

# **RAPID ALERT SYSTEM FOR FEED AND FOOD, A RELIABLE AND FAST TOOL IN REPORTING AND MANAGING SOURCES OF FOOD CONTAMINATION**

**D. Leonte<sup>1\*</sup>, C. Leonte<sup>1</sup>**

*<sup>1</sup>“Ion Ionescu de la Brad” Iasi University of Life Sciences, Iasi, Romania*

*\*e-mail: doina.leonte@iuls.ro*

## **Abstract**

*The current work presents a review of notifications regarding food with different degrees of risk, registered in 2022 by the Central Competent Authorities for food and feed within the member states in the European Union. In the European Union, the health of food consumers is ensured through the implementation of strict legislation. This legislation covers both the production and circulation of food. One tool for checking food safety is the Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed, which links more than 160 European countries with regard to the transmission of information on food contamination. The European Community implemented the RASFF system with the following objectives: □ preventing entry into the market or ensuring the withdrawal from the market or from the final consumer of food that poses a risk to public health; □ prevention of feed that can indirectly affect public health from entering animal consumption; □ preventing the entry into the market of any material or product that comes or may come into contact with food and feed and may present a risk to public health; □ rapid information between the competent authorities in the field of food safety, at the three levels: central, county and local, on the dangers or risks regarding food and feed that do not meet the requirements imposed by the legislation on food safety, as they can constitute a risk factor in the food chain for consumers. The paper tracked the number of notifications of this portal regarding different food categories. Thus, in 2022, 3885 notifications were registered in the food field, and 230 related to materials that come into contact with food. Cases of contaminated food products from the European Union that posed a risk to consumers and were detained, recalled, confiscated or rejected from consumption were identified.*

**Key words:** *health, diseases, control, European agreement*