



Bundesamt für  
Verbraucherschutz und  
Lebensmittelsicherheit



# **Food Fraud – A New Challenge?**

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## Scandals on food fraud since 1981 (examples)

- Olive oil in Spain in 1981 (25.000 poisoned, 750 victims died)
- Methyl alcohol in red wine (Italy 1986, 29 victims died)
- Rotten meat or meat exceeding the best before date (Germany 2005)
- Dioxins in vegetable feed fat for pigs and poultry (Germany 2011, 4760 farms affected)
- Horse meat in beef products (Europe 2013)



# The definition is still under discussion!

**"Food fraud is an intentional violation of the rules referred to in Article 1(1) of Regulation 882/2004, for the purpose of financial or economic gain."**

(European Commission, proposal)

## Activities on European level since 2013

- **Coordinated control plans in 2013 and 2014**
- **Food fraud network (contact points in all Member States)**
- **Food fraud information exchange network**
- **Food Law Enforcement Practitioners (FLEP)**



## First coordinated EU control plan 2013

with a view to establish the prevalence of fraudulent practices in the marketing of certain foods

### Action 1: tests for the presence of horse DNA

- Recommended sample number for Germany: 150 samples
- Timeframe: March 2013
- Total number of samples: 878
- Pre-packed: 798
  - Non-compliant: 26 (3.3 %)
- Non-pre-packed: 80
  - Non-compliant: 3 (3.8 %)

### Action 2: tests for residues of phenylbutazone

- Timeframe: March to April 2013
- Number of samples : 73
- Non-compliant: 0

## Second coordinated control plan 2014

with a view to establishing the prevalence of fraudulent practices in the marketing of certain foods

### Commission Recommendation

- Timeframe:  
21 April to 16 June 2014
- Total number of samples for the whole EU: 2300
- Report to the COM:  
by 22 July 2014

### Implementation in Germany

- Timeframe:  
28 April to 23 Mai 2014
- Number of samples: 150

EU financial contribution:

Reimbursement of 50% of the costs of the tests, maximum 60 € per test

## Think like a criminal! What are the facts?

- Long and complicated food chains
- Economic advantages of high value
- Minor risk of disclosure
- Routine methods in official control laboratories do not cover detection of deception in most samples
- Poor international cooperation, different supervision systems

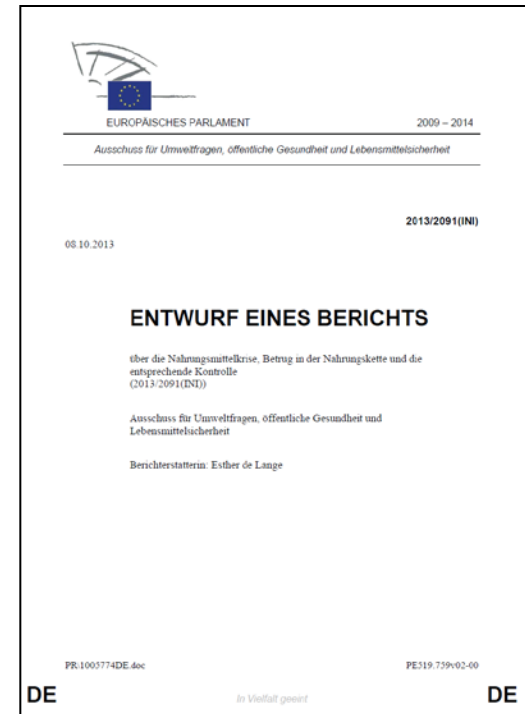




# Report by European Parliament (draft)

Ten products which probably might be affected by food fraud activities:

1. Olive oil
2. Fish
3. Organic food
4. Milk
5. Cereals
6. Honey and maple syrup
7. Coffee and tea
8. Spices like saffron and chilli powder
9. Wine
10. Special fruit juices





## Activities in Germany (national level)

- **Development of an early warning system in BVL.**  
**Interdisciplinary approach (participation of experts in the fields of food and feed safety, economy, statistics, customs and police services and public prosecutor's offices)**
- **Analyses of incidences in the past, evaluation of websites (for example [www.lebensmittelklarheit.de](http://www.lebensmittelklarheit.de))**
- **Coordination of activities on national level (coordinated programs)**
- **Publication of official methods for tests on authenticity**

# Early warning system in Germany

## Possible elements of an early warning system:

- **Issue monitoring**
- **Data analyses on international level**
- **Monitoring of new technologies**
- **Interviews with experts from industry, trade and control bodies**
- **Support of whistle blowers**
- **Evaluation of facts on a scientific basis**

# Is it really a new challenge?

## Ongoing activities in Germany:

- **Nation wide control programmes with possible relation to food fraud**
- **Support of whistle blowers (website provision on BVL homepage)**
- **Special task forces on Federal State level**

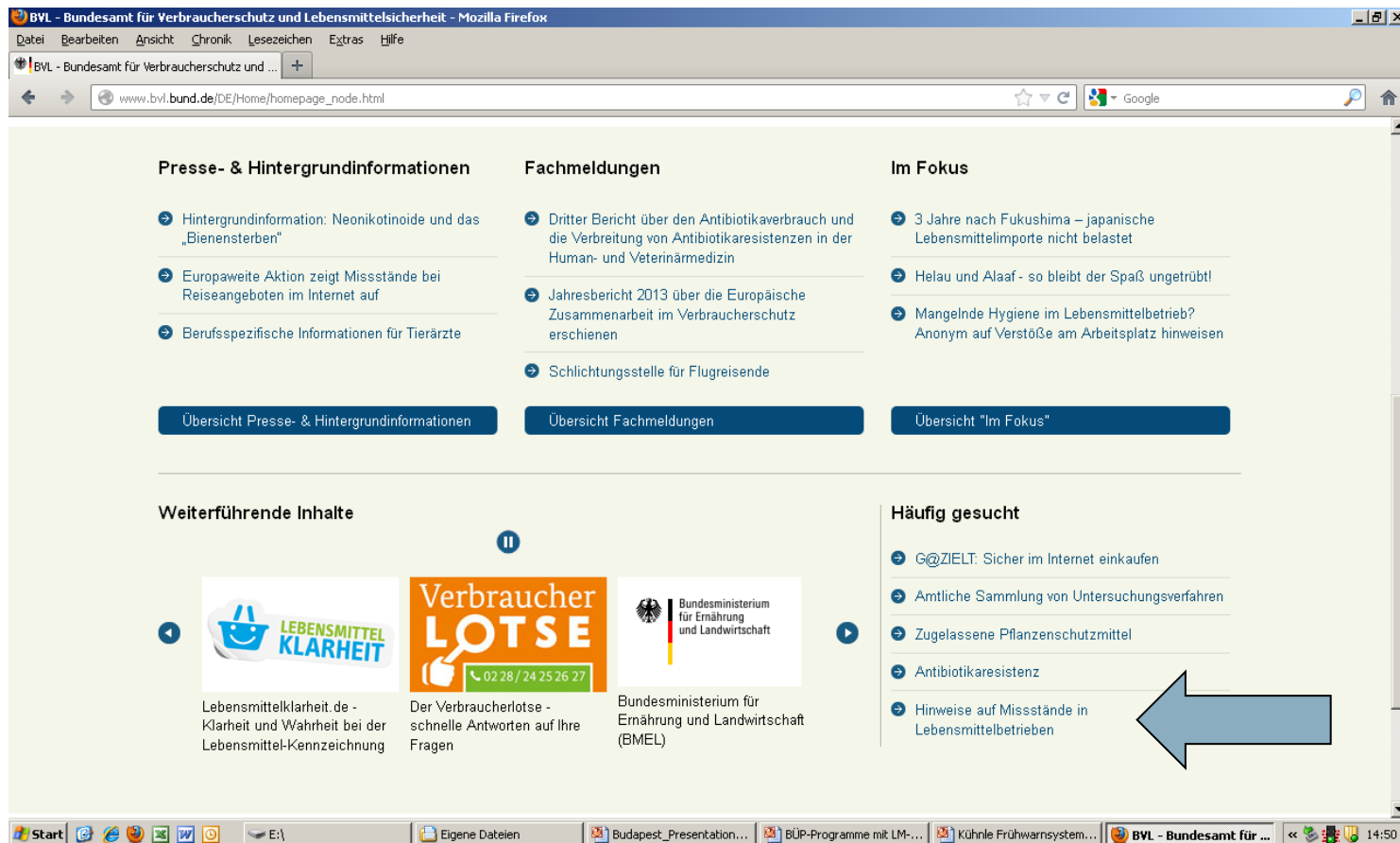
## Nation wide control programmes with possible relation to food fraud (1)

Jahr	Title of the programmes
2006	Carbon monoxide treatment of salmon and tuna
2006	Increased water content in boiled ham - improper addition of foreign protein
2007	Use of cheese imitations without labeling
2008	Labelling of vanilla in vanilla ice cream, vanilla pudding and custard
2008	"Low in sugar", "sugar free" and "no sugar added" in accordance with the Health Claim Regulation
2009	Use of starch in boiled sausages
2009	Quality of boiled ham and ham imitations in the catering

## Nation wide control programmes with possible relation to food fraud (2)

Jahr	Title of the programmes
2011	Fish species identification in fish portions labelled as sole in gastronomy
2012	Boiled sausage without labelling the use of poultry meat
2012	Imitated yogurt in gastronomy (yogurt with vegetable fat)
2014	Analysis of meat, meat products and ready meals which are labelled as "beef" on other, non-declared species (except for horse meat)
2014	Use of MSM (mechanically separated meat) in finely minced boiled sausage with emphasizing indication of quality

# Support of whistle blowers



**BVL - Bundesamt für Verbraucherschutz und Lebensmittelsicherheit - Mozilla Firefox**

Datei Bearbeiten Ansicht Chronik Lesezeichen Extras Hilfe

BVL - Bundesamt für Verbraucherschutz und ...

www.bvl.bund.de/DE/Home/homepage\_node.html

Google

**Presse- & Hintergrundinformationen**

- Hintergrundinformation: Neonikotinoide und das „Bienensterben“
- Europaweite Aktion zeigt Missstände bei Reiseangeboten im Internet auf
- Berufsspezifische Informationen für Tierärzte

Übersicht Presse- & Hintergrundinformationen

**Fachmeldungen**

- Dritter Bericht über den Antibiotikaverbrauch und die Verbreitung von Antibiotikaresistenzen in der Human- und Veterinärmedizin
- Jahresbericht 2013 über die Europäische Zusammenarbeit im Verbraucherschutz erschienen
- Schlichtungsstelle für Flugreisende

Übersicht Fachmeldungen

**Im Fokus**

- 3 Jahre nach Fukushima – japanische Lebensmittelimporte nicht belastet
- Helau und Alaaf - so bleibt der Spaß ungetrübt!
- Mangelnde Hygiene im Lebensmittelbetrieb? Anonym auf Verstöße am Arbeitsplatz hinweisen

Übersicht "Im Fokus"

**Weiterführende Inhalte**

**Lebensmittelklarheit**  
Lebensmittelklarheit.de - Klarheit und Wahrheit bei der Lebensmittel-Kennzeichnung

**Verbraucher LOTSE**  
Der Verbraucherlotse - schnelle Antworten auf Ihre Fragen

**Bundesministerium für Ernährung und Landwirtschaft (BMEL)**  
Bundesministerium für Ernährung und Landwirtschaft (BMEL)

**Häufig gesucht**

- G@ZIELT: Sicher im Internet einkaufen
- Amtliche Sammlung von Untersuchungsverfahren
- Zugelassene Pflanzenschutzmittel
- Antibiotikaresistenz
- Hinweise auf Missstände in Lebensmittelbetrieben

## **Special task forces (example: Bavaria)**

- **Established as a result of the rotten meat scandal in 2006**
- **Department of the Bavarian Health and Food Safety Authority (LGL)**
- **Team of experts: Food inspectors, butchers, layers, computer specialists, food technologists, agriculture engineers, administration officers etc.**
- **Joint controls of food establishments together with the local food control authorities**
- **Competence for supraregional measures, enforcement competence**
- **In five years more than 1630 inspections, disclosure of more than 170 cases of serious deficiencies like food fraud**



# Thank you for listening!

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