

Issue | April 2026



NEWS LETTER

Dear Safefood-Online users,

In April 2026, the EU Rapid Alert System recorded 528 new notifications. The evaluation can be found under point 1 in this newsletter.

Under 'Latest news on residues and contaminants' (point 2), we report on regulations and draft regulations amending maximum residue levels for pesticides. We also provide information on new limit values for glycidol and 3-MCPD in infant formula and certain foods used in the manufacture of infant formula

News around food safety and food fraud can be found under point 3.

The topic of the month (point 4) is the new option in the 'Search' module of Safefood-Online for saving search queries.

The "Anti-Deceptive Packaging Law" in Austria

In Austria, the so-called "Anti-Deceptive Packaging Act" came into force on April 1, 2026. It is intended to provide consumers with greater transparency regarding 'shrinkflation' – the reduction in product volume while keeping the price and packaging unchanged. The law applies to businesses in the food and drugstore retail sectors that offer goods for sale to consumers. Premises with a sales area of 400 m² or less are excluded from the obligations of this federal law, provided that these premises are not part of a company with more than five branches. The labelling must be clearly visible and remain in place for at least 60 days.

In addition to unresolved questions regarding practical implementation, there is also criticism that, at EU level, the area of misleading commercial practices is harmonised by the unfair business-to-consumer commercial practices Directive. Therefore, the

compatibility of the provisions of the Anti-Shrinkflation Act with EU law remains unclear.

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

1. RASFF Notifications April 2026

The number of new RASFF-notifications in April was slightly higher than in the previous two months:

- **April 2026:** 528
- March 2026: 487
- February 2026: 362

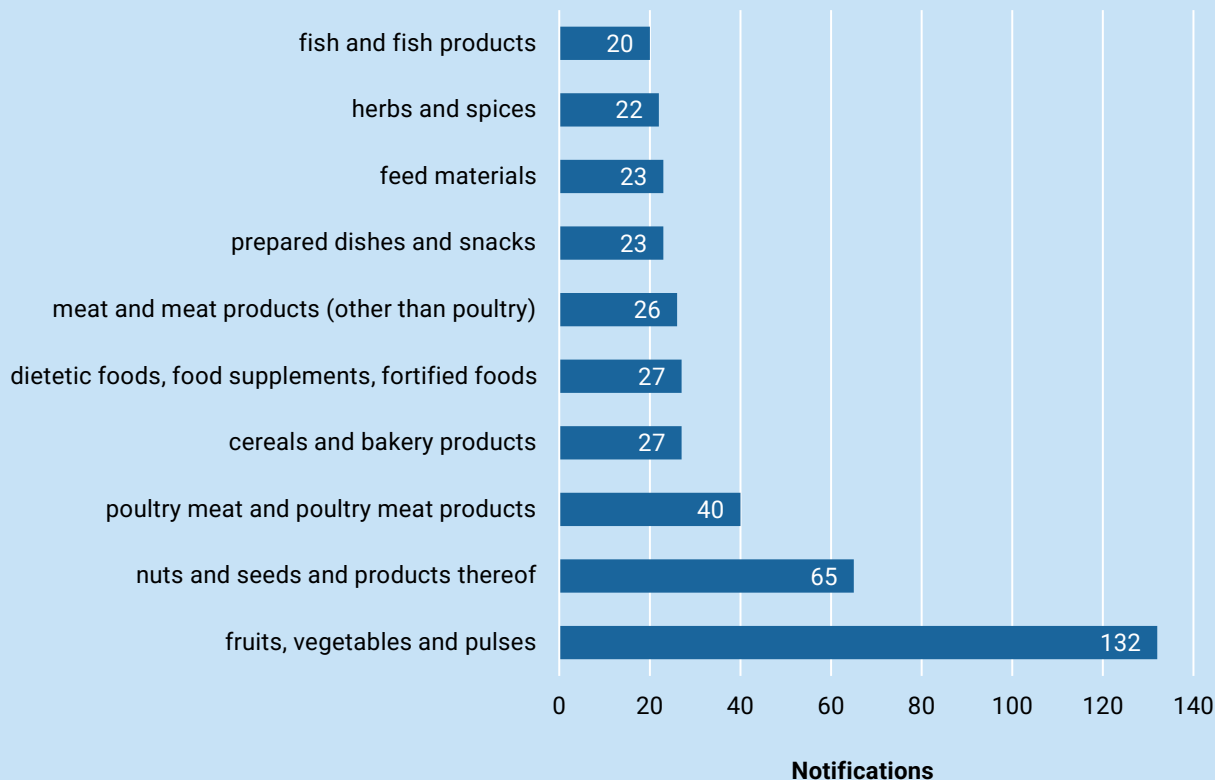
The RASFF-notifications are divided as follows:

- Alert notifications: 137
- Border rejections: 153
- Information messages: 238



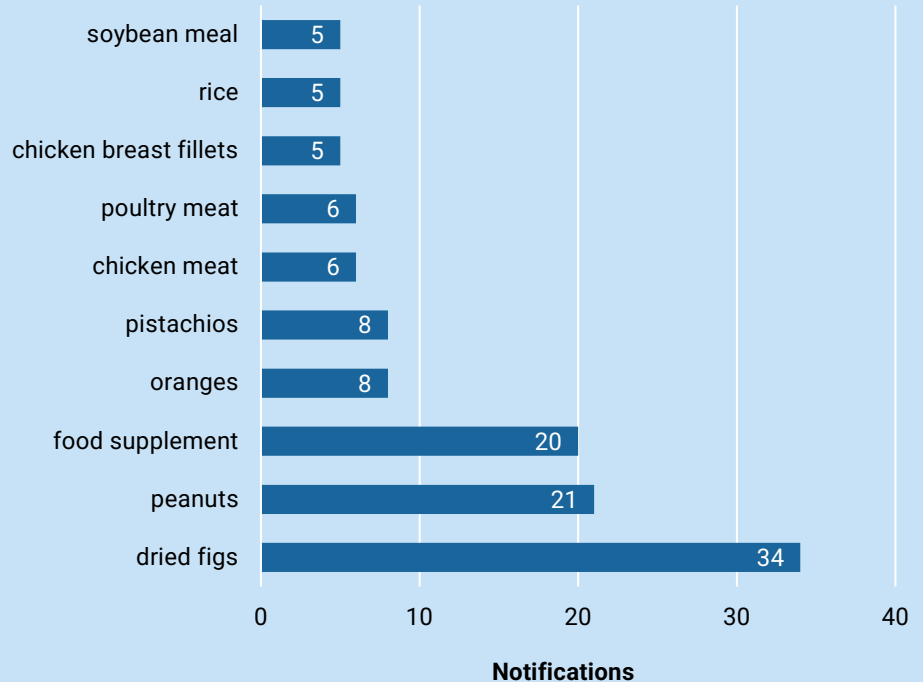
With 132 notifications, the product group vegetables and pulses is ranking first in the analysis by product category, followed by the product categories nuts, seeds and products thereof and poultry meat and poultry meat products in second and third place with 65 and 40 notifications:

RASFF-Notifications April 2026: Top 10 product categories



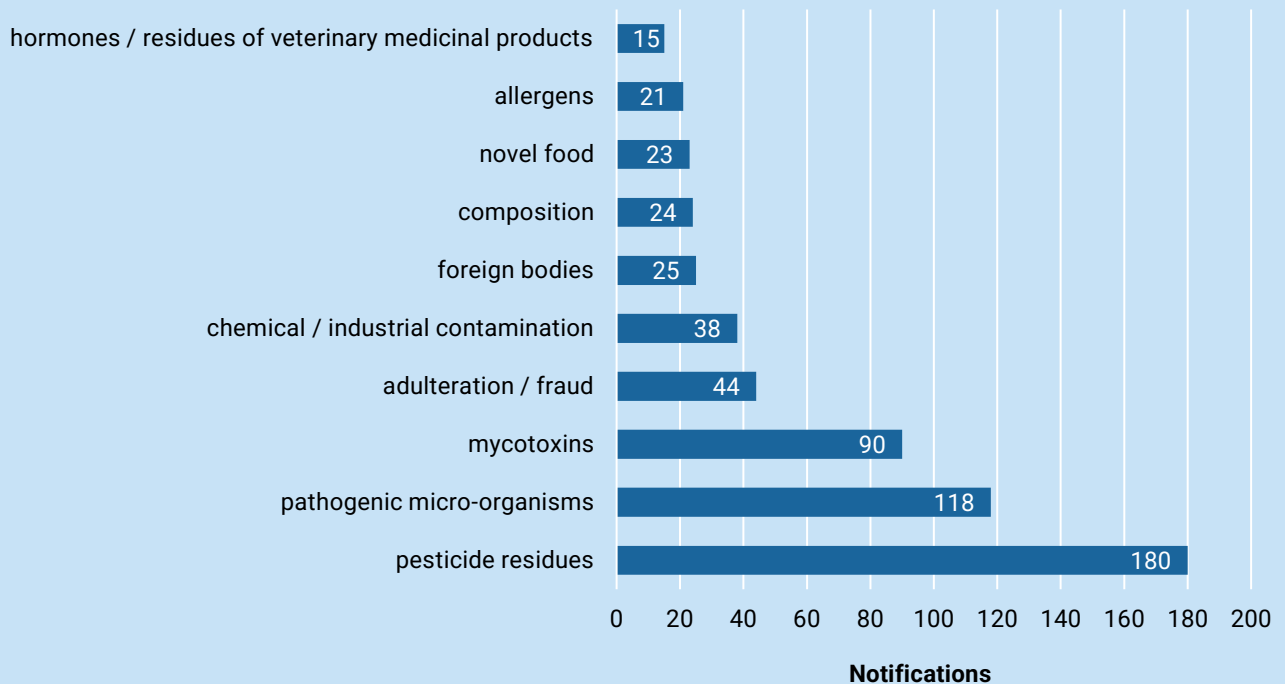
According to products, dried figs topped the list in April with 34 notifications. In all cases, aflatoxins and ochratoxin A were the reason for the notifications. All products originated from Türkiye. Peanuts and food supplements followed in second and third place with 21 and 20 notifications:

RASFF-Notifications April 2026: Top 10 products



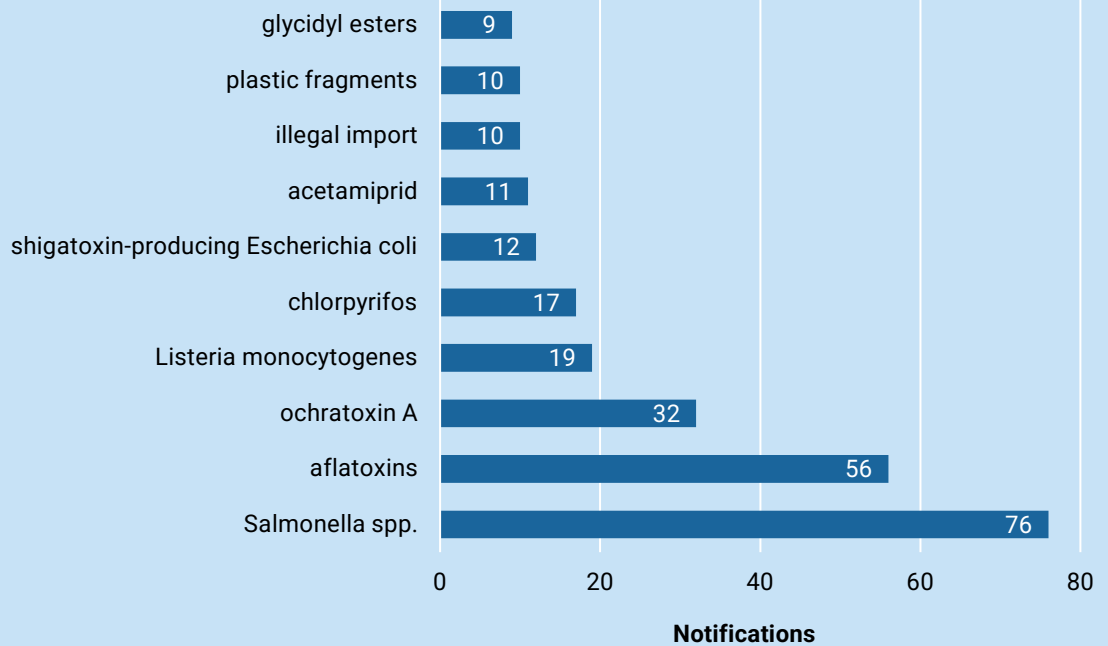
When analysed by hazard category, pesticides are in first place with 180 cases of maximum residue limits being exceeded or unauthorised pesticides being detected. 2 notifications relating to vine leaves had 16 exceedances of maximum levels or detections of unauthorised pesticides. Pathogenic micro-organisms are with 118 notifications in second place and mycotoxins with 90 notifications in third place:

RASFF-Notifications April 2026: Top 10 hazard categories



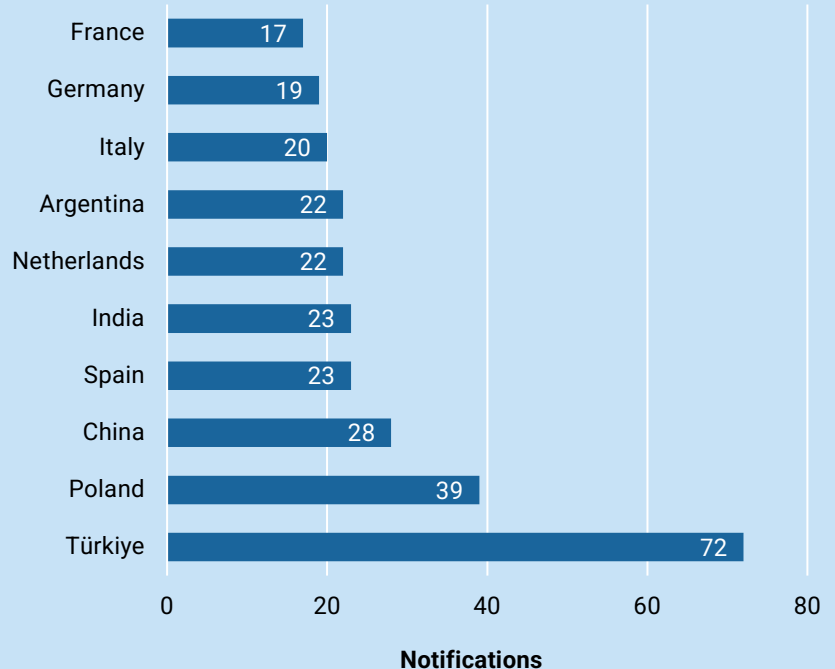
In terms of hazards, salmonella ranks first with 76 notifications, followed by aflatoxins in second place with 56 notifications and Ochratoxin A with 32 notifications

RASFF-Notifications April 2026: Top 10 hazards



Finally, the evaluation according to the country of origin of the products:

RASFF-Notifications April 2026: Top 10 countries of origin



72 of the notifications concerned products from Türkiye. Poland and China are following with 39 and 28 notifications.



Draft EU-Commission Regulation as regards maximum residue levels for alpha-cypermethrin and cypermethrin

The European Commission has published a proposal for a regulation amending Annexes II and III to Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 with regard to maximum residue levels for **alpha-cypermethrin and cypermethrin**. The MRLs can be found in the **annex** to the proposed regulation. The Regulation is intended to be published in October 2026 and will enter into force six months later.

New proposal at EU level to change the maximum residue level for difenoconazole

The European Commission has published a proposal for a regulation amending Annexes II and III to Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 with regard to maximum residue limits for **difenoconazole**. The MRLs can be found in the **annex** to the proposed regulation. The Regulation is intended to be published in October 2026 and will enter into force six months later.

The EU is lowering the maximum levels of glycidol and 3-MCPD in infant formula and certain foods used in the manufacture of infant

The European Union has adopted a **draft regulation** setting or reducing maximum levels for glycidyl fatty acid esters (expressed as glycidol) and 3-monochloropropanediol (3-MCPD) – the sum of 3-MCPD and 3-MCPD fatty acid esters – in certain processed cereal-based foods for infants and young children, as well as in vegetable oils and fats, fish oils and oils from other marine organisms used in the manufacture of these foods.

The new or amended maximum levels can be found in the **annex** to the draft regulation.

The new maximum levels are to apply from January 1, 2027.

Maximum levels for furan and furan derivatives in cereal-based foods for infants and young children

In a **draft regulation**, the EU proposes to set maximum levels for the sum of furan, 2-methylfuran and 3-methylfuran in processed cereal-based foods for infants and young children. The maximum levels can be found in the **annex** to the draft regulation. The new regulations are set to come into force on January 1, 2028.

Regulation (EU) 2026/742

Regulation (EU) 2026/742 of March 30, 2026 amends Annexes II and III to Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 with regard to the maximum levels of cyflufenamide, fenazaquim and nicotine in or on certain foodstuffs. For further information on the new maximum levels, please refer to the linked text of the Regulation.

Regulation (EU) 2026/876

Regulation (EU) 2026/876 of April 22, 2026 amends Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 with regard to the maximum residue levels for:

- acetamiprid,
- aclonifen,
- deltamethrin,
- oxathiapiprolin
- potassium phosphonates

in or on certain products. Details of the new maximum levels can be found in the linked text of the Regulation.

Regulation (EU) 2026/751

Regulation (EU) 2026/751 of March 31, 2026 corrected Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 with regard to the maximum residue levels of flupyradifuron and potassium phosphonate in or on certain products. For further information on the new maximum levels, please refer to the linked text of the Regulation

2. Update on pesticides and contaminants



Food Safety

- 🕒 USA: FDA recall system does not instill confidence in food safety because of recall time lags, recalls not publicly announced and investigations closed with few details
- 🕒 German BfR: Product recalls following the detection of cereulide in infant formula The BfR provides an overview of the situation and compiles key information
- 🕒 Quantitative evaluation of genotoxicity data for risk assessment and regulatory decision-making: Time for a paradigm shift
- 🕒 German BfR: Salmonella and chocolate products
- 🕒 EU-project Safe2Eat 2026
- 🕒 Field Trials and Baking Studies of Ultra-Low Asparagine, Genome Edited (CRISPR/Cas9) and Mutant (TILLING) Wheat
- 🕒 In collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Food Security and Nature (LVVN), Wageningen University & Research (WUR) will start new field trials with genetically modified potatoes in 2026
- 🕒 Will 'fat barley' become the first NGT plant grown in Europe?
- 🕒 Netherlands: Recent inspections reveal alarming lapses in food safety at Dutch fish shops, with over 70% failing to meet regulations
- 🕒 UN FAO chief economist, Maximo Torero, has warned that a prolonged Strait of Hormuz crisis could result in a "global agri-food catastrophe"
- 🕒 US: Cantaloupes recalled because of Salmonella
- 🕒 Health officials in Finland are searching for the source of a Salmonella outbreak that has sickened more than 30 people.
- 🕒 German BfR: How much mould toxin from cattle feed ends up in milk?
- 🕒 EFSA: The 2024 European Union monitoring report on food additives and flavourings (1st pilot)
- 🕒 Effect of cold plasma processing on the immunoreactivity, structure and functional properties of peanut protein

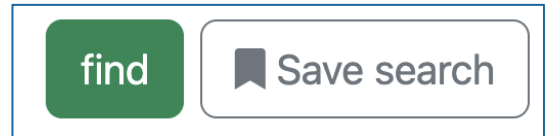


Food Fraud

- 🕒 [Inside the EU's AI Platform Offering Supply Chain Visibility](#)
- 🕒 [Food Authenticity Network \(FAN\): Inside the EU's AI Platform Offering Supply Chain Visibility](#)
- 🕒 [US: Shift to natural ingredients opens the door to food fraud](#)
- 🕒 [EU Agri-Food Fraud Report February 2026](#)
- 🕒 [Italy Approves Sweeping Law to Fight Food Fraud](#)
- 🕒 [Rat poison found in baby food in Austria - but how did it get there?](#)
- 🕒 [The approval of the "Agri-food Protection" bill introduces stricter control systems, strengthening traceability. Here are the changes introduced in the Criminal Code on fraud: what's changing for Italian olive oil?](#)

Safefood-Online: New tool added to the “Search” module

We are constantly working to improve our Safefood-Online database and are pleased to present a new tool in the “Search” module of Safefood-Online: it is now possible to save



search queries. Until a search has been saved, a new “Save search” field will appear next to the “Find” field. After entering the search criteria, clicking on the “Save search” field opens an input field for naming the search. If searches have already been saved, the entry can either be saved as a new search or an existing search can be modified or overwritten.

Once a search has been saved, two new fields – “Save search” and “Load/edit search” appear next to the ‘Find’ field. Clicking on “Load/edit search” opens the following screen:

Name	Status	Actions
RASFF-Ethylenoxide-Food	06.05.2026 16:05	Load [duplicate] [edit] [archive] [delete]
RASFF-Wine leaves-Food-Pesticides	06.05.2026 15:44	Load [duplicate] [edit] [archive] [delete]

Here you can select which saved search is to be loaded. Furthermore, saved searches can be duplicated, renamed, archived and deleted here. After modifying a loaded search, it can either be saved as a new search or used to overwrite an existing search.

Note: The end date of the search is always the current date on which the (saved) search is called up and should therefore not be changed. The start date can always be chosen freely and can also be changed.

Feedback

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

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