Report from the Commission on food irradiation for the year 2006

(2008/C 282/04)

SUMMARY

Under Article 7(3) of Directive 1999/2/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 February 1999 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States concerning foods and food ingredients treated with ionising radiation ([1]), the Member States have to forward to the Commission every year:

— the results of checks carried out in irradiation facilities, in particular regarding the categories and quantities of products treated and the dose administered,

and

— the results of checks carried out at the product marketing stage and the methods used to detect irradiated foods.

In 2006, irradiation facilities had approval in 10 Member States. All these Member States provided the information required with respect to food categories treated, quantities or doses. In the European Union 15 058 tonnes of food were irradiated during 2006.

18 Member States reported checks on foods placed on the market. In total, 6 386 food samples were checked in 2006. 3,3 % of products on the market were found to be illegally irradiated and/or not labelled.

The infringements are unevenly distributed over product categories. The category of products for which relatively most incompliance have been found are food supplements (in Germany, Finland and the United Kingdom) and soups and sauces (Germany). The number of non-compliants samples in the category 'Asian noodle snacks' found in Germany has significantly decreased (from 37 % in 2005 to 5 % in 2006).

Differences between Member States regarding the results of controls can partly be explained by the choice of samples and the performance of the analytical methods used.

1. LEGAL BASIS AND BACKGROUND

Under Article 7(3) of Directive 1999/2/EC, the Member States are required to forward to the Commission every year:

— the results of checks carried out in irradiation facilities, in particular regarding the categories and quantities of products treated and the dose administered,

and

— the results of checks carried out at the product marketing stage and the methods used to detect irradiated foods.

The Commission publishes the results in annual reports in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

This report covers the period from 1 January 2006 to 31 December 2006.

Information on general aspects of food irradiation is available on the website of the European Commission's Directorate-General for Health and Consumers ([2]).

1.1. Irradiation facilities

Under Article 3(2) of Directive 1999/2/EC, food may be irradiated only in approved irradiation facilities. For facilities in the EU, approval is given by the competent authorities of the Member States ([2]). The Member States have to inform the Commission of their approved irradiation facilities (Article 7(1)).

The list of authorised facilities in the Member States has been published by the Commission ([3]).

([1]) OJ L 66, 13.3.1999, p. 16.
([2]) http://europa.eu.int/comm/food/food/biosafety/irradiation/index_en.htm
([3]) OJ C 187, 7.8.2003, p. 13.

1.2. **Irradiated foods**

The irradiation of dried aromatic herbs, spices and vegetable seasonings is authorised in the EU (Directive 1999/3/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 February 1999 on the establishment of a Community list of food and food ingredients treated with ionising radiation ([1])). In addition, 7 Member States have notified that they maintain national authorisations for certain foods in accordance with Article 4(4) of Directive 1999/2/EC. The list of national authorisations has been published by the Commission ([2]).

Under Article 6 of Directive 1999/2/EC, any irradiated food or any irradiated food ingredient of a compound food must be labelled with the words 'irradiated' or 'treated with ionising radiation'.

To enforce correct labelling or to detect non-authorised products, several analytical methods have been standardised by the European Committee for Standardisation (CEN), following a mandate given by the European Commission.

2. **RESULTS OF CHECKS CARRIED OUT IN IRRADIATION FACILITIES**

Details of the facilities in the Member states can be found at the Commission website:

http://europa.eu.int/comm/food/food/biosafety/irradiation/approved_facilities_en.pdf

The Member States submitted the following information:

2.1. **Belgium**

Inspections by the competent authorities in 2006 confirmed the compliance of the irradiation facility Sterigenics SA with the requirements of Directive 1999/2/EC.

The following table shows the categories and quantities of foods irradiated in this facility in 2006.

Food	Amount (t)
Frog legs	2 784,3
Fish and shellfish	504,4
Herbs and spices	433,2
Poultry	295,5
Meat	224,6
Eggs poudre	167,2
Vegetables	73,2
Dehydrated blood	30,0
Gum Arabic	17,7
Dried fruits	1,1
Others	949,4
Total	5 480,6

([1]) OJ L 66, 13.3.1999, p. 24.
([2]) OJ C 112, 12.5.2006, p. 6.

2.2. **Czech Republic**

Inspections by the competent authorities in 2006 confirmed the compliance of the irradiation facility Artim spol.s.r.o. with the requirements of Directive 1999/2/EC.

The following table shows the categories and quantities of foods irradiated in this facility in 2006.

Food	Amount (t)	Overall average absorbed radiation dose (kGy)
Dried aromatic herbs, spices and vegetable seasonings	79,5	5-10
Total	79,5	

2.3. **Germany**

During the reporting period, there were five approved irradiation facilities in Germany:

(a) *Gamma Service Produktbestrahlung GmbH, Radeberg*

Inspections by the competent authorities in 2006 confirmed the compliance of the irradiation facility with the requirements of Directive 1999/2/EC.

The following table shows the categories and quantities of foods irradiated in this facility in 2006.

Food	Quantity (t)	Average absorbed dose (kGy)
Spices and herbs	168,7	<10
Dried vegetables	69,3	<10
Total	238,0	

71,3 tonnes of the foodstuffs irradiated were exported to third countries.

(b) *BGS/Beta-Gamma Service GmbH & Co. KG, Wiehl*

Inspections by the competent authorities in 2006 confirmed the compliance of the irradiation in the two facilities with the requirements of Directive 1999/2/EC.

The following table shows the categories and quantities of foods irradiated in these facilities in 2006.

Food	Quantity (t)	Average absorbed dose (kGy)
Spices and herbs	4,5	4-10
Fresh vegetables	3,4	6-10
Dried vegetables	9,9	6-9
Total	17,8	

All foodstuffs irradiated were exported to third countries.

(c) *Isotron Deutschland GmbH, Allershausen*

Inspections by the competent authorities in 2006 confirmed the compliance of the irradiation facility with the requirements of Directive 1999/2/EC.

The following table shows the categories and quantities of foods irradiated in this facility in 2006.

Food	Quantity (t)	Average absorbed dose (kGy)
Spices and herbs	64,3	5-10
Vegetables	18,9	10
Total	83,2	

All foodstuffs irradiated were exported to third countries.

(d) *Beta-Gamma-Service GmbH & Co. KG, Bruchsal*

No food products were irradiated in this facility in 2006.

2.4. **Spain**

In Spain, there are two facilities approved for the irradiation of foods.

(a) *Ionmed Esterilización, SA*

Inspections by the competent authorities in 2006 confirmed the compliance of the irradiation facility with the requirements of Directive 1999/2/EC.

The following table shows the categories and quantities of foods irradiated in this facility in 2006.

Food	Quantity (t)	Average absorbed dose (kGy)
Dried aromatic herbs, spices and vegetable seasonings	290,6	<10

(b) *Aragogamma, SA*

No food products were irradiated in this facility in 2006.

2.5. **France**

In France, there are six facilities approved for the irradiation of foods. Inspections by the competent authorities in 2006 confirmed the compliance of 4 irradiation facilities with the requirements of Directive 1999/2/EC. On two facilities comments were given concerning registration, the status of the products before treatment and the measurement of the irradiation doses.

The following table shows the categories and quantities of foods irradiated in the facilities in 2006.

Food	Quantity (t)	Average absorbed dose (kGy)
Herbs, spices and dried vegetables	110	10
Gum arabic	149	3
Poultry	1 780	5
Frozen frog legs	965	5
Total	3 004	

2.6. **Hungary**

According to the official inspection made by the competent authority in 2006, the irradiation facility Agroster Besugárzó Rt. (Budapest, Jászberényi út 5.) was in compliance with the requirements of Directive 1999/2/EC.

The following table shows the categories and quantities of foods irradiated in this facility in 2006.

Food	Quantity (t)	Average absorbed dose (kGy)
Spices, spice peppers	36,3	4-8
Dehydrated products	13,6	3-6
Herbs	75,0	3-8
Total	124,9	

2.7. **Italy**

In Italy, there is one facility approved for the irradiation of foods. The Competent authority confirmed compliance of the facility Gammarad Italia SpA.

The following table shows the category and quantities of foods irradiated in 2006 in that facility.

Food	Quantity (t)	Average absorbed dose (kGy)
Dried aromatic herbs and vegetable condiments	2,4	9
Total	2,4	

2.8. **The Netherlands**

During 2006, Isotron NL treated the following products in their two production facilities in the cities of Ede and Etten-Leur. The numbers correspond to the number of boards, which have an average weight of 800 kg and an average volume of 2 m^3. The item 'Food' concerns products which are allowed to be irradiated in the country of destination.

	No of boards in Ede	No of boards in Etten-Leur
Spices/Herbs	1 175	242
Dehydrated vegetables	404	1 691
Poultry meat (frozen)	217	5
Shrimps (cooled)		36
Shrimps (frozen)	65	0
Frog parts	216	84
Egg white (cooled)	160	0
Food ([1])	670	1 353
Samples food	47	2
Total	3 023	3 377

([1]) Products intended for exports to third countries.

The total number of boards treated in The Netherlands in 2006 was: 3 023 + 3 377 = 6 400; this corresponds to **5 120 tonnes** of food products.

2.9. **Poland**

In Poland, there are two facilities approved for the irradiation of foods.

The following tables show the categories and quantities of foods irradiated in 2006 in these facilities.

Institute of Nuclear Chemistry and Technology, Warsaw

Food	Quantity (t)	Average absorbed dose (kGy)
Dry spices, dried flavoured herbs, vegetable spices	616,7	5-10

Institute of Applied Radiation Chemistry, Technical University of Lodz

Food	Quantity (t)	Average absorbed dose (kGy)
Spices	0,45	7-10
Total	0,45	

2.10. **The United Kingdom**

In the United Kingdom, there is one facility approved for the irradiation of foods.

The facility did not irradiate any food under the terms of its licence in 2006.

2.11. **Summary for the EU**

10 Member States have facilities approved in accordance with Article 7(2) of Directive 1999/2/EC.

Nine Member States forwarded to the Commission the results of checks carried out in irradiation facilities, with the amounts of foods irradiated.

3. **RESULTS OF CHECKS CARRIED OUT AT THE PRODUCT MARKETING STAGE AND THE METHODS USED TO DETECT IRRADIATED FOODS**

The Member States submitted the following information:

3.1. **Austria**

138 samples were checked for ionising radiation treatment. None were found to be irradiated.

Food analysed	Number of analysed samples: 138		CEN method used
	Result: non-irradiated	Result: irradiated, not correctly labelled	
Basil	3	0	EN 1788/EN 13751
Oregano	10	0	EN 1788/EN 13751
Marjoram	4	0	EN 1788/EN 13751
Paprika	10	0	EN 1788/EN 13751
Pepper	14	0	EN 1788/EN 13751
Rosemary	3	0	EN 1788/EN 13751

Food analysed	Number of analysed samples: 138		CEN method used
	Result: non-irradiated	Result: irradiated, not correctly labelled	
Thyme	5	0	EN 1788/EN 13751
Herbal tea	51	0	EN 1788/EN 13751
Chicken	19	0	EN 1786
Turkey	6	0	EN 1786
Duck	10	0	EN 1786
Goose	3	0	EN 1786
Total	138	0	
Total in % of analysed samples	100	0	

3.2. **Belgium**

In total, 100 samples were analysed. One was found to be irradiated.

Food analysed	Number of analysed samples: 100		CEN method used
	Result: non-irradiated	Result: irradiated, not correctly labelled (origin)	
Spices	9	0	EN 1788
Dried fruit and vegetables	21	0	EN 1788
Fresh strawberries	11	0	EN 1788
Food supplements	17	1	
Shrimps	22	0	EN 1788
Crustaceans and molluscs	19	0	EN 1788
Total	99	1	
Total in % of analysed samples	99	1	

3.3. **Cyprus**

In 2006, no analytical controls were carried out regarding food irradiation at the marketing stage.

3.4. **Czech Republic**

In total, 115 samples were analysed. 4 samples were positive for irradiation and were not correctly labelled.

Food analysed	Number of analysed samples: 115		CEN method used
	Result: non-irradiated	Result: irradiated, not correctly labelled	
Spices	22	0	EN 1788
Herbal tea products	13	1	EN 1788
Food supplements	7	2 [1]	EN 1788

Food analysed	Number of analysed samples: 115		CEN method used
	Result: non-irradiated	Result: irradiated, not correctly labelled	
Instant noodles	9	1 (2)	EN 1788
Fresh fruits	30	0	EN 1788/EN 1785
Poultry	15	0	EN 1785
Fish and shellfish	12	0	EN 1785
Shrimps	3	0	EN 1785
Total	111	4	
Total in % of analysed samples	96,5	3,5	

(1) Dried pressed herb.
(2) Irradiated spice mixture.

3.5. **Germany**

In total 4 137 food samples were examined of which 71 were irradiated of which 5 were compliant and 66, i.e. 1,6 %, were not compliant:

— 23 samples belong to foodstuffs for which irradiation is authorised however they were incorrectly labelled,

— 41 samples belong to food categories for which irradiation is not authorised and in addition were not labelled,

— 2 samples were labelled to be irradiated, however irradiation is not authorised.

The categories with the highest percentages of non-compliant samples were food supplements (11 %) and soups and sauces (9 %). The number of non-compliant samples in the category 'Asian noodle snacks, party snacks, pizza, TV snacks' has significantly decreased (from 37 % in 2005 to 5 % in 2006).

Food analysed	Number of analysed samples: 4 137		CEN method used
	Result: non-irradiated	Result: irradiated, but irradiation unauthorised and/or not correctly labelled	
Milk/milk products	41	0	EN 1375; EN 1784; EN 1785; EN 1787; EN 1788
Cheese with herbs	58	0	EN 1787; EN 1788; EN 1788 mod.; EN 13751
Butter with herbs	29	0	EN 1787; EN 1788
Eggs, egg products	6	0	EN 1784
Meat (including frozen meat, except poultry, game)	18	0	EN 1784; EN 1786
Meat products (except sausages)	39	0	EN 1784; EN 1786
Sausages	58	0	EN 1784; EN 1786; EN 1787; EN 1788
Poultry	141	0	EN 1784 mod.; EN 1786

Food analysed	Number of analysed samples: 4 137		CEN method used
	Result: non-irradiated	Result: irradiated, but irradiation unauthorised and/or not correctly labelled	
Game	12	0	EN 1784; EN 1786
Fish and fisheries products	140	0	L 00.00 41 ESR; EN 1784 mod., EN 1786; EN 1788
Crustaceans, shellfish, mussels and other aquatic animals including their products	258	4	EN 1786; ASU analog § 64 LFGB L 12.01; EN 13751; § 64 LFGB L 53.00-3, L 00.00-42
Pulses	47	0	EN 1787, EN 1788
Soups, sauces	175	18	EN 1375, EN 1784; EN 1785; EN 1787; EN 1788; PSL, EN 13751
Cereals and ceral products	34	0	EN 13708; § 64 L 00.00-43, EN 1787; EN 1788
Oil seeds	52	0	EN 1784; EN 1788
Nuts	102	0	EN 1375; EN 1784; EN 1784 mod.; EN 1787; EN 1788
Potatoes, parts of plants with high content of starch	56	0	EN 13751; EN 1788
Fresh vegetables, salad	72	0	EN 13708; EN 13751; EN 1787; EN 1788
Dried vegetables, vegetable products	78	2	EN 13751; EN 1787; EN 1788
Mushrooms, fresh	18	0	EN 1788; EN 1375
Mushrooms, dried or mushroom products	199	5	EN 13708; EN 13751; EN 1787; EN 1788
Fresh fruits	109	0	EN 1787; EN 1788; EN 1784
Dried fruits or fruit products	200	0	EN 13708; EN 13751; EN 1787; EN 1788
Cacao powder	11	0	
Kaffee, raw	5		EN 13751, EN 1788
Teas, tea-like products	431	3	EN 13708; EN 13751; EN 1787; EN 1788, § 64 L 00.00-43
Ready-to-serve meals	21	0	EN 13751; EN 1786; EN 1787; EN 1788
Spices, including preparations and seasoning salt	1 339	16	EN 13751; EN 1784; EN 1787; EN 1788 PSL, § 64 L 00.00-43

Food analysed	Number of analysed samples: 4 137		CEN method used
	Result: non-irradiated	Result: irradiated, but irradiation unauthorised and/or not correctly labelled	
Herbs	84	0	EN 13751, EN 1787, EN 1788
Dry prepared meals	43	1	EN 13751; EN 1787; EN 1788, § 64 L 00.00-43
Asian noodle snacks, party snacks, pizza, TV snacks	82	4	EN 1788; PSL
Food supplements	87	11	EN 13751; EN 13708, EN 1787; EN 1788; § 64 L 00.00-43
Other	21	1	EN 13751; EN 1787; EN 1788
Total	4 066	66	
Total in % of analysed samples	98,4	1,6	

5 samples were irradiated and compliant with the EU Directives: 2 samples belonging to the category 'Crustaceans, shellfish, mussels and other aquatic animals including their products' and 3 samples belonging to the category 'Soups and sauces'.

3.6. **Denmark**

In 2006 no analytical controls were carried out regarding food irradiation at the marketing stage.

3.7. **Estonia**

In total, 10 samples were analysed, none of which tested positive for irradiation.

Food analysed	Number of analysed samples: 10		CEN method used
	Result: non-irradiated	Result: irradiated, not correctly labelled	
Spices	5	0	PSL, EN 13751
Tea	5	0	PSL, EN 13751
Total	10	0	
Total in % of analysed samples	100	0	

3.8. **Greece**

In total, 3 samples were analysed, none of which tested positive for irradiation.

Food analysed	Number of analysed samples: 3		CEN method used
	Result: non-irradiated	Result: irradiated	
Herbs and spices	2	0	EN 13751 (PSL)
Tea	1	0	EN 13751 (PSL)
Total	3	0	
Total in % of analysed samples	100	0	

3.9. **Spain**

In 2006, no analytical controls were carried out regarding food irradiation at the marketing stage.

3.10. **Finland**

In total, 246 samples were analysed. A total of 158 samples of dried spices and herbs were analysed of which 19 samples were found to contain irradiated material. Out of the 77 food supplements analyzed, and 10 contained irradiated material. Of the 11 samples of seafood products, 1 contained irradiated material.

None of the irradiated products were adequately labelled and the irradiation facilities where they were treated were not EU approved.

Food analysed	Number of analysed samples: 246		CEN method used
	Result: non-irradiated	Result: irradiated, not correctly labelled	
Dried spices and herbs	139	19	EN 13751; EN 1788
Food supplements	67	10	EN 13751; EN 1788
Seafood products	10	1	
Total	216	30	
Total in % of analysed samples	88	12	

3.11. **France**

In total, 216 samples were analysed and 32 samples tested positive for irradiation and were not correctly labelled.

Food analysed	Number of analysed samples: 216		CEN method used
	Result: non-irradiated	Result: irradiated	
Frozen snail meat	2	0	EN 1788
Dried mushrooms	71	0	EN 1788
Vegetable based food supplements	11	5	EN 1788
Crustaceans and shellfish	45	24	EN 1788
Frogs legs	3	2	EN 1788
Dried fruit	1	0	EN 1788
Spices and herbs	16	0	EN 1788
Dried vegetables and derivates	13	0	EN 1788
Small red fruit and other berries	4	0	EN 1788
Dehydrated asian noodle snacks	14	1	EN 1788
Shrimps	10	0	EN 1788

Food analysed	Number of analysed samples: 216		CEN method used
	Result: non-irradiated	Result: irradiated	
Dried, grated coconut pulp	3	0	EN 1788
Tea and infusions	1	0	EN 1788
Total	184	32	
Total in % of analysed samples	85	15	

Of the 24 non-compliant crustaceans and shellfish samples, 22 concerned shrimp tail samples taken form at the same company.

3.12. **Hungary**

In total, 104 samples were analysed and 2 samples tested positive for irradiation.

Food analysed	Number of analysed samples: 104	
	Result: non-irradiated	Result: irradiated, not correctly labelled
Spices	80	1
Tea	23	0
Food supplements	1	1
Total	102	2
Total in % of analysed samples	98	2

3.13. **Ireland**

In 2006, 452 samples were analysed. 13 samples tested positive for irradiation but were not correctly labelled.

Food analysed	Number of analysed samples: 452		CEN method used
	Result: non-irradiated	Result: irradiated, not correctly labelled	
Noodles	107	1	EN 13751 for screening, confirmation by EN 1788
Sauces & soups	10	0	
Seasonings/Stocks	38	3	
Herbs & spices	220	8	
Coffee and tea (including herbal teas)	43	0	
Seeds	13	0	
Cereal, bakery and yeast	8	0	
Food supplements/vitamins	9	1	
Fruit and vegetables	1	0	
Miscellaneous	3	0	
Total	439	13	
Total in % of total analysed	97 %	3 %	

3.14. **Italy**

In total, 66 samples were analysed and none were found to be irradiated.

Food analysed	Number of analysed samples: 66		CEN method used
	Result: non-irradiated	Result: irradiated, not correctly labelled	
Spices, herbs and vegetable extracts	66	0	EN 13784
Total	66	0	
Total in % of analysed samples	66	0	

3.15. **Latvia**

No information has been forwarded by this Member State on the results of checks carried out at the marketplace.

3.16. **Lithuania**

In total, 30 samples were analysed and 1 sample tested positive for irradiation.

Food analysed	Number of analysed samples: 30		CEN method used
	Result: non-irradiated	Result: irradiated	
Spices and herbs	7	0	LST EN 13783:2004
Tea	22	1	LST EN 13783:2004
Total	29	1	
Total in % of analysed samples	100	3	

3.17. **Luxembourg**

In total, 20 samples were analysed and none were found to be irradiated.

Food analysed	Number of analysed samples: 20		CEN method used
	Result: non-irradiated	Result: irradiated	
Spices	15	0	EN 1788
Dried fruit	1	0	EN 1788
Tea	4	0	EN 1788
Total	20	0	
Total in % of analysed samples	100	0	

3.18. **Malta**

No information has been forwarded by this Member State on the results of checks carried out at the marketplace.

3.19. **The Netherlands**

No information has been forwarded by this Member State on the results of checks carried out at the marketplace.

3.20. **Poland**

In total, 139 samples were analysed and 2 of these tested positive for irradiation and neither were correctly labelled.

Food analysed	Number of analysed samples: 139		CEN method used
	Result: non-irradiated	Result: irradiated, not correctly labelled	
Dried herbs, spices and vegetable seasonings	51	2	EN 1786; EN 1787; EN 1788
Potatoes	3	0	EN 1786; EN 1787; EN 1788
Onion and garlic	21	0	EN 1786; EN 1787; EN 1788
Poultry	1	0	EN 1786; EN 1787; EN 1788
Unshelled nuts	34	0	EN 1786; EN 1787; EN 1788
Prawns, fish	22	0	EN 1786; EN 1787; EN 1788
Fresh fruits	7	0	EN 1786; EN 1787; EN 1788
Total	137	2	
Total in % of analysed samples	99	1	

3.21. **Portugal**

No information has been forwarded by this Member State on the results of checks carried out at the marketplace.

3.22. **Sweden**

During the year 2006, 8 samples of mainly poultry meat were analysed according to CEN method EN 1784; none were irradiated.

3.23. **Slovakia**

In total, 37 samples were analysed, none of which tested positive for irradiation.

Food analysed	Number of analysed samples: 37		Method used
	Result: non-irradiated	Result: irradiated	
Pistachio, different kind of nuts	18	0	GC
Cheese	17	0	GC
Duck	2	0	GC
Total	37	0	
Total in % of analysed samples	100	0	

3.24. **Slovenia**

During the year 2006, 40 samples were analysed and 3 food supplement samples were found to be irradiated.

Food analysed	Number of analysed samples: 40			CEN method used
	Result: non-irradiated	Result: inconclusive	Result: irradiated	
Spices and herbs	10	0	0	EN 13751
Food supplements	8	4	3	EN 1788; EN 13751
Dried soup mixes	10	5	0	EN 1788; EN 13751
Total	28	9	3	
Total in % of analysed samples	70	22,5	7,56	

3.25. **The United Kingdom**

The Food Standards Agency is aware of 530 products that were sampled by United Kingdom local enforcement authorities in 2006 and analysed using standardised detection tests for irradiated food. Of these 530 samples, 49 (nine percent) were found to be irradiated. The samples reported as 'inconclusive' were identified as intermediate using CEN method EN 13751:2002 and were not analysed further; or were samples of 'low sensitivity' such that the mineral grain fraction of the samples was insufficient to carry out accurate analysis.

Food analysed	Number of analysed samples: 530			Method used
	Result: non-irradiated	Result: inconclusive	Result: irradiated	
Dried herbs, spices and vegetable seasonings	253	22	20	EN 13751; EN 1778
Cous Cous and dried seasonings	3	0	0	
Dried soup mixes	10	2	0	
Noodles and dried seasonings	64	6	7	
Rice and dried seasonings	3	1	0	
Pasta and dried seasonings	2	0	0	
Sauces (liquid/frozen)	14	1		
Dried fruit	5	0	0	
Vegetables including onions	9	0	0	
Teas	11	1	6	
Oil	4	0	0	
Fish/seafood i.e. shellfish, prawns	4	0	0	
Food supplements	52	9	16	
Miscellaneous	5	0	0	
Total	439	42	49	
Total in % of analysed samples	83	8	9	

3.26. **Summary for the EU**

The following table summarises the samples analysed and the results obtained for the EU as a whole.

Member State	Number of samples non-irradiated	Number of samples irradiated	% of samples irradiated, not correctly labelled
AT	138	0	0
BE	99	1	1
CY	NAC	NAC	NAC
CZ	111	4	3,5
DE	4 066	71	1,6
DK	NAC	NAC	NAC
EE	10	0	0
EL	3	0	0
ES	NAC	NAC	NAC
FI	216	30	12
FR	184	32	15
HU	102	2	2
IE	439	13	3
IT	66	0	0
LV	NI	NI	NI
LT	29	1	3
LU	20	0	0
MT	NI	NI	NI
NL	NI	NI	NI
PL	137	2	1
PT	NI	NI	NI
SE	8	0	0
SK	37	0	0
SI	28 (*)	3	8
UK	439 (*)	49	9
Total	6 134	203	3,3

NI: No information has been forwarded by the Member State.

NAC: No analytical checks were performed in 2006.

(*) Slovenia and the United Kingdom classified respectively 9 and 42 samples as inconclusive.

4. CONCLUSIONS

4.1. Results of checks carried out in irradiation facilities

Directive 1999/2/EC requires the Member States to forward to the Commission the results of checks in irradiation facilities, the categories and quantities of foods irradiated and the doses applied.

In 2006, irradiation facilities had approval in 10 Member States.

All 10 Member States provided the information requested with respect to the food categories treated.

In the European Union, 15 058 tonnes of food were irradiated during 2006.

4.2. Results of checks carried out at the product marketing stage

In 2006, 18 Member States performed analytical checks and submitted the requested data. Three Member States informed the Commission that they did not perform analytical checks during the period covered by the present report.

The information submitted shows that during 2006, 3,3 % of samples were illegally irradiated and/or not correctly labelled.

The infringements are unevenly distributed over product categories. In general, the most non-compliant products found to be on the market were food supplements (detected in Germany, Finland and the UK) and soups and sauces (detected in Germany). The number of irradiated 'Asian noodle snacks' found in Germany has significantly decreased (from 37 % in 2005 to 5 % in 2006).

The Commission expects Member States to continue to focus controls on these products and that Member States will take the appropriate measures.

Differences between Member States regarding the results of controls could partly be explained by the choice of the samples and the performance of the analytical methods used.

4.3. Deadline for the submission of the results of checks for the 2007 report

The deadline for submitting to the Commission the results of checks performed in 2007, as required under Article 7(3) of Directive 1999/2/EC, is 30 June 2008.