

Classification of countries of cultivation

The countries¹ of cultivation of maize are classified into 3 risk categories: High, Medium and Low. This classification is carried out on a regular basis by a number of feed schemes together. When determining the risk category of a country of cultivation, the results of aflatoxin analyzes available in the GMP+ Monitoring Database are taken into account, as well as the results collected by other schemes (QS, EFISC-GTP, OVOCOM, AIC). In addition to these results, other relevant information (e.g. RASFF notifications, information about weather/harvest conditions, etc.) can also be used. The criteria used during the evaluation are shown in table 2.

Table 1: Risk classification of countries of cultivation

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High	Medium	Low
Hungary Serbia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All other countries which are not mentioned under 'high risk countries' or 'low risk countries' 	Austria Belgium Czech Republic Denmark Estonia Finland France Germany Iceland Ireland Latvia Lithuania Luxembourg Netherlands Norway Poland Sweden UK

¹ If applicable, a country can be divided in different regions.

Table 2: Criteria for (Re)classification of a country of cultivation

Risk classification by country of cultivation	% of analyses per country (period: 1 September until evaluation moment)	Analysis results (x)
High	> 1%	> 20ppb; OR
	> 10%	10ppb < x ≤ 20ppb
Medium	Any scenario not listed as High or Low	
Low	< 1%	5ppb < x ≤ 10ppb; AND
	> 90%	< 2ppb; AND
	Remaining (max 9%)	≤ 5ppb

a. For upgrading a country of cultivation to a higher risk level, the number of samples to be tested is at least 1.

b. For downgrading a country of cultivation to a lower risk level, the number of samples to be tested is at least 50 (new results).

c. In addition to a. and b., other relevant criteria and resources can be used for reclassifying a country of origin.

Previous versions

- [Version 11.04.2024](#)
- [Version 14.03.2024](#)

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