

# FOOD FRAUD COFFEE

## COMMON TYPES OF FOOD FRAUD IN COFFEE

### LACK OF TRACEABILITY

The lack of reliable information and records regarding the origin, processing, and journey can lead to challenges in ensuring sustainability, quality, and ethical sourcing practices.



### MISLABELLING OF ORIGIN

Fraudulent coffee producers mislabel the origin of their coffee, claiming it comes from renowned coffee-growing regions to command higher prices.



### SPECIES SUBSTITUTION

The substitution of premium Arabica coffee beans with cheaper Robusta beans. This misleads consumers who seek the distinct flavors and qualities of Arabica coffee.



### UNETHICAL LABOR PRACTICES

This often involves exploitative labour practices, including the use of child labour, human rights violations, and unfair wages for coffee farm workers.



## EUDR

The European Union's Deforestation Regulation (EUDR) has brought significant changes to various supply chains. This new regulation mandates transparency in supply chains, including coffee, and the associated products. One key concern is risk of adulteration or misrepresentation of coffee. The EUDR aims to tackle this issue by ensuring traceability and integrity throughout the supply chain. With the EUDR regulations now in place, Source Certain can help verify the origin of coffee to comply with the new law.



## FACTS



Researchers from the Quadram Institute have estimated that anywhere from 5-20% of all "100% Arabica" coffee will in fact be fraudulent [1]



Adulteration is more extreme in powdered instant coffee, where substances found have included chicory, cereals, caramel, parchment, starch, malt, and figs. [2]



Research used to inform the policy of the EUDR found that coffee accounted for 7.01% of EU-driven deforestation. [3]



More than 15 tons of coffee with uncompliant packaging, high moisture content, or wrong labels, with some products also containing corn mixed with coffee, were seized from Brazil in 2022. [4]



Coffee is among one of the most commonly reported foods to have been adulterated. [5]

#### References (in order):

- [1] SGS - Detecting and Preventing Coffee Fraud - 2021, (<https://shorturl.at/kouGW>)
- [2] Lux Tags - 4 Foods You Are Eating That Are Probably Fake! (<https://shorturl.at/gEHN8>)
- [3] Pendrill, F., Persson, F. & Kastner, T. (2020) DOI: 10.5281/zenodo.4250532
- [4] European Commission Monthly Summary of Articles on Food Fraud and Adulteration (<https://shorturl.at/mqyAB>)
- [5] National Library of Medicine - Food authenticity vulnerability in the pandemic (<https://shorturl.at/IACRV>)

## THE SOLUTION: TSW Trace®



TSW Trace® is a scientific solution used for provenance science services.

This technology goes beyond determining the country or region of origin and can pinpoint the specific source, such as mine, farm, orchard, shed, or pond.

Every material carries a unique chemical signature from its environment or production process, enabling origin tracing.

TSW Trace® has been used as a supply chain integrity tool to scientifically verify the claimed provenance of food and non-food items.

The testing is independent of product labels and other systems, serving as a check on the integrity of supply chain systems.



### WANT TO KNOW MORE

Protect your business and customers from food fraud! Contact Source Certain at [sales@sourcecertain.com](mailto:sales@sourcecertain.com) today, or visit [www.sourcecertain.com](http://www.sourcecertain.com)



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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T4w3o-BdDUc>



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