

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-002685/26
to the Commission
Ewa Zajączkowska-Hernik (P/E)
(29 June 2026)**

Subject: Imports of meat from Brazil — consumer safety and regulatory restrictions

The decision to restrict imports of meat from Brazil and information emerging about the possible use of substances not authorised on the EU market raise questions about consumer safety and the transitional period before the entry into force of the new restrictions. Reports of Salmonella being detected in consignments of meat placed on the Greek market raise additional concerns, underlining the importance of effective food safety monitoring and transparent communication by EU authorities.

1. Has the Commission assessed the potential impact of meat imported from Brazil on the health safety of EU consumers, and will the results of any such analyses be published?
2. Why are restrictions on the import and sale of meat covered by the new rules set to enter into force only on 3 September, and what consumer protection measures will be in place until then?

Submitted: 29.6.2026

**Answer given by Mr Várhelyi on behalf of the European Commission
(21 August 2026)**

The new entry conditions related to the use of certain antimicrobials, applying from 3 September 2026, are unrelated to detections of salmonella or other incidents and are therefore addressed through different regulatory approaches.

Goods of animal origin imported from Brazil are subject to the highest frequency of border checks compared to any other third country, based on the past record of compliance with EU legislation, data and information collected through TRACES and the Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (RASFF), and the findings of controls carried out by Commission experts in third countries.

Specifically, in the last six months, 75% of consignments have undergone physical checks while 30% have been subjected to laboratory testing.

Despite these stringent controls, only 1% (152 out of 15 197 consignments) of the consignments of goods of animal origin exported by Brazil to the EU since the beginning of 2026 were found non-compliant.

This rate is in line with the average rate of non-compliance observed for the rest of third countries. Those non-compliant consignments were intercepted by the competent authorities and were not placed on the EU market.

Furthermore, the Commission carries out regular on-spot audits to assess Brazilian control system. All the audit reports are publicly available ⁽¹⁾.

The Commission had extensive discussions with all relevant actors, in particular the European Parliament and the Council, including on the timing to apply the prohibition of use of certain antimicrobial medicinal products in food producing animals or products of animal origin exported from third countries into the EU. The Commission considers that the application date of this measure does not pose a risk to the health of EU consumers.

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