

EN

E-000726/2026

Answer given by Mr Várhelyi
on behalf of the European Commission
(11.5.2026)

1. The Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (RASFF) notification with regard to Brazilian beef contaminated with oestradiol-17 β was registered and circulated on 14 November 2025. It was based on information collected by Commission auditors¹ on amounts of meat from animals treated with oestradiol mixed with that of non-treated animals, exported from Brazil to certain Member States accompanied by corresponding health certificates. An information notification was appropriate and allowed immediate follow-up by Member States.
2. Following the RASFF notification, Member States blocked or traced back imported consignments and withdrew them from the market. The Brazilian authorities suspended the farm where non-compliances were identified but also the farms controlled by the certification body which had certified the non-compliant farm, from the list of farms authorised for export of female bovine meat to the EU. The corrective actions to be implemented by Brazil will be closely monitored by the Commission in order to ensure and maintain the EU high food safety standards.
3. The Commission would like to refer the Honourable Members to its answer to written priority question P-000230/2026², which addresses the same issues. The RASFF notification was related to bovine meat, while, in contrast, Brazil received favourable audit reports (2024-8002³ and 2023-7857⁴) and compliant results in reinforced checks on poultry meat. Consequently, pre-listing of poultry and egg products establishments was resumed.

¹ <https://ec.europa.eu/food/audits-analysis/audit-report/details/4975>.

² https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/P-10-2026-000230-ASW_EN.html.

³ <https://ec.europa.eu/food/audits-analysis/audit-report/details/4815>.

⁴ <https://ec.europa.eu/food/audits-analysis/audit-report/details/4750>.