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### **Report Highlights:**

As a European Union (EU) member since 2007, Romania observes the EU regulations and directives, which are applied directly or transposed through national level implementing regulations. This report updates the sections on labeling requirements, packaging waste, taxation, rules on sale for certain products, and other measures over last year's Romania FAIRS Annual Country Report. This report should be read in conjunction with the EU FAIRS Report which details specific EU regulations.

**DISCLAIMER:** This report was prepared by the U.S. Embassy Bucharest's Office of Agricultural Affairs, for U.S. exporters of domestic food and agricultural products. While very possible care has been taken in the preparation of this report, information provided may not be completely accurate either because policies have changed since its preparation, or because clear and consistent information about these policies was not available. It is highly recommended that U.S. exporters verify the full set of import requirements with their foreign customers, who are normally best equipped to research such matters with local authorities, before any goods are shipped.

FINAL IMPORT APPROVAL OF ANY PRODUCTS IS SUBJECT TO THE IMPORTING COUNTRY'S RULES AND REGULATIONS AS INTERPRETED BY BORDER OFFICIALS AT THE TIME OF PRODUCT ENTRY.

Abbreviations:

ANSVSA	National Sanitary-Veterinary and Food Safety Authority
ANPC	National Authority for Consumers Protection
BIP	Border Inspection Post
COOL	Country of Origin Labeling
EU	European Union
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GE	Genetically Engineered
MARD	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
MOH	Ministry of Health
MOEF	Ministry of Environment, Water and Forests
MOF	Ministry of Finance
MRL	Maximum Residue Level
MS	Member State
PPP	Plant Protection Product
VAT	Value Added Tax

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## Executive Summary

As an EU member since 2007, Romania observes EU regulations and directives, which are applied directly or transposed through national level implementing regulations. This report outlines the major food laws, general and specific labeling requirements, pesticides, and contaminants requirements, as well as import procedures that apply to agricultural and food products.

Romania's resident population in January 2024 stood at 19.06 million, slightly above a year ago (+9,900 inhabitants). The positive immigration balance compensated the low birth rates in 2023 and 2024, and it helped the resident population grow for the second consecutive year. Agriculture accounted for 3.9 percent of Romania's gross domestic product (GDP) in 2023, when Romania's economy grew by 2.4 percent. The growth has been supported by investments, particularly in infrastructure, and private consumption, sustained by rising disposable income. The annual rate of inflation reached 4.62 percent in September 2024, an improvement from the 8.8 percent a year ago. Food prices have grown by 4.72 percent in September 2024 as compared to a year ago. The average income per person reached \$649 in the last quarter of 2023, which is an 18 percent year-on-year growth. A typical family spent 34 percent of its income on food and beverages in 2023, 7 percent on alcoholic drinks, and 2.1 percent in the hospitality industry.

In 2023, Romania's total agricultural imports reached \$14.7 billion, a 5.4 percent increase over 2022, of which 80 percent were sourced from EU Member States (MSs). Germany, Hungary, Poland, the Netherlands, and Italy were Romania's major trading partners in 2023. Meat, dairy, beverages, and edible fruits were the major product import categories. At the same time, Romania's exports, consisting of grains, oilseeds, live animals, and fats, reached \$13.3 billion, experiencing a year-on-year growth of 5.3 percent.

The United States is a top-20 supplier of food and agriculture to Romania. Valued at \$211 million in 2023 (up 11 percent from 2022) and \$104 million in the first half of 2024 (up 5 percent from 2023), U.S. goods flow into Romania either directly from the United States (mainly bulk and intermediate products) or are transshipped through the other western EU ports of entry in Italy, the Netherlands, and Germany. Food preparations, soybeans, sunflower seeds, tree nuts, and distilled spirits were the largest categories, accounting for nearly 70 percent of total U.S. food and agricultural exports to Romania.

In 2024, Romania is anticipated to account for 12 percent of the EU area planted with grains and oilseeds, with a lower share in harvested production (8 percent) due to Romania's low yields. Wheat became a top crop in terms of both area and production, with a clear declining trend being observed for corn during the recent years due to repetitive unfavorable weather conditions. Romania is in general EU's largest sunflower producer, and the top three EU producer of corn, wheat, and soybeans. Overall, Romania is anticipated to harvest a 17-percent lower volume of grains and oilseeds, due to a severe water deficit and above-normal temperatures for an extended period during key-stage of plants development.

Romania implemented the return-guarantee system in November 2023, which requires suppliers of both domestic and foreign products to register in the system. Rules on energy drink sales changed, prohibiting donation and sale of energy drinks to citizens under 18, including through vending machines. Legislation regarding the caps on commercial markups –which are limited to five percent for suppliers of certain imported food products, not intended for further processing – was prolonged until December 31, 2024.

## **Section I. Food Laws**

Romania's food laws and regulations are harmonized with EU legislation. Depending on the issuing and implementing authority, several types of regulations (laws, ordinances, orders, decisions) can govern food production, food imports, and agriculture. This legislative [website](#) administered by the Ministry of Justice provides free access to Romanian legislation. Major legislation includes:

- Law 150/2004 regarding food and animal feed safety.
- Government Decision 106/2002 concerning food labeling with subsequent amendments.
- Government Ordinance 42/2004 regarding the organization of sanitary-veterinary and food safety activity with subsequent amendments.
- Order 111/2008 regarding the procedure for registering the activities of production and sale of food of animal and non-animal origin with subsequent amendments.
- Order 35/2016 regarding the rules on surveillance, prevention, and control of animal diseases, food safety surveillance, and control program with annual amendments.

- Emergency Ordinance 43/2007 regarding the deliberate release into the environment of genetically-modified organisms, amended in 2023 through Law 144 adding new provisions regarding the notification process to be followed by the operator.
- Emergency Ordinance 44/2007 referring to contained use of genetically-modified micro-organisms.
- Order 438/2002 defining and listing additives permitted for use in foodstuffs, with subsequent amendments.
- Government Ordinance 34/2000 concerning organic food, amended in 2017 through Law 262, along with Order 1253/2013, regarding the registration of producers, processors, and importers of organic products, Law 352/2018, Government Ordinances 7/2019 and 10/2021.
- Law 321/2009 concerning food products trading, amended through Law 150/2016 and Law 28/2020.

Several Government of Romania (GOR) entities share regulatory responsibilities concerning food and agricultural products, produced locally or imported, as outlined below:

**Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD)** is responsible for drafting and implementing national agricultural policy. MARD also implements and enforces EU regulations related to agriculture, food-processing, land reclamation, and agricultural research.

**Ministry of Environment, Water and Forests (MOEWF)** oversees the national environmental protection policies, the green economy, biodiversity, waste management, sustainable development and climate change, water, and forests. MOEWF is the main environmental and risk assessment regulator, including for genetically engineered (GE) products and for monitoring activities that may affect human health, and the environment.

**National Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety Authority (ANSVSA)** is the main body charged with sanitary, veterinary, and food-safety activities in Romania. It regulates animal health, and food and feed safety, for products either produced locally or imported. ANSVSA is the main body implementing rules on food-products import of both animal and non-animal origin. ANSVSA publishes annual information on the surveillance, prevention, and control of animal diseases and for the surveillance, and control of food safety.

**Ministry of Health (MOH)** is responsible for overseeing the production and registration of drugs, food additives, and medical equipment. MOH also regulates food contaminants and food supplements under its mandate to protect public health.

**National Authority for Consumers Protection (ANPC)** protects consumer rights and interests by drafting and enforcing consumer-protection legislation, including food products. ANPC also regulates food labeling.

## **Section II. Labeling Requirements**

### **A. General Requirements**

The primary food labeling law remains Government Decision 106/2002, which outlines the food labeling methodology and requirements, accompanied by its implementing regulations. Decision 106/2002 was amended several times since its publication, as Romania has gone through the process of transposing various EU Directives. Generally, food labels cannot mislead consumers regarding product characteristics, especially regarding its nature, identity, features, composition, amount, durability, or its origin, as well as the manufacturing or production methods.

Food labels must contain the following compulsory specifications in the Romanian language:

- Name of the product;
- Ingredients list (for processed products only). These ingredients must correspond to the ones specified in the technical description of the product. The vitamins and minerals must be also mentioned in the list, if added in the product;
- Net content (weight/capacity) for prepackaged products;
- Expiration date; in case the expiration date includes the day, the expression “*to be consumed, preferably, before...*” should be used, while in case only the month or month and year are printed, the expression “*to be consumed, preferably, until the end ...*” should be used;
- Required storage conditions (temperature, humidity, etc.), when applicable;
- Usage instructions, in case the absence might result in improper usage;
- Place of origin or provenance if its absence would mislead consumers;
- Lot identification, which must correspond with the number written in the export documents, with few exceptions;
- Name and address of the producer/packager/distributor registered in EU; in case of food products imported from third countries, name and address of importer/distributor registered in Romania; and
- Date of manufacturing.

Most Romanian language labels are applied in Romania, but exporters and importers may agree to attach Romanian labels in the country of origin or at the EU port of entry. To avoid delays, U.S. exporters are advised to agree in advance with their Romanian customers about new or additional labeling requirements prior to shipping.

Updated information on food labeling regarding allergens, minimum durability, additives and flavorings, may be found in [EU FAIRS report](#).

## **B. Other Specific Labeling Requirement(s)**

### **a. Country-of-Origin Labeling (COOL)**

In addition to EU-level COOL rules, Romania requires COOL for milk and dairy products. Law 88/2016 concerning mandatory supplemental labeling for fresh milk and dairy products, was amended under law 192/2017, and implemented in January 2018. Please read the report [Romania Amends COOL on Milk and Dairy for additional details](#).

### **b. Biotechnology Labeling**

Biotech labeling is regulated through Government Decision 173/2006, which transposed [Regulation \(EC\) No 2003/1830](#), that provides labeling requirements of GE-derived foods and/or ingredients containing GE. Packaged and in-bulk products consisting or containing GMOs above 0.9 percent must bear labels mentioning “this product contains GMOs.” While the animal feed containing GE ingredients

is required to be labeled, the meat, milk, or eggs obtained from animals fed with GE feed or treated with GE medicinal products do not require specific labeling, per the provisions of GOR Decision 256/2006. Voluntary labeling is permitted, and some food manufacturers choose to apply non-GE labels to their products (e.g. soy-based products or dairy products).

#### **c. Organic Labeling**

Government Ordinance 34/2000 provides specific information on organic labeling, particularly bearing the logo specific to organic agriculture. Some provisions of the Government Ordinance 34/2000 were amended through the Government Ordinance 10/2021, in the light of [Regulation \(EU\) 2018/848](#), applied as of January 1, 2022. Additional details on organic labeling may be found in the [EU FAIRS Report](#).

#### **d. Frozen Food Labeling**

Order 183/2016 regulates consumer information for certain foods produced from frozen food products. This order applies to all business operators which sell or use frozen products to prepare meals including hotels, restaurants, and institutions. Suppliers and foodservice companies which offer bread and baked goods, pastry products, meat and meat products, vegetables, and fruits that were previously frozen must display the wording “*defrosted product or from defrosted product*” in a visible way, which is readable and easy to understand, either on the package label or on restaurant menus.

#### **e. Plant-based Meat and Dairy Alternatives**

There are no specific requirements for labeling this type of products, though they must observe the provisions of the [Regulation \(EU\) 2011/1169](#) and not mislead consumers through the names used.

#### **f. Shrinkflation Labeling**

To combat the practice of shrinking the volume or weight but maintaining the same price (“shrinkflation”), ANPC approved Order 539/2024, setting rules on labeling consumer products falling in this category. Per the order, the retailers must display for at least 30 days clearly and visibly the message that the product weight/volume was reduced while the price remained unchanged.

### **Section III. Packaging and Container Regulations**

#### **a. Size and Content**

Please consult the [EU FAIRS report](#).

#### **b. Packaging Sustainability Measures**

##### **Single-use Ban**

In 2021, through Government Ordinance 6, Romania transposed the provisions of the [EU Directive 2019/204](#) on the reduction of the impact of certain plastic products on the environment, such as the ban on single-use plastics. The ordinance entered into force in 2021. Some of the provisions were implemented immediately, while others take effect later in accordance with the directive.

##### **Packaging Waste Management**

Transposing several EU directives meant to reduce packaging waste, Law 249/2015 regulates packaging waste management. It was amended in 2018 through Law 87/2018 and Emergency Ordinance 74/2018

to transpose the [EU Directive 2015/720](#) regarding reducing consumption of lightweight plastic bags. According to its provisions, as of January 1, 2019, Romania prohibited the sale of the lightweight plastic bags (below 50 microns) and very lightweight plastic carrier bags (below 15 microns). Additional provisions regarding the packaging materials and packaging waste management were approved in 2021 through Ordinance 1/2021. Separately, Emergency Ordinance 92/2021 transposing several EU directives regarding the waste regime was amended in 2023 by Law 17 and Emergency Ordinance 96, introducing measures meant to increase waste management efficiency.

Additionally, the Romanian Government established the guarantee-return system (SGR) for non-reusable primary packaging (like German Green Dot) through Government Decision 1074/2021, most recently amended through Government Decision 1074/2023. The [guarantee-return system](#) concerns the recycling of plastic, metal, or glass packaging with volumes ranging from 0.1 liter to 3 liters, which must bear the symbol “package with guarantee” (See symbol below). The SGR system, which became operational on November 30, 2023 (Government Decision 1214/2022), is mandatory for all producers and traders which place domestic or imported products on the market.



Above: “Package with guarantee” symbol, required on plastic, metal, or glass packaging, per Romania’s guarantee-return system (SGR) requirement. *Source:* [Home / ReturoSGR](#)

## Food Waste Reduction

Romania approved Law 217/2016, which obliges companies to donate or sell food products that are close to expiration dates at reduced prices. Related to this purpose, Law 200/2018 provided additional rules stating that food-sector stakeholders must prevent food waste during production, processing, storage, distribution, and sale. Enforcement rules for the food waste reduction law were set through the Government Decision 51/2019, amended in 2024 through Government Decision 955/2024. The latter provides information on establishing a national platform for collecting data on food waste reduction based on the information uploaded on a mandatory base by each operator along the food supply chain. The fiscal incentives for food donations are provided by Law 131/2020.

## Section IV. Food Additive Regulations

Romania follows EU legislation on the additives for food processing. Most recent EU legislation on food additives, applicable in Romania, can be found in the [EU FAIRS report](#).

## Section V. Pesticide and Other Contaminants

### a. Pesticides

[European Parliament and Council Regulation 1107/2009](#) establishes regulations for plant protection products (PPPs). Only PPPs containing approved active substances as established in the [Commission](#)



[implementing Regulation 540/2011](#) may be authorized for use in the EU. Before any PPP can be commercialized, it must be approved in the relevant MS. Following MS approval, PPP can be mutually recognized and authorized within the EU.

Romania follows EU standards on maximum residue levels (MRLs) established under [Regulation \(EU\) 396/2005](#) on food or feed of plant and animal origin, organized by the EU in a [database](#). Pesticide MRLs for processed or composite products are based on the MRLs of the raw agricultural ingredients.

In Romania, the competent authorities overseeing the National Monitoring Program for pesticide residues are ANSVSA, MARD, and MOH. ANSVSA develops Romania's pesticide residue program in cooperation with MARD and MOH. The program establishes the number of samples for foods of plant and animal origin imported from MSs and third countries, the sampling locations, and the active substances subject to analysis. While ANSVSA implements the National Program for Surveillance and Control for foods of plant and animal origin, MARD is responsible for the national pesticide residue monitoring plan in fruits, vegetables, and cereals. MOH monitors and controls the pesticide residues from special nutrient foods. For more information on MRLs, please see the [EC webpage](#).

#### **b. Contaminants**

Detailed information regarding food contaminants is included in the [EU FAIRS Report](#).

### **Section VI. Other Requirements, Regulations, and Registration Measures**

In Romania, U.S. exporters are not required to register with the Romanian authorities. However, exports of certain U.S.-origin products must originate from EU-approved production facilities, notably products of animal origin including red meat, meat products, farmed and wild game meat, fish and seafood, eggs, milk and milk products, embryos and semen, and animal by-products. See [here](#) specific information. Detailed information concerning the certification and document requirements pertaining to this chapter are included in the [EU FAIRS report](#).

### **Section VII. Other Specific Standards/Laws**

#### **a. Food Supplements**

The governing rules on food supplements changed in 2021, when Law 56 on food supplements was adopted. Per these provisions, MOH became the sole competent authority on food supplements, unlike previously when two authorities shared responsibilities based on the composition of the food supplements. Food supplements can be placed on the market only based on the notification certificate issued by the MS. Law 56/2021 was amended by Emergency Ordinance 88/2023, which provided supplementary information regarding the notification rules for food supplements. Subsequent legislation concerning food supplement manufacturing, marketing, and utilization is still pending. Until the new implementing rules are published and implemented, the provisions of the [EU Directive 2002/46](#) and the [EU Regulation 1170/2009](#), transposed through Order 1069/2007, amended by Order 2134/2019, are applicable to food supplements containing permitted vitamins and minerals. Food supplements containing permitted vitamins and minerals combined with other substances are regulated by the provisions of Order 1228/2005. The notification procedure along with the type of required documentation is outlined [here](#) (in Romanian language).

## **b. Organic Food**

At the EU level, [Regulation \(EU\) 2018/848](#) regulates organic production and organic product labeling. In Romania, Order 45/2022, with the subsequent amendments, transposed the provisions of the above-mentioned EU legislation. Additionally, Order 241/2020 set a five-year prohibition if an inspection and certification body cancelled its previous certification because of major fraud. Order 98/2019 issued jointly by MARD and ANSVSA clarifies the responsibilities of each entity regarding authorizing organic food imports from third countries, as well as the consignment inspection process at the border. It is the responsibility of ANSVSA to verify the import documents for imported organic food from third countries, as listed in order 98/2019.

## **c. Trans Fats**

In 2020, the Romanian Parliament approved Law 182/2020 which transposed the [EU Regulation 2019/649](#) amending Annex III to [Regulation \(EC\) No 1925/2006](#) regarding trans fat, other than trans fat naturally occurring in fat of animal origin. According to the new provisions, food operators must ensure a maximum limit of trans fat in food of two grams per 100 grams of fat. ANSVSA, MOH, and ANPC share responsibilities on checking compliance. Provisions of Law 182/2020 apply to both domestic and imported foods.

## **d. Milk and Dairy Product Marketing**

In 2022, specific rules on marketing milk and dairy products were adopted. According to the provisions of Law 307 on milk and dairy, the products based on milk and fats and/or proteins other than milk-based, must be displayed in a space clearly designated on separate retail shelves from the ones on which genuine milk and dairy products are displayed, along with information about the content of these products. The requirement to provide information about these products applies also in cases of meals and products prepared in pastry-shops, pizza, and fast-food chains. In addition, the restaurant food menus must list all the dairy products based on fat/proteins other than dairy, which were used as ingredients. Government decision 104/2023 approved enforcement rules and guidelines in connection to the milk law to serve as a base for dairy policy crafting.

## **e. Energy Drinks**

In 2024, law 42 to prevent and combat the effects of energy drinks consumption was published. According to its main provisions, donation and sale of energy drinks to citizens under 18, including through vending machines, is prohibited. Noncompliant operators are punished with heavy fines. The fines are even higher if operators place these items for sale in clinics or schools. A few months later, the Parliament approved law 233/2024 making the verification of customer age mandatory for sellers.

## **f. Seeds and Seedling-Material**

Seeds and seedling-material imports and exports are regulated by Order 34/2011 amended through Orders 860/2013 and 443/2019 on quality and phytosanitary controls to clarify the definitions of “*small quantities*” of plants and plant products and the flow of documents. To enter the Romanian market with seeds/seedling material, the importer must apply for an import approval, after submitting to MARD the set of documents listed below:

- An official request per the model published in Order 34/2011, submitted within a minimum of 10 days before the arrival of at the border, in which the importer should specify the purpose of

utilization and types of seeds: "*seeds from non-genetically modified varieties*," "*organic seeds*," "*seeds from genetically modified varieties*;"

- Authorization for producing, processing, or marketing the seeds and seedling material;
- Importation contract or a similar document which shows the species, variety, seed category, total amount, compliance with the EU rules, multiplication rights, and seed type;
- Multiplication contract;
- The consent of the author or variety owner, in case the seeds are under the framework of property rights on Romanian territory;
- Self-declaration regarding the seeds (GE or non-GE); and
- Other documents which may be required by MARD.

#### **g. Insect Species-based Foods**

Law 411 approved in December 2023 refers to the use of authorized new foods in the production of food products and the labeling and marketing of these products in Romania. Labels of food products containing novel foods, per the provisions of [Commission Implementing Regulation \(EU\) 2022/169](#), [Commission Implementing Regulation \(EU\) 2023/58](#), [Commission Implementing Regulation \(EU\) 2023/5](#), and [Commission Implementing Regulation \(EU\) 2021/1975](#) authorizing the placing on the market of certain insect species, must contain a statement indicating that those ingredients may cause allergic reactions in consumers. Food products that are/contain insect species authorized to be introduced on the market as new foods from the EU must be displayed on the retail shelves in a separate space than food products that are not/do not contain insect species authorized to be placed on the market as novel foods.

### **Section VIII. Geographical Indicators, Trademarks, Brand Names, and Intellectual Property Rights**

#### **a. Geographical Indications (GI)**

The Government Decision 152/2015 regulates the systems in the area of food and agricultural products quality, transposing [EU Regulation 1151/2012](#) on quality schemes for agricultural products and foodstuffs (recently replaced by [EU Regulation 2024/1143](#)). Per the provisions of local legislation, MADR is the competent authority with responsibilities in verifying the documentation for the registration and obtainment of protection of an appellation of origin or geographical indications of an agricultural or food product. A list of the names of agricultural products, wine, and spirit drinks that are registered and protected across the EU is available [here](#).

#### **b. Trademarks, Brand Names, and Intellectual Property Rights (IPR)**

Rules on the protection of trademarks in the EU are set in [EU Directive 2015/2436](#). [Commission Implementing Regulation 2018/626](#) sets out detailed rules on application procedures. Trademarks can be registered at the national, regional, or EU level. In Romania, the office responsible for applications is the [OSIM](#) office, which provides the national guidelines on how to request registration of trademarks and the fees for registration requests.

### **Section IX. Import Procedures**

Romania follows the same regime as the EU for importing animal and non-animal products originating from third countries. Depending on the type of imported agricultural or food product, specific authorities

have responsibilities for clearing the shipments, namely MARD, ANSVSA, and the MOF's Customs Authority. Legislation in this regard has not changed recently.

Each border inspection point (BIP) is authorized to perform a certain set of checks depending on the type of commodity. Prior to shipping, U.S. exporters should verify if the commodities bound for Romania are authorized and/or if competent authorities will perform the inspection of the products (frozen, live, plant-based etc.) at the BIP targeted by the U.S. exporter. The same BIP should be indicated on the documents accompanying the goods. The list of designated products and points for inspection is [here](#) on the ANSVSA website.

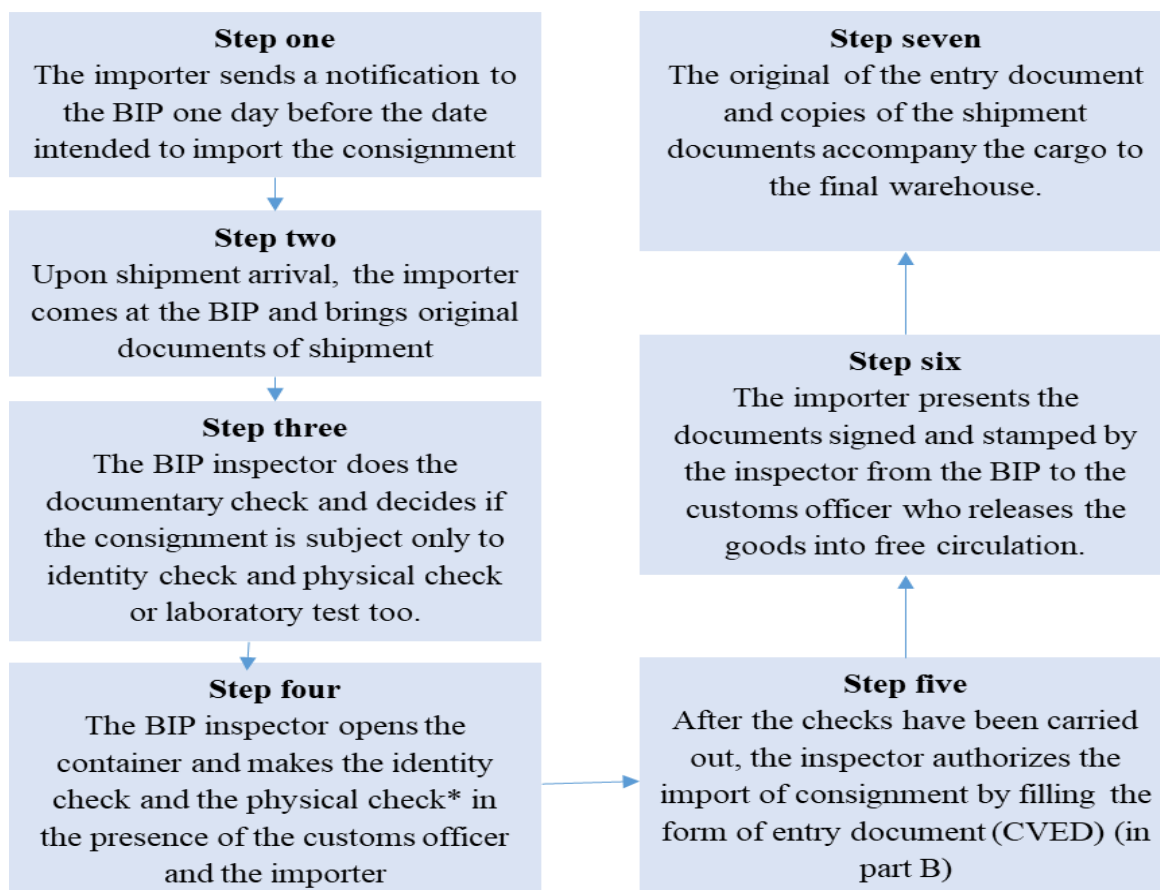
The importer must notify BIP in advance by submitting the Common Veterinary Entry Document (CVED) into the Trade Control and Expert System [TRACES](#) or by email, depending on the type of product. The importer must submit to the entry point all documents accompanying the shipments in original, such as the health certificate, bulletin of analysis, certificate of origin, and the document attesting the product quality/product conformity. The same rules apply to mail order food shipments.

Provisions of [Regulation \(EU\) 2019/2130](#) establishing detailed rules on the operations to be carried out during and after documentary checks and [Regulation \(EU\) No 2017/625](#) on official controls are applied in case of imports from non-EU countries. The veterinary order 206/2006, amended in 2014 by order 166, is the main piece of local legislation establishing the principles for the veterinary controls for products originating from third countries. In case of plant imports, Government Decision 563/2007 on introducing harmful organisms to plants or plant products and against their spread, most recently amended in 2019, is the main piece of legislation regulating the types of plants and their parts which could be introduced in Romania. Apart from setting the import requirements, the decision provides the phytosanitary certificate models. In case of consignments of animals and goods in transit, transshipment and onward transportation through the EU, [Regulation \(EU\) 2019/2124](#) provides rules for official controls.

### **c. Import Process**

The import process for animal and non-animal origin products consists of several stages: pre-notification, documentary check, identity check, and physical check. The chart below outlines the steps for each stage. Additional details on the import process are included in the guidelines for third-country imports available on the [ANSVSA](#) website (Romanian) and on the [European Commission](#) website (English).

### Flow chart of the Import Process



\* Each consignment, each individual bag, or other packaging form shall bear an identification code which shall be reproduced on the certificate.

Source: FAS Bucharest based on local legislation

#### d. Samples

Implementation of legislation governing sample imports varies by product. In case of some food products, local importers must provide the BIP inspectors a self-statement assuring that the samples will not be sold and that will be solely used for marketing purposes in Romania. In other cases, samples are treated as regular commercial shipments subject to import requirements. Therefore, it is recommended that U.S. exporters interested in shipping samples to a Romanian partner to contact FAS Bucharest or the competent authorities listed at the end of the report.

#### e. Duties, Taxes and Excises

Romania applies the customs regime adopted by the EU under [Regulation \(EU\) 2013/952](#). Import duties are determined by the tariff classification of goods and by the customs value. As all MSs apply the same tariffs, upon being cleared in one MS, the product may move freely to any other MS. For specific rules applied to the products subject to importation, the U.S. exporters are advised to consult the [Integrated Tariff of the Community](#).

Other taxes applicable to agricultural and food products are the value added tax (VAT) and excises. Romania's VAT rate is nine percent for food products, with a few exceptions. Per Law 269/2023, starting 2024, the VAT rate for sugar-added foods (above 10 grams/100 grams of product) increased to the standard rate of 19 percent, except certain types of biscuits and traditional cakes. Starting in 2023, the drinks under tariff positions 2202 (Waters, including mineral waters and aerated waters, containing added sweetening or flavored and other nonalcoholic beverages) are applied the standard VAT rate of 19 percent. Apart from VAT, the alcoholic beverages are subject to excise duties upon entry. The list of applicable excise levels is revised annually by the [Ministry of Finance](#) ([list](#) here in Romanian), approved through Emergency Ordinance 115/2023.

To bring the inflation rate down, the Romanian Government approved Emergency Ordinance 67/2023, with subsequent amendments, to limit the price growth for an extensive list of food products. According to its provisions, the caps on markups are applied across the supply chain but differ according to the type of supplier (20 percent in case of food-processors and retailers, and five percent along the distribution channel). In addition to the above ordinance, the Emergency Ordinance 89/2023 limited the markups to five percent for certain imported food products, not intended for further processing. The imported products subject to these provisions are food oil, sugar, wheat and corn flour, pork meat, poultry meat, and beef exceeding packages of five kg/five liters. These measures are valid until December 31, 2024.

## **Section X. Trade Facilitation**

### **a. Electronic Certificates**

Please read the [EU FAIRS report](#) for detailed information.

### **b. Import Control Fees**

Romania applies various types of fees for the official control of food products, feed ingredients, and pet food imports. The types of inspection fees and their levels per consignments of germinal products, animal-origin products, animal by-products, composite products, and non-animal origin products are provided by Order 96/2014 issued by ANSVSA, updated most recently in 2024. Fees for conducting the import inspection of feed and non-animal origin products are set by Order 95/2022.

### **c. Average Release Time**

The average release time for consignments depends on the type of products subject to verification. In general, the analysis of the import dossier and release of goods takes one to several days. Missing documents and incomplete or incorrect certificates may generate supplementary delays.

## **Appendix I. Government Regulatory Key Agency Contacts**

### **Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development**

Bd. Carol I nr. 2-4, sector 3 Bucuresti, Romania

Phone: +4021 3072446; +4021 3078588

E-mail: [comunicare@madr.ro](mailto:comunicare@madr.ro); [relatii publice@madr.ro](mailto:relatii publice@madr.ro) Website: <http://www.madr.ro/en>

### **Agency for Payments and Intervention in Agriculture**

– in case of imports subject to tariff quotas (for instance, beef)

Bd. Carol I 17, sector 3 Bucuresti, Romania

Phone: +40 21 305 4802; +40 21 305 49 00  
E-mail: [relatii.cu.publicul@apia.org.ro](mailto:relatii.cu.publicul@apia.org.ro) Website: <http://www.apia.org.ro/>

**National Agency for Environment Protection** (biotech products)  
Splaiul Independentei nr. 294, sector 6 Bucuresti, Romania  
Phone: +4021 207 1101; 021 207 1102  
E-mail: [office@anpm.ro](mailto:office@anpm.ro) Website: [www.anpm.ro](http://www.anpm.ro)

**National Sanitary-Veterinary and for Food Safety Authority**  
Piata Presei Libere nr.1, Corp D1, sector 1 Bucuresti, Romania  
Phone: +40 372 184977  
E-mail: [office@ansvsa.ro](mailto:office@ansvsa.ro) Website: <http://www.ansvsa.ro>

**Institute for Diagnosis and Animal Health**  
Str. Dr. Staicovici nr. 63, Sector 5 Bucuresti, Romania  
Phone: +40 374 322013 / +40374 322000  
E-mail: [office@idah.ro](mailto:office@idah.ro) Website: <http://www.idah.ro/>

**Ministry of Environment, Water and Forests**  
Libertatii Blvd. 12, Sector 5 Bucuresti, Romania  
Phone: +40 21 4089605 +40 21 4089622  
E-mail: [registratura@mmediu.ro](mailto:registratura@mmediu.ro) Website: <http://www.mmediu.ro>

**Ministry of Health** (food supplements)  
Str. Cristian Popisteanu nr. 1-3, sector 1, Bucuresti, Romania  
Phone: +40 21 312 2212, +40 21 3174008  
Email: [relatii publice@ms.ro](mailto:relatii publice@ms.ro) Website: <http://www.ms.ro/>

**National Authority for Consumers Protection**  
Bd. Aviatorilor nr. 72, sector 1, Bucuresti, Romania  
Phone: +40 21 3076793  
E-mail: [secretariat@anpc.ro](mailto:secretariat@anpc.ro) Website: <http://www.anpc.ro>

**The National Customs Authority**  
Str. Alexandru Ivasiuc nr. 34-40, Bl. 5, Sector 6, Bucuresti, Romania  
Email: [vama@customs.ro](mailto:vama@customs.ro) Website: <https://www.customs.ro/>

**The State Institute for Variety Trials and Registration**  
Bd. Marasti nr. 61, Sector 1, Bucuresti, Romania  
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**National Phytosanitary Authority**  
Blvd. Voluntari nr. 11, Voluntari, Ilfov, Romania  
Phone: +40 21 2703254 / +40 21 270 3256  
E-mail: [anf@anfdf.ro](mailto:anf@anfdf.ro), [fitosanitar@anfdf.ro](mailto:fitosanitar@anfdf.ro) Website: [www.anfdf.ro](http://www.anfdf.ro)



**Patent and Trademark Office - OSIM**

Ion Ghica St. 5, Bucuresti, Romania

Phone: +40 21 3060800 / +4021 3060801

E-mail: office@osim.gov.ro Website: [www.osim.ro/en](http://www.osim.ro/en)

**Appendix II. Other Import Specialist Technical Contacts****Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (seeds)**

National Inspection for Seed Quality

Sandu Aldea Street 10, Bucuresti, Romania

Phone: +40 21 2228420 +40 21 224 0264

E-mail: lccsms@lccsms.ro Website: <http://www.lccsms.bvl.ro>

**Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (seeds)**

General Department for Control and Inspection

B.dul Carol I nr. 24, sector 3 Bucuresti, Romania

Phone: +4021 307 86 63, +4021 307 24 28

E-mail: incs@madr.ro Website: <https://www.incs.ro/contact1.htm>

**National Sanitary-Veterinary and for Food Safety Authority**

Official testing laboratories [List](#)

Piata Presei Libere nr. 1, Corp D1, Sector 1 Bucuresti, Romania Phone: +40 372 184977

E-mail: office@ansvsa.ro Website: <http://www.ansvsa.ro>

**National Animal Husbandry Agency (for imports of frozen semen and embryos)**

București – Ploiești, Km 18.2, Balotești, Ilfov

Phone: +40 21 3501017 +40 21 3501016

E-mail: anarz@anarz.eu Website: <http://www.anarz.eu>

**Romanian Food-Industry Federation - ROMALIMENTA**

Str. Av. Petre Cretu 49, et.1, apt.2, Sector 1 Bucuresti, Romania Phone: +4 021 3124442

Email: office@romalimenta.ro Website: [www.romalimenta.ro](http://www.romalimenta.ro)

**Romanian Large Retail Network Association**

155 Calea Victoriei Bloc D1, Scara 7, Etaj 11 Sector 1 Bucuresti, Romania

Phone: +4 0721 464 989

Email: [contact@amrcr.ro](mailto:contact@amrcr.ro) Website: [www.amrcr.ro](http://www.amrcr.ro)

For further information on this report, please contact USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) office in Bucharest:

Foreign Agricultural Service

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**Attachments:**

No Attachments