

# Classification of countries of cultivation

The countries<sup>1</sup> 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
Romania Serbia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All other countries which are not mentioned under 'high risk countries' or 'low risk countries'</li> </ul>	<b>Austria</b> Belgium Czech Republic Denmark Estonia Finland France Germany Iceland Ireland Latvia Lithuania Luxembourg Netherlands Norway Poland Sweden UK <b>USA</b>

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%	> 20 ppb; 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
<p>a. For upgrading a country of cultivation to a higher risk level, the number of samples to be tested is at least 1.</p> <p>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).</p> <p>c. In addition to a. and b., other relevant criteria and resources can be used for reclassifying a country of origin.</p>		

## Previous versions

- [Version 21.11.2024](#)
- Version 12.09.2024

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