



HOT SOURCE

Global food integrity issues
and emerging risks

July - September 2019

Q3



Original thinking... applied

FOODCHAIN ID[®]
Seeing Food Clearly

www.globalhorizonscan.com



HorizonScan
Food Safety at Your Fingertips

The logo for HorizonScan features a white silhouette of a factory with two chimneys and a house with a chimney, set against a dark background. Below the silhouette, the company name 'HorizonScan' is written in a bold, white, sans-serif font, with the tagline 'Food Safety at Your Fingertips' in a smaller font underneath.

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Dear Reader

'Feeding Britain: Food Security after Brexit'

With the prospect of significant changes in UK trade arrangements on the horizon, along with ever greater pressures on public resources, food and drink businesses will have to become increasingly smart and creative if they wish to avoid becoming victims of fraud. However, with creative thinking and solutions to the problem, can also bring about new opportunities to add value to products and to increase levels of consumer trust through verification of the authenticity and integrity of products. And if businesses can also use that information to work with the authorities to help combat crime then we could all be on to a winner.

As we know the UK does not feed itself and the UK's domestic production of food has been steadily declining since the early 1980s; self-sufficiency is now, by value, only about 60%. If we consider the flow of unprocessed foods, the UK supplied less than half (49%) of its unprocessed food in 2016. (Source: DEFRA 2017).

HorizonScan can play a key part in the sharing of intelligence and data on emerging and increasing food safety issues. HorizonScan houses data since 1999 to date, a web-based food safety alerting tool of raw material and global commodity issues across all food integrity areas. The system will help keep you posted on hazard and risk assessments across all food sectors from around the world and specific issues that may concern you like fraud, microbial contaminants, residues of veterinary drugs, pesticide residues, mycotoxins, allergens, heavy metals, dioxins, PCBs and many more. Developed and researched by industry experts, these insights will keep you up to date with regulatory breaches and compliance (e.g. BRC v8), emerging risks in specific markets, industry developments and hazards focusing on food quality, safety and sustainability.

To learn more about HorizonScan, contact HorizonScan@foodchainid.com

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Food fraud issues:

- The Philippines Department of Agriculture has issued a ban on pork imports from Germany. The ban was implemented when 250Kg of pork coming from Germany was found to have come from Poland, one of the countries that has reported an outbreak of African Swine Fever.
- In close cooperation with Eurojust, Italian and Serbian national authorities unravelled a transnational large-scale fraud in the production and trade of allegedly organic food and beverages from rotten apples.
- Traces of African Swine Fever (ASF) virus have been found in meat that was brought into Northern Ireland illegally by passengers.
- Two leading industry officials in India said, on condition of anonymity, that a large proportion of exported cumin seeds are adulterated with grass seeds and dill seeds coloured with charcoal dust.
- More than 76,025 pounds of catfish products that were imported from Bangladesh and Myanmar are under recall in nine states. In addition to violating the export eligibility status, the fish was not presented for import re-inspection into the United States, according to a recall notice posted by the USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service.
- Meat product survey of the Egyptian market reveals widespread use of non-muscle tissues.
- Food fraud involving adulterated saffron sold in West Sussex has led to the seizure of stock worth up to £750,000 at a clandestine factory in Alicante, Spain, and the arrest of two individuals.



Emerging issues:

- An emerging issue has been picked up by HorizonScan following the release of some recalls in Canada due to the presence of *Listeria monocytogenes* in kale.
- Following the release of a RASFF report, an emerging issue has been picked up in HorizonScan concerning the presence of Arsenic in feed additive from Turkey.
- Genetically modified material in maize flour and meal from Lesotho has been notified by Norway for the first time.
- Unauthorised ingredient (perilla) in frozen breaded Vannamei shrimps (*Litopenaeus vannamei*) from Vietnam, dispatched from China (Hong Kong), has been considered an emerging issue by HorizonScan.
- Spain is reporting an emerging issue about too high content of sulphite (207 mg/kg - ppm) in frozen shrimps (*Aristeus Varidens*) from Angola.

Increasing issues:

- Ciguatera fish poisoning is becoming an increasing risk in Europe with a 60% rise of ciguatoxin (CTX) cases in the last decade, according to AESAN (Spanish Agency for Food Safety and Nutrition).
- An increasing issue has been picked up in HorizonScan concerning the presence of *Salmonella enterica* in duck meat from Hungary.
- Spain has seen an increasing number of reports over poor temperature controls of frozen cephalopods from Morocco.
- Number of reports alerting about undeclared milk in organic vegan spreads has increased during the last twelve months. Singapore, Israel, Croatia, Spain, Hungary, Finland, Luxembourg and Australia are the countries notifying the issue.
- Several countries (The Netherlands, France, Germany, Spain, Austria, United Kingdom, Greece and Poland) are seeing an increase in the number of reports regarding *Salmonella* in black pepper.
- Unauthorised novel food ingredient cannabidiol (CB) in food supplements has been considered an increasing issue by HorizonScan after several countries have reported the incident.
- Number of reports over high content of iodine in seaweed from China has increased during the last twelve months.



Q3 results 2019

Quarter change
from Q2 2019

Annual change
from Q3 2018

	Poultry & poultry products	↓ 20.4%	↑ 18.8%
	Seafood	↑ 41.7%	↓ 11.1%
	Milk & dairy products	↓ 14.5%	↑ 9.8%
	Meat & meat products (excluding poultry)	→ 0.0%	↑ 7.5%
	Herbs & spices	↓ 35.8%	↑ 17.3%
	Fruit & vegetables	↓ 8.0%	↓ 42.2%
	Nuts, nut products & seeds	↓ 32.4%	↓ 40.7%



Poultry meat and poultry products

Main issues reported during Q3 2019

Total of 133 issues

Key	Commodity	%	Main issues
●	Meat - chicken	46.6	<i>Salmonella</i>
●	Meat products (pate, burgers etc)	27.8	Foreign bodies, <i>Salmonella</i> or <i>Listeria</i>
●	Eggs	9	<i>Salmonella</i>
●	Meat - duck	5.3	<i>Salmonella</i>
●	Poultry meat products – sausages	4.5	<i>Listeria</i>
●	Eggs (dried/ powdered)	3	<i>Salmonella</i>
●	Meat – turkey	3	<i>Salmonella</i>












Seafood

Main issues reported during Q3 2019

Total of 325 issues

Key	Commodity	%	Main issues
	Fish - fresh/frozen	45.5	Mercury, altered organoleptics or histamine
	Fish - smoked/cured/dried	13.5	<i>Listeria</i> or fraudulent documentation
	Crustaceans (crab, shrimps etc.)	12.6	Altered organoleptics or vet drugs
	Bivalve molluscs (mussels etc.)	12.6	<i>E. coli</i> , <i>Norovirus</i> or PSP
	Cephalopods (octopus, squid etc.)	8	Altered organoleptics or Cadmium
	Other sea food	5.2	<i>Clostridium botulinum</i>
	Seaweed, algae, carrageenan	2.5	Iodine



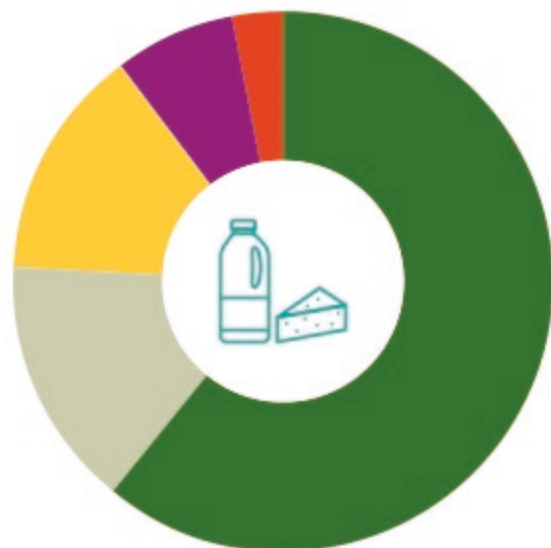


Milk & dairy products

Main issues reported during Q3 2019

Total of 116 issues

Key	Commodity	%	Main issues
●	Milk products - cheese	89.2	<i>Listeria</i> or <i>Salmonella</i>
●	Milk products - yoghurt	21.6	Foreign bodies
●	Milk products - ice-cream etc.	20.3	Foreign bodies or coliform bacteria
●	Milk - bovine (cow)	10.8	<i>Listeria</i>
●	Milk products - butter and ghee	4.1	Adulteration



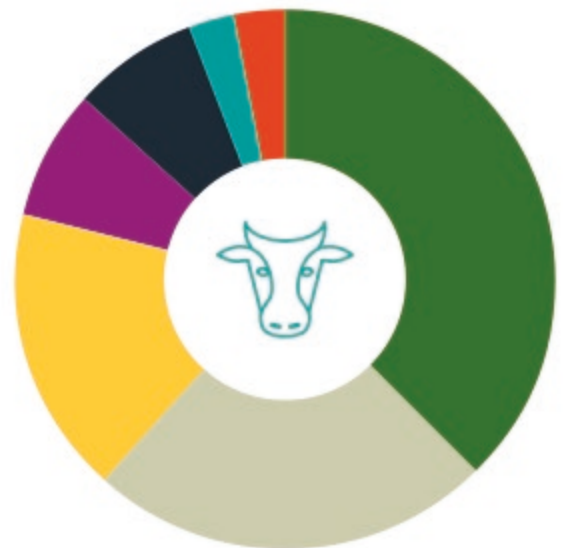


Meat and meat products (other than poultry)

Main issues reported during Q3 2019

Total of 189 issues

Key	Commodity	%	Main issues
●	Meat products – preparations	34.9	<i>Listeria</i> or <i>Salmonella</i>
●	Meat products – sausages	22.2	Foreign bodies
●	Meat - bovine (beef, veal, cow)	15.9	<i>E. coli</i>
●	Minced meat - (beef, veal, cow)	7.4	Foreign bodies
●	Meat – porcine (pork, pig)	6.9	Veterinary drugs
●	Meat, minced, ground - mixed	2.6	<i>Salmonella</i> or foreign bodies
●	Meat products - pork hams	2.6	<i>Listeria</i>






Herbs & spices

Main issues reported during Q3 2019

Total of 120 issues

Key	Commodity	%	Main issues
	Spice mixtures & curry powder	17.5	<i>Salmonella</i> or additive
	Paprika and chilli powder	11.7	<i>Salmonella</i> , aflatoxins or ochratoxin A
	Ginger	10.8	Pesticides, <i>Salmonella</i> or lead
	Pepper, black, pink and white	9.2	<i>Salmonella</i>
	Oregano	9.2	Natural toxicants
	Coriander leaves (cilantro)	5	Pesticides
	Nutmeg whole and ground	5	Aflatoxins
	Basil	5	Microbiological contamination





Fruit & vegetables

Main issues reported during Q3 2019

Total of 296 issues

Key	Commodity	%	Main issues
●	Chilli peppers - fresh or dried	9.1	Pesticides or aflatoxins
●	Peppers (sweet or bell)	6.8	Pesticides
●	Vine fruits – raisins	5.7	Ochratoxin A
●	Other dried or candied fruits	4.7	Undeclared sulphites or pesticides
●	Mangoes - fresh or dried	4.1	Pesticides
●	Figs – dried	4.1	Aflatoxins
●	Cultivated mushrooms and fungi	3.4	Pesticides or irradiation
●	Peas without pods	3	Pesticides





Nuts, nut products and seeds

Main issues reported during Q3 2019

Total of 80 issues

Key	Commodity	%	Main issues
●	Pistachios	31.3	Aflatoxins
●	Almonds	15	Aflatoxins
●	Apricot kernels	10	Hydrocyanic acid
●	Hazelnuts	6.3	Aflatoxins
●	Other tree nuts & mixed nuts	6.3	Unauthorised food additive
●	Melon (egusi) seeds	5	Aflatoxins or fraudulent documentation
●	Coconut juice, milk, cream or water	3.8	Mislabelling
●	Nut spreads and butters	3.8	Aflatoxins
●	Coconut - desiccated, dried, flour	3.8	Foreign bodies





KEY

'%' relates to the number of issues concerning that commodity in its group, for example 36% of all issues concerning nuts, nut products and seeds involved pistachios.

'Main issues' reflects the majority of issues reported for that commodity, but does not include every minor issue, for example, most reported issues concerning chicken meat were the presence of *Salmonella*.

'Issues' relates to food recalls, border rejections and other such notifications at a global level collated from over 90 official government and other additional reliable sources around the world.



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