

We work to ensure the quality of food and fight against fraud

2017

We guarantee the **protection** of the economic interests of all the agents involved in the agrifood chain and ensure **transparency** and **fair competition** in commercial transactions.

We promote **confidence** in the food produced in Catalonia among those who live here, those who visit us, and those who eat this food around the world.



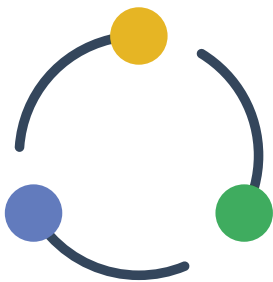
What we do

- Verification of compliance with regulations on food quality.
- Prevention and detection of fraud and other similar activity (falsification, adulteration) in the production and sale of agrifood products.



How we do it

- We perform official controls with inspections of food companies and, if necessary, we take food samples for analysis. In the event of non-compliance, we apply dissuasive measures to prevent the food from going to market (we immobilize any non-compliant food) and to prevent the situation from recurring (we impose fines).
- We provide support, training and information to companies in the industry to ensure compliance with regulations on quality and to prevent fraud.



Who we coordinate with

- Food Quality Coordination Committee (coordination between autonomous communities and the State)
- Directorate-General for Agriculture and Livestock
- Directorate-General for Fisheries and Maritime Affairs
- Subdirectorate for Quality and Agrifood Industries
- Catalan Consumer Agency
- Cabrils Agrifood Laboratory
- INCAVI
- Catalan Public Health Agency

The Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Food, via the Subdirectorate-General for Agrifood Inspection and Control is responsible for detecting fraudulent practices or practices that affect the quality of food with respect to production as well as processing and sale.

Our resources



Regional Services in Lleida

Camp de Mart, 35
25004 Lleida
Tel. (+34) 973 24 66 50
2 agrifood inspectors

Regional Services in Girona

Pl. de Pompeu Fabra, 1
17002 Girona
Tel. (+34) 872 97 50 00
2 agrifood inspectors

Regional Services in Barcelona

Av. Meridiana, 38
08018 Barcelona
Tel. (+34) 93 409 20 90
3 agrifood inspectors

Regional Services in Tarragona

Av. Països Catalans, 5-7
43007 Tarragona
Tel. (+34) 977 25 08 45
2 agrifood inspectors

Central Services

Av. Meridiana, 38
08018 Barcelona
Tel. (+34) 93 552 48 93
fraus.daam@gencat.cat

2 interregional inspectors
1 inspector
1 deputy general manager
1 manager

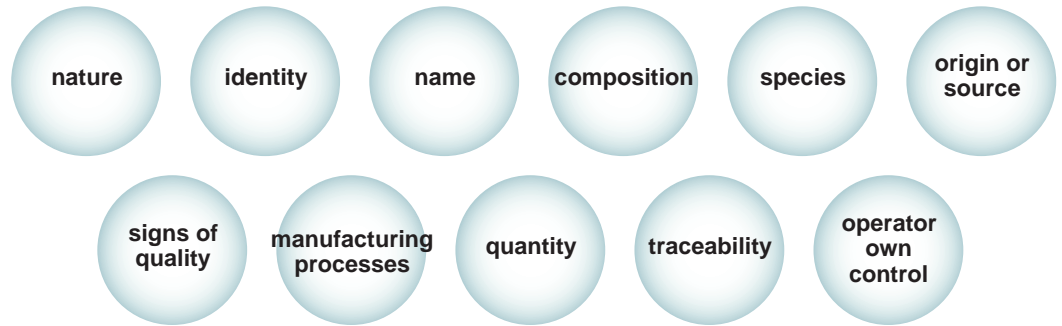


What we inspect

Objects of monitoring



Aspects of food monitored



When we inspect

We carry out inspections with no prior notice, which may be scheduled or unscheduled when unexpected situations arise, complaints are made or infractions are suspected.



Where we inspect

We usually carry out inspections at the start of the agrifood chain, although, in some cases, we may carry out inspections at any point in the process, from production to sale.

We select the businesses we inspect based on the risk of fraud and/or non-compliance with quality standards. We therefore carry out exploratory inspections to categorize the risk of infractions in the companies.



How we inspect

The agrifood inspectors are government employees specifically trained in the field of agrifood.

They are independent and work to a high standard of technical excellence. The inspections allow for a thorough analysis of the company's documentation and an analytical study of the products in order to obtain proof of any illicit activity and identify the author.

The permanent presence and activity of the inspectors acts as a deterrent and facilitates the detection and elimination of illicit behaviour. It also allows us to detect general infractions as well as specific occasional irregularities.

Activity in 2017

Inspection and control

An inspection comprises a number of control operations carried out with the aim of obtaining valid proof, if applicable, of the illegal nature of the activities being inspected. Any fraud, falsification or other infractions will be brought to light, identifying those responsible for these actions.

Companies inspected

Meat and meat products	45
Vegetable oils	17
Fresh fruit and vegetables	16
Processed meals	13
Fishery products	10
Wine products	6
Flour, cereals and others	6
Coffees and infusions	6
Others	13
Total	132

The *Others* section includes pulses and rice, nuts and dried fruit, canned vegetables, canned fish products, honey, ice-creams and condiments and spices.

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We have carried out 885 controls at 132 companies under inspection, with an increase in activity of 6.7% and 10%, respectively.



Flour, cereals and others



Fresh fruit and vegetables



Vegetable oils



Meat and meat products



Wine products



Processed meals



Coffees and infusions



Fishery products



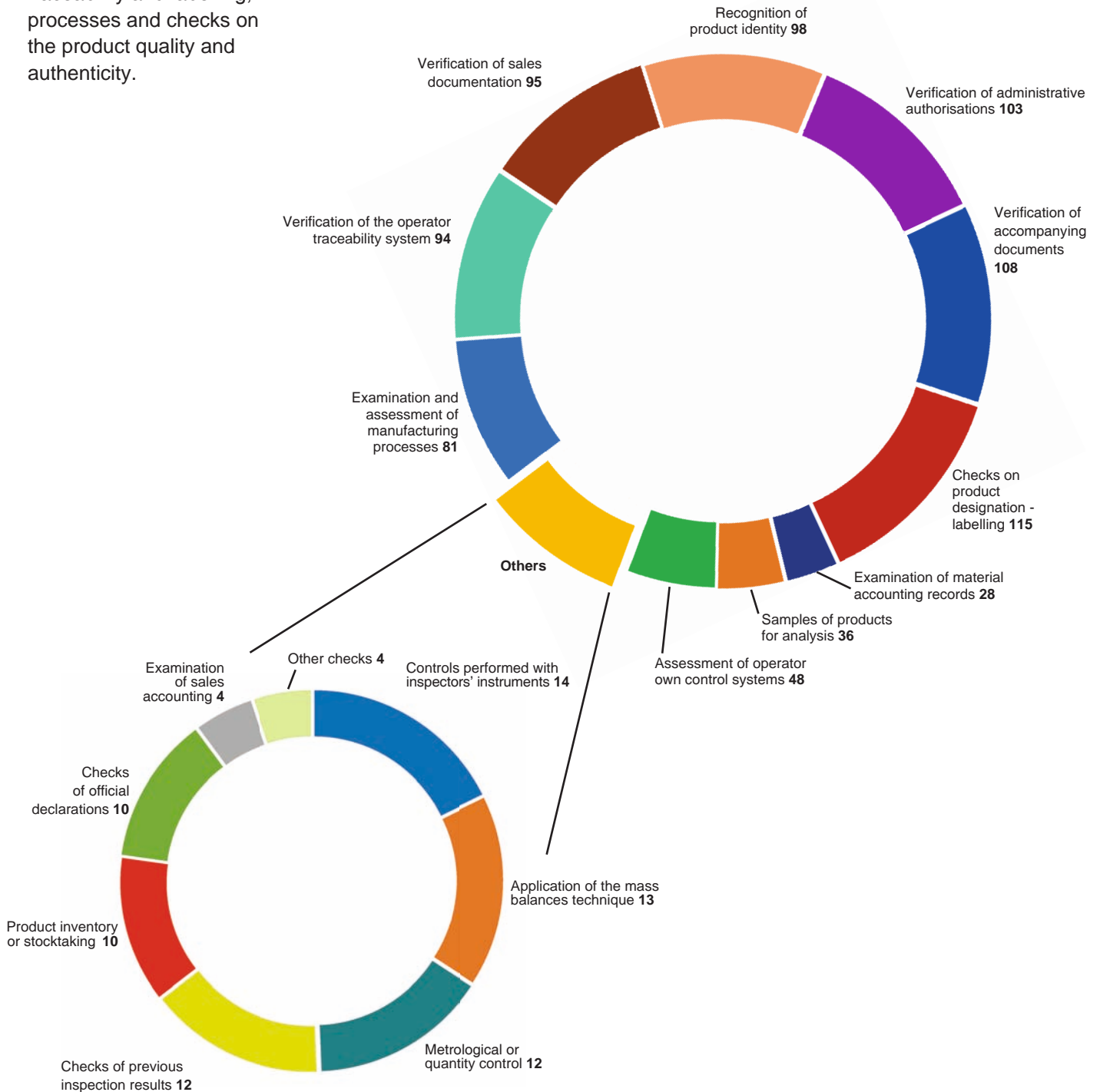
Others



885
controls during inspections

Types of controls

The controls performed at inspections are classified into different types, most of which are related to traceability and labelling, processes and checks on the product quality and authenticity.



Activity in 2017

Sample collection

Collection of food samples from companies in order to determine whether the quality parameters are those established by the regulations, verify label information and ensure that no unauthorized or prohibited practices have taken place. These analyses are carried out at official accredited laboratories.

Samples of products for analysis

	Samples	kg/L/unit
Vegetable oils	32	197,984.0
Coffees and infusions	24	25,268.0
Meat and meat products	21	14,334.0
Fishery products	16	17,218.9
Fresh fruit	11	15,708.8
Flour, cereals and others	9	3,671.5
Canned vegetables	5	14,777.2
Others	5	1,543.9
Total	123	290,506.3

The *Others* section includes condiments and spices, canned fish products and processed meals.



Labelling monitoring

We check that labels meet current regulations with regard to the required information and its accuracy. We review the production data sheets of the companies, the raw materials and the ingredients they use when preparing food. In packaged foods, we verify on site using calibrated instruments that the weight and volume indicated on the labels is correct.

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We have checked 460 labels of 97 different products.
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Canned vegetables



Canned fish products



Processed meals



Pulses and rice



Others



Condiments and spices



Vegetable oils



Meat and meat products



Fishery products



Coffees and infusions



Fresh fruit



Nuts and dried fruit



Flour, cereals and others



Wine products

Activity in 2017

Exploratory controls

Systematic and comprehensive actions that evaluate the control systems of the manufacturing process and traceability procedures in the companies (records, accompanying documentation, labelling, manufacturing data sheets, product identification, etc.).

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The aim of these controls is to provide information in order to assess the risk in the companies.
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Control results





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The proportion of non-compliances detected should be interpreted with caution, as it should be noted that the operators inspected are those that present a medium or high risk of infractions and, therefore, they do not reflect the overall situation of the industry.

Controls in inspected companies by sector

	Controls	Non-compliances
Meat and meat products	272	127
Vegetable oils	130	60
Fresh fruit and vegetables	81	33
Processed meals	73	34
Fishery products	71	28
Wine products	59	24
Coffee and infusions	53	9
Flour, cereals and others	48	10
Others	98	33
Total	885	358

The *Others* section includes pulses and rice, nuts and dried fruit, canned vegetables, canned fish products, honey, ice-creams and condiments and spices.

Types of controls in inspected companies

	Number	Non-compliances
Verification of accompanying documents	108	40
Verification of sales documentation	95	38
Documentation Verification of the operator traceability system	94	43
 Examination of accounting records	28	14
Checks of official declarations	10	2
Examination of sales accounting	4	0
Processes Recognition of product identity	98	28
 Examination and assessment of manufacturing processes	81	18
Assessment of operator own control systems	48	19
Product Checks on product designation - Labelling	115	92
 Samples of products for analysis	36	12
Metrological or quantity control	12	7
Verification of administrative authorisations	103	12
Others Controls performed with inspectors' instruments	14	7
 Application of the mass balances technique	13	9
Checks of previous inspection results	12	9
Product inventory of stocktaking	10	6
Other checks	4	2
Total	885	358

Control results

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The proportion of non-compliances detected should be interpreted with caution, as it should be noted that the operators inspected are those that present a medium or high risk of infractions and, therefore, they do not reflect the overall situation of the industry.

Samples of products for analysis

	Samples	Non-compliances
Vegetable oils	32	9
Coffees and infusions	24	1
Meat and meat products	21	4
Fishery products	16	3
Fresh fruit	11	3
Canned vegetables	5	3
Flour, cereals and others	9	3
Others	5	0
Total	123	26

The *Others* section includes canned fish products, condiments and spices and processed meals.

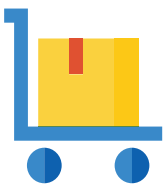
Label checks

	Labels	Non-compliances
Meat and meat products	183	138
Vegetable oils	51	41
Processed meals	42	31
Fishery products	37	32
Wine products	32	22
Coffees and infusions	26	14
Condiments and spices	18	13
Fresh fruit	17	6
Nuts and dried fruit	13	9
Flour, cereals and others	10	4
Pulses and rice	8	8
Canned fish products	7	7
Canned vegetables	5	5
Others	11	11
Total	460	341

The *Others* section includes additives, aromas and enzymes, natural and derived sweeteners, dairy products, ice-creams and flavoured wine products.

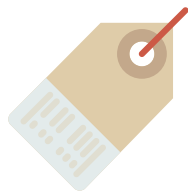
Immobilisations and other cautionary and corrective measures

Cautionary measures consist of product immobilisation, prior product controls, withdrawal of products from the market, temporary suspension of activity and provisional suspension of product sales.



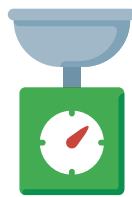
31

shipments
immobilized



26,106

labels and
advertising



7,711.94

kilograms



5,031

litres



9

suspensions
of activity and sales
or prior controls
of products

Examples of the most important infractions

Labelling that is false, misleading, illegible, or with omission of compulsory mentions



False indication of fish species and product origin (fresh fruit, nuts, coffee, etc.).

Fraud in the product composition or characteristics



Analysis irregularities in the physicochemical parameters of meat products and the organoleptic parameters of virgin olive oils.

Fraud in weight or volume



Packaging contains less quantity than indicated on label.

Lack of elements to ensure the traceability of the products



Mentions that appear on labels as origin, varieties or methods or production cannot be justified.

Use of unpermitted production processes



Fraudulent preparation of products with unauthorised ingredients.

Unauthorized use of distinctive quality marks



False indications of protected designation of origin (PDO) and traditional speciality guaranteed (TSG), organic product or similar.

Detection of product falsifications through mass balances technique



Fraudulent sale of oils and wines.

Wine industry

Official quality control instruments



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Since 15 February 2017,
the procedure for the
Register of Wine and
Alcoholic Drink Packagers
and Bottlers has been
available online
.....

144

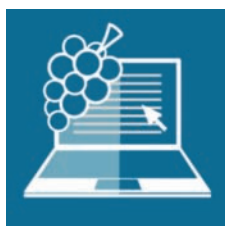
procedures
of the Bottlers Register

Processing for the Bottlers Register
is undertaken by the Business
Management Office.



28

authorizations
to validate the
documents
accompanying
the transport of wine
products



42

authorizations
to process the registers
of the wine industry,
using a computerized
system



9

notifications
of wine variety
certifications

Support for the food industry

Food information on the website

New content has been added to the website to help companies comply with regulations and ensure the quality of their products. It also provides help with understanding food labels and other information so that consumers can make a responsible choice.



Compulsory labelling

3 retail labelling sheets
3 sheets on the most frequent errors



The fight against food fraud



Quality of fruit and vegetables

6 retail labelling sheets
2 sheets on critical aspects



Quality of fishing and aquaculture products

6 retail labelling sheets
1 sheet on the most frequent errors



Quality of meat and meat products

2 retail labelling sheets



Quality of honey



Wine products



Quality of vegetable oils

3 retail labelling sheets
2 sheets on critical aspects

Support for the food industry

QAliment bulletin

Eleven issues of the monthly *QAliment* bulletin have been published, providing food companies with the information they need to comply with regulations and obtain quality products.

http://agricultura.gencat.cat/ca/dar_butlletins/butleti-qualiment

 **QAliment**
Butlletí de qualitat alimentària i lluita contra el frau
Departament d'Agricultura, Ramaderia, Pesca i Alimentació
Gener 2017 #3



Publicada al DOUE la Resolució del Parlament Europeu sobre la crisi alimentària, els fraus en la cadena alimentària i el seu control

[Llegiu-ne més](#)

Preguntes i Respostes sobre l'aplicació del Reglament (UE) 1169/2011 d'informació alimentària al consumidor



El dia 13 de desembre de 2016 la Comissió Europea ha publicat un segon document de Preguntes i Respostes sobre l'aplicació d'aquest Reglament.

[Llegiu-ne més](#)

 **QAliment**
Butlletí de qualitat alimentària i lluita contra el frau
Departament d'Agricultura, Ramaderia, Pesca i Alimentació
Abril 2017 #6



Presentem la nova Guia per a la implementació d'un sistema d'autocontrol de la qualitat a les petites i mitjanes empreses agroalimentàries

[Llegiu-ne més](#)

Apartat de Qualitat dels Ollis vegetals al Web del Departament d'Agricultura

Amb l'objectiu de facilitar a les empreses del sector el compliment de la normativa vigent i l'assegurament de productes de qualitat

[Llegiu-ne més](#)



 **QAliment**
Butlletí de qualitat alimentària i lluita contra el frau
Departament d'Agricultura, Ramaderia, Pesca i Alimentació
Juliol 2017 #9



Cronograma interactiu "Principals fraus alimentaris 1981-2014"

Cronograma amb els principals episodis de crisis o fraus alimentaris més coneguts a escala mundial, amb una breu informació sobre cadascun.

[Llegiu-ne més](#)

Apartat de productes vitivinícoles al web del Departament d'Agricultura

Aquest apartat és una eina per facilitar als operadors de les empreses el compliment de la normativa i l'assegurament de productes de qualitat.

[Llegiu-ne més](#)



 **QAliment**
Butlletí de qualitat alimentària i lluita contra el frau
Departament d'Agricultura, Ramaderia, Pesca i Alimentació
Desembre 2017 #13



Comunicació de la Comissió sobre l'aplicació del principi de la declaració quantitativa dels ingredients (QUID)

El document facilita la comprensió de la norma amb exemples i casos particulars d'indicació obligatòria de la QUID i també excepcions.

[Llegiu-ne més](#)

Informe anual RASFF 2016

Durant l'any 2016 es van notificar 110 casos d'interacció entre autoritats competents relacionats amb el frau alimentari i les adulteracions.

[Llegiu-ne més](#)



Conferences and partnerships with the industry

Annual Technology Transfer Plan (PATT) Conference, in which the Subdirectorate participated:

- Ensuring agrifood quality, a legal obligation for operators, *Guide for Implementing a Quality Own Control System for Small and Medium-sized Agrifood Companies*. IRTA. Monells.
- 3rd Olive Oil Workshop 2017. Sensory testing: current situation and new challenges. Torribera Food Campus. University of Barcelona. Santa Coloma de Gramenet.
- Conference on the control of the effective content of packaged foods. Barcelona School of Hospitality and Tourism.

PATT



Participation in industry committees on honey, milk and wine.

Conference on Food Quality Control. Part of the Official Master's Degree in Food Safety. Autonomous University of Barcelona.



Conference on Food Fraud, Official Food Quality Control and the Fight against Fraud in Catalonia, part of the University Master's Degree in Enabling Technologies for the Food and Bioprocessing Industry (KET4FOOD+BIO). Polytechnic University of Catalonia.

Conference on Wine Registers for SERMA.

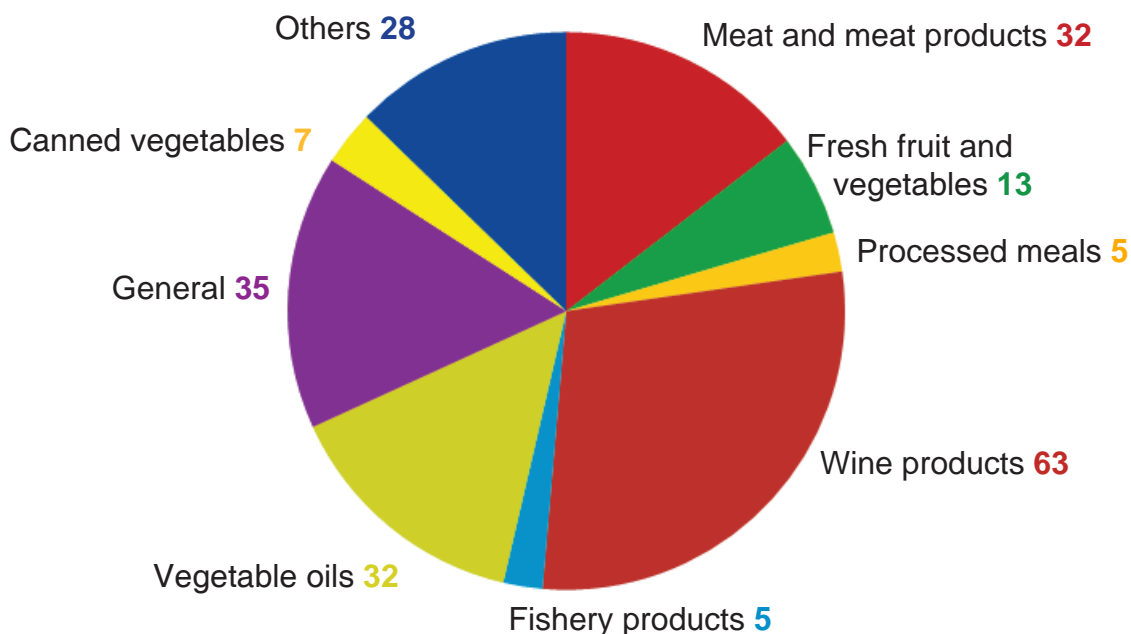
Presentation at the Fruit Working Group, Regulatory Framework and Government Action.

Attendance at the Food Integrity Conference. Parma.

Participation at the Authent-Net Era-Net meeting. Brussels.

Answering queries

Total 220



A few highlights



Publication of the *Guide for Implementing a Quality Own Control System in Small and Medium-sized Agrifood Companies*

We provide the agrifood industry with this *Guide for Implementing a Quality Own Control System for Small and Medium-sized Agrifood Companies* with the aim of guaranteeing food quality.



Publication of information sheets on the quality of meat and meatproducts

The aim of the sheets is to help companies comply with current regulations and obtain quality meat and meat products.



Online processing for the Register of Wine and Alcoholic Drink Packagers and Bottlers

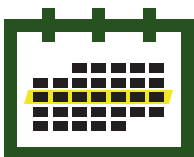
On 15 February 2017, the online processing was launched for the Register of Wine and Alcoholic Drink Packagers and Bottlers.

In Catalonia, in 2017...



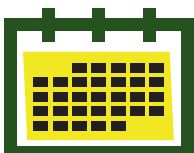
Every day

We have carried out analysis of **795 kilograms or litres of samples** to check their quality and ensure that no fraud is committed



Every week

we performed **17 controls** at agrifood companies



Every month

we verified **38 food labels**