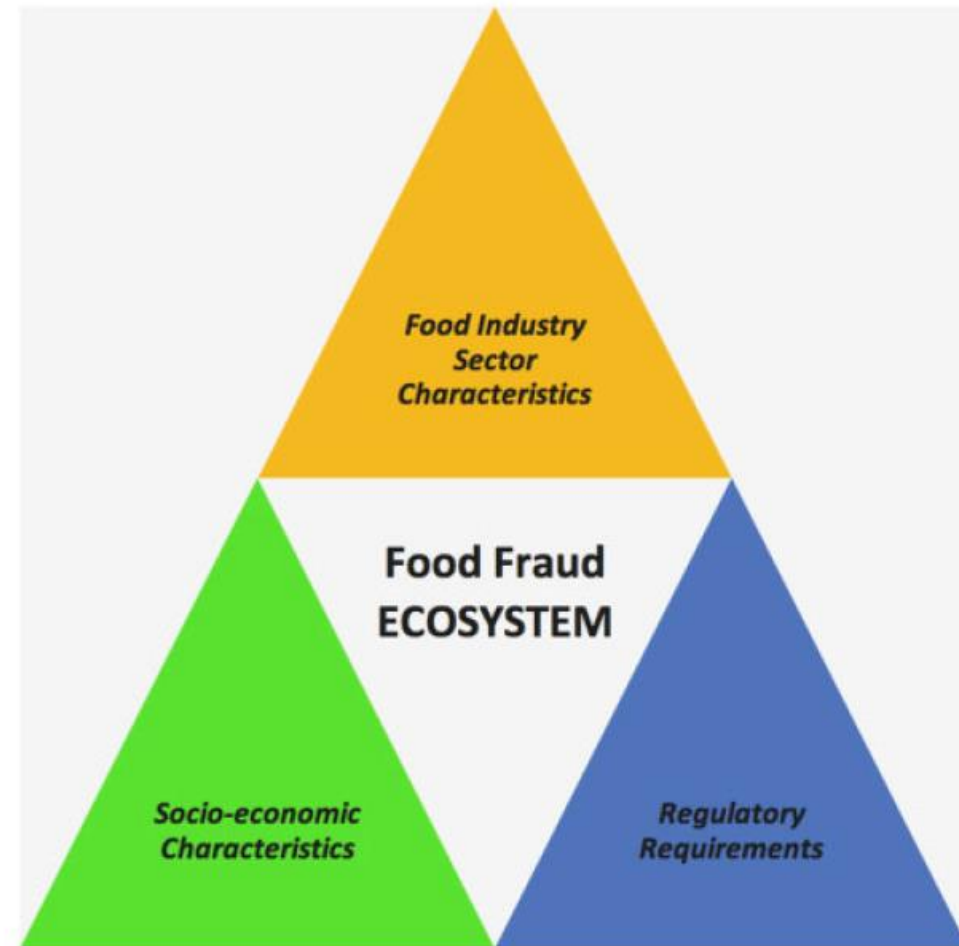


Figure 2. Factors influencing food fraud incidents, supporting predictive tools.

Food Fraud – a growing global threat

WHAT IS FOOD FRAUD?

- Intentional adulteration
- Impacts food supply chain, **public health**
- Causes **economic loss**



WHERE ARE WE NOW?

- Lacking awareness
- Facing emerging challenges
- Requires new approaches

HOW TO ADDRESS?

- Collaborative approach

GOVERNANCE

Regulation

Law enforcement

Public education

STRONGER CONSENSUS

Achievements: key principles for a global food fraud prevention and mitigation framework established

TECHNICAL INNOVATION

Detection technology

Preventative Systems

Objectives of the symposium

- Present the vision, position and actions of scientists, European and national authorities, stakeholders and consumers
- Present and discuss the main challenges in the fight against fraud in the food chain
- Raise awareness among operators of the importance of preventing and fighting fraud
 - To avoid possible food safety risks
 - To maintain food consumers' confidence

Content of the symposium (1/2)

- The (legislative) context
 - The **EU legislative** context of food fraud and the geopolitical context – The EU Agri-Food Fraud Network (E. Marin, EU Com, DG Health and Food Safety)
 - **Belgian** network to tackle fraud within the food chain (C. Leroy, FASFC, National Investigation Unit 'NIU')
- The analytical techniques
 - The analytical techniques to detect **food** fraud – the Knowledge Centre for Food Fraud and Quality (KC-FFQ) (F. Ulberth, ex-Joint Research Centre)
 - Analytical tools to detect **feed** fraud (M.-C. Lecrenier, CRA-W, EURL)
- The preventive detection and tools
 - EFSA **early detection** of food fraud related to possible emerging risks for the food/feed chain (B. Bottex, EFSA)
 - **Prevention**: The SSAFE tool (food fraud vulnerability assessment tool) – food integrity management systems (L. Jacxsens, UGent, P. Luning, WUR)

Content of the symposium (2/2)

- Stakeholders approaches, needs and expectations
 - **Primary production** (animal and plant) (A. Noiret, FWA and E. Goossens, Boerenbond)
 - **Agri-food industry** (J. Hallaert, FEVIA)
 - **Food retail** (G. Van Loock, COMEOS)
 - **Consumers** (J. Frère, Test-Achats)
- Round table discussion (F. Van Oss, moderator)

Thank you

Thanks to my colleagues from the
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