

FDA Response to Imported Foods Potentially Contaminated with Cesium-137

As part of the agency's implementation of import certification for certain foods from certain regions of Indonesia, the agency is [designating](#) the [Marine Affairs and Fisheries Quality Assurance Agency \(MFQAA\)](#) of the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries (MMAF) of the Republic of Indonesia as a certifying entity (CE) for shrimp (and shrimp products) and [Indonesia's Food and Drug Ministry \(BPOM\)](#) of the Republic of Indonesia as a certifying entity for spices. As the CE, each agency is responsible for providing assurances that the products covered under import certification are not contaminated with Cesium-137.

The FDA detected the radionuclide Cesium-137 (Cs-137) in early August 2025, in one sample of frozen shrimp from Indonesia. In order to protect consumers, the FDA added the firm PT. Bahari Makmur Sejati to a new import alert ([Import Alert # 99-51](#)) for chemical contamination to stop shrimp products from this firm from coming into the U.S. until the firm has resolved the conditions that gave rise to the appearance of the violation. The FDA also issued a [safety alert](#) to advise consumers, distributors, and retailers to not eat, sell or serve certain frozen shrimp imported from PT. Bahari Makmur Sejati.

As a result of the FDA's ongoing screening efforts, the FDA detected the presence of Cs-137 in one sample of cloves from PT Natural Java Spice. As such, spice products shipped by the firm PT Natural Java Spice to the U.S. have also been added to the import alert for chemical contamination. Products from PT. Bahari Makmur Sejati and from PT Natural Java Spice will not be permitted to enter the U.S. market until these firms provide the FDA with information to adequately demonstrate that they have resolved the conditions that gave rise to the appearance of the violations.

Effective October 31, 2025, the agency will require [import certification](#) for shrimp and spices from certain regions of Indonesia, based on the risk of potential contamination of the food with Cesium-137. This represents the first use of this Congressional authority to address ongoing food safety problems while keeping trade flowing for safe products.