

Parma, 19 March 2018
Ref. DD/LV/mm (2018) – out -19183618

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Re: Your request for public access to documents of 26 February 2018

Our ref.: PAD 2018/007

Dear Ms Aguilar García,

I refer to your public access to documents request submitted from the website "AsktheEU.org" and registered by EFSA on 25 February 2018, by means of which you requested access to "information about the olive oil fraud in the EU between the years 2010 and 2017 (inclusive).

For each case in which the product didn't meet the regulatory quality standard, please also provide with further information regarding:

- *Year in which the case was registered by the sanitary authority.*
- *The causes for not meeting the regulatory requirements:*
 - o *Labels without the European Union requirements.*
 - o *Products with a label establishing a superior quality for the product than it truly is.*
 - o *Adulteration of the product*
 - o *Deterioration of the product*
- *If the case was related to health issues*
- *The name of the product and the name of the supplier.*
- *The country of origin of the product.*
- *The number of units of the product registered in retailers in each of the countries.*

I would also appreciate it if you could provide me with any document about the monetary cost of the fraud of olive oil for the UE and its members."

Your request has been processed in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 regarding public access to documents¹ and we would like to provide you with a reply as follows.

As the reference body for risk assessment of food and feed safety in the European Union, EFSA delivers scientific opinions that play a key role in informing risk management decisions at European Union level. According to Article 22 of Regulation (EC) No 178/2002², EFSA provides scientific advice and scientific and technical support for the

¹ Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 May 2001 regarding public access to European Parliament, Council and Commission documents, OJ L 145, 31.5.2001, p. 43-48, applicable to EFSA.

² Regulation (EC) No 178/2002 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 January 2002 laying down the general principles and requirements of food law, establishing the European Food Safety Authority and laying down procedures in matters of food safety, OJ L 31, 1.2.2002, p. 1-24.

legislation and policies of the European Union in all fields that have a direct or indirect impact on food and feed safety. It provides independent scientific advice to the European Commission, European Parliament and Union Member States on all matters within these fields and scientific and technical support at the request of the Commission; further, it acts with a view to the identification of emerging risks and it communicates in the fields within its mission.

Please be informed that the European Union Member States are responsible for the enforcement of food and feed law, animal health and animal welfare rules and monitor and verify that the relevant requirements thereof are fulfilled by business operators at all stages of production, processing and distribution³. The role of the EU is to assure that the control systems at national level are effective, a task which is carried out by the European Commission's Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety (DG SANTE, Directorate F). You may wish to consult the European Commission's website on food fraud⁴ to learn more about the EU control system for detecting and countering frauds in the food chain.

In this regard, and with a view to facilitating your search for information to the greatest extent possible, EFSA wishes to kindly draw your attention to the Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (RASFF)⁵. This resource is coordinated by the European Commission (DG SANTE, Directorate G) and enables urgent information about serious health risk deriving from food or feed and measures taken responding to such serious risks to be shared efficiently between EU Member States in order to permit swift reactions when risks to public health are detected in the food chain. The RASFF portal⁶ can be used to select a particular type of food in order to view the notifications that have been issued over time.

In conclusion, we regret to inform you that EFSA is not in possession of any documents falling in the scope of your request.

Finally, please do not hesitate to contact us at the below address for future public access to documents request you may have concerning documents in EFSA's possession.

Further correspondence must be sent to:

EFSA
Dirk Detken, Head of the Legal and Assurance Services
Via Carlo Magno 1/A
IT-43126 Parma
Italy

E-mail: EFSA.public.access.to.documents@efsa.europa.eu

Yours sincerely,


Dirk Detken

Cc: T. Robinson (EFSA)

³ Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2004 on official controls performed to ensure the verification of compliance with feed and food law, animal health and animal welfare rules OJ L 165, 30.4.2004, p. 1-141.

⁴ Please find more information on the European Commissions' website:
https://ec.europa.eu/food/safety/food-fraud_en

⁵ Further information about the RASFF can be found on the European Commissions' website:
https://ec.europa.eu/food/safety/rasff_en.

⁶ The RASFF portal can be accessed directly by opening the following hyperlink:
<https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/rasff-window/portal/?event=SearchForm&cleanSearch=1>