ALLERGENS AS A RELEVANT DANGER IN FOOD: CONTROL AND PREVENTION





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The frequency of food allergies is increasing and has become a public health problem, affecting between 3 and 4% of the EU population. Regulations have changed and require the labeling of all allergens used in the manufacture of a food product.

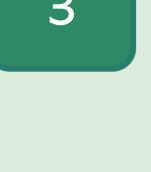
DISCUSSION

Study food allergen alerts notified by the Spanish Agency for Food Safety and Nutrition (AESAN) in the last two years, as well as their response and management for consumer protection and observe if it is necessary to harmonize criteria and distribution of information between the countries of the European Union to prevent risks.





Information due to allergen food alerts on AESAN 2019 - 2020.



Manage answers.





the Contact affected company using a questionnaire.

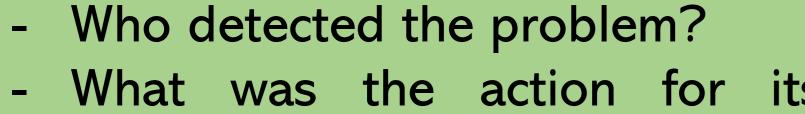


Obtain results on allergen management.

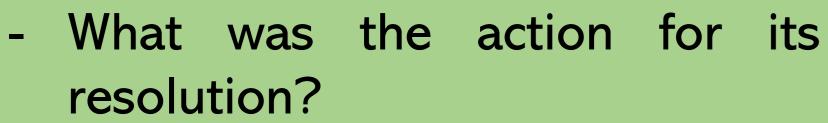


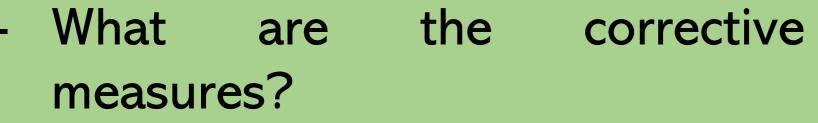


Results evaluation.



- How was the problem detected?





- Has the problem been resolved?



Improvement actions according to management of food alerts.

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The most reported allergens are milk, gluten, and eggs. Moreover, European health authorities should harmonize criteria to provide information on food alerts for allergens more quickly and accurately to both consumers and companies.

Companies should improve their communication system with consumers.

The correct identification of the alerts causes allows a better collection of data and knowledge of the weak points to improve for the management of the risk and therefore prevent risks in the alimentary industry.

References:

Reglamento UE 2021/382 de la comisión de 3 de marzo de 2021, por el que se modifican los anexos del Reglamento (CE) 852/2004 del Parlamento Europeo y del Consejo, relativo a la higiene de los productos alimenticios, en lo que respecta a la gestión de los alérgenos alimentarios, la redistribución de alimentos y la cultura de seguridad alimentaria. [Internet]. BOE, núm. 74 p. 3-6 (4th March 2021) [consulted 6th April 2021]. Available on: https://www.boe.es/doue/2021/074/L00003-00006.pdf



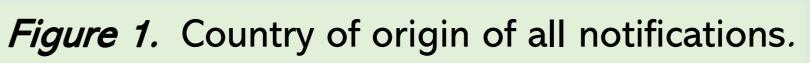
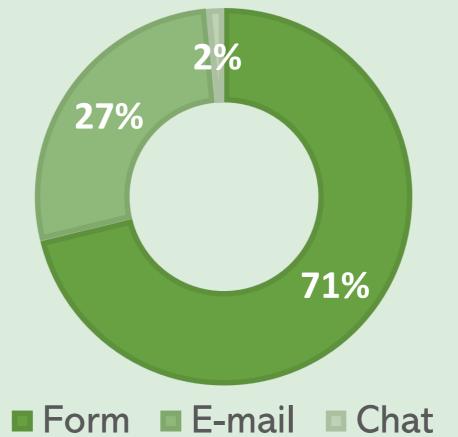




Figure 2. Allergens responsible for product recalls.





channels with companies.

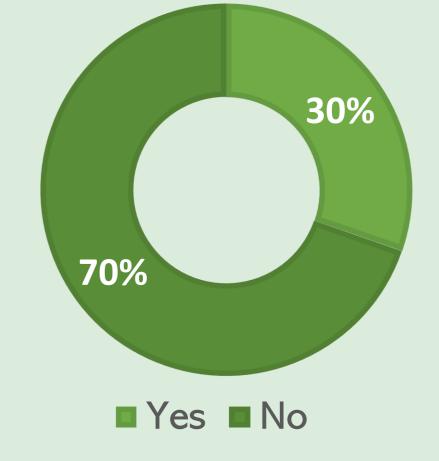


Figure 4. Collaborative capacity of companies.

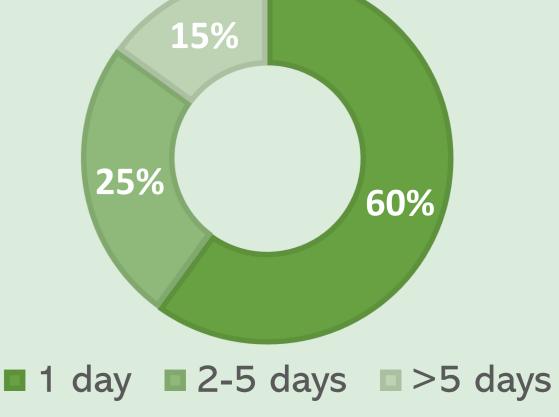


Figure 5. Timeout response of the collaborative companies

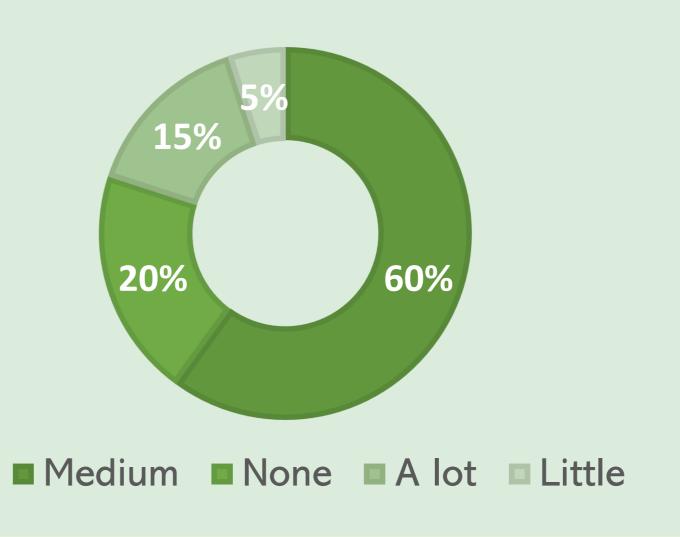
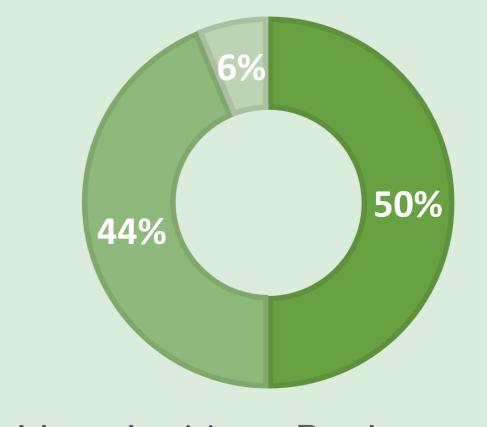


Figure 6. Established communication system



■ Health authorities ■ Producer ■ Consumer

Figure 7. Responsible for product recalls