

# mipaaf

ministero delle  
politiche agricole  
alimentari e forestali

DEPARTMENT OF CENTRAL INSPECTORATE FOR QUALITY SAFEGUARDING AND  
ANTI-FRAUD OF FOODSTUFF AND AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS (ICQRF)

# REPORT 2016



ENGLISH VERSION

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## 1. Summary of results

The 2016 has been a year of great commitment for the Ministry of Agricultural Food and Forestry Policies (MIPAAF) to protect the Italian agri-food patrimony.

After the extraordinary showcase of EXPO2015 continued the positive results in the protection of the national agricultural products, and the efforts of ICQRF to protect them in Italy, in the world and on the web. ICQRF proved to be the benchmark of controls on the food at the international level, so that since November 2016 ICQRF has been designated by the European Commission as Food fraud contact point for Italy.

The ICQRF 2016 report highlights the numbers related to the activities against fraud, misuse, cases of Italian sounding and to counterfeit products in detriment of “made in Italy” quality products and consumers, as well as a description of activities aimed to fight the agribusiness crime.

In details, in 2016 ICQRF performed 48,310 inspective and analytical controls (38,756 inspection, 9,554 samples analyzed). Moreover, 53,427 products and 25,190 producers have been verified.

With reference to the agricultural sector, 15,756 controls have affected the wine products, 6,957 the oils, 5,290 the dairy products, 2,587 fruit and vegetables, 2,108 the meats, 2,103 cereals and cereal products, 1,423 vegetable preserved, 1,521 sugar and supplements, 748 honey, 639 eggs, 560 spirits and 2,363 other sectors.

The inspection and analytical controls on the technical means in agriculture have been 6,255.

In sectors, such as wine and olive oil, ICQRF carries out the largest number of anti-fraud controls in the world.

The ICQRF inspectors have qualification of Officers of Judicial Police. On **combating crime agribusiness actions**, the performed in 2016 complex investigations coordinated by the Italian Prosecutors. Those activities were carried out by the local offices and laboratories and by a specific Central Investigation Unit, "UIC". The results of Judicial Police are as follows: in 2016 the ICQRF forwarded to the judiciary **311 crime reports**, operated **471 seizures** for an economic value of **over 13 million euro** and a total quantity of seized products amounted to **13,241 tons**. Excluding sea products, the ICQRF operated **54% of seizures**, in term of value, of irregular products of the total seizures carried out by the police authorities belonging to MIPAAF.

Also in 2016 the ICQRF gave special attention to control activity on the production, processing and marketing of agricultural and food products in the "Terra dei Fuochi", carrying out 562 inspections which covered 846 products, 51% of which related to the fruit and vegetable sectors, canning and dairy.

The ICQRF is the primary sanctioning Italian agribusiness, with 4,096 administrative penalties in addition to 3,527 warnings.

The ICQRF has by law the role of **sanctioning authority** for numerous infringements of Italian agri-food law, also contested by other control authorities. In 2016 the ICQRF issued 1,339 orders for payment in the amount of approximately **50 million euro**.

**At the international level and on the web** the ICQRF activities of protection of Made in Italy food has achieved results that have no equivalent in other countries.

Ever since, in 2014, the ICQRF was designated “ex officio” Italian Authority for PDO / PGI products and the body contact for Italy in the EU in the wine sector, the ICQRF worked well **1,562 interventions abroad and on the web.**

**On web**, in particular, the ICQRF strengthened the cooperation with Alibaba and Ebay and obtained good results on Amazon as well: the procedures on those web market places have been 383, with the **98% of success.**

The Ministry, as authoritatively underlined by the **Minister Martina**, is deployed on all fronts with its control bodies and boasts cutting-edge tools in Europe such as those aimed at prevention of fraud on the major web operators.

The **Memorandum of Understanding**, signed between the **ICQRF and Alibaba**, was presented by the President of the Council Renzi along with CEO of Alibaba Jack Ma, in September 2016, during the G20 held in Hangzhou.

In 2016 the ICQRF carried out **audits covering 56 control bodies** (43% of the total of the regulated CBs/regulated areas) of agricultural food production of regulated quality (organic products, PDO, PGI and TSG agricultural products and foodstuffs, wines with denomination of origin and geographical indication). Among those, 39 audit were carried out on control bodies certifying PDO and PGI (16 of which wines), 10 organic products and 7 voluntary meat labelling.

As part of the measures aimed at simplification and elimination of red tape, in 2016 continued the implementation of Decree 91/2014, "**Campolibero**", converted into Law 116/2014. The ICQRF implemented the dematerialization of incoming and outgoing materials relating to the wine sector, pasta products intended for export, sugars, milk powder, and butter.

For the wine, in particular, January 1, 2017 came into effect the obligation to exclusively electronic record keeping: a revolution that involved many wine business operators and allow Italy to be the only country in the world to have online inventories and movements of the wine produced.

In 2016 went into effect at the ICQRF the **Register of Inspection Checks "RUCI"** on agricultural producers. This important tool will facilitate coordination between the control authorities and the planning of no vexatious activities on food business operators. On 31 December 2016 in RUCI were present data related to **312,000 inspections conducted.**

The **warning** (the possibility for the operator to "solve" free of charge within 20 days the infringements punishable only by a fine, also had a large widespread in 2016 and involved **3,217 operators**. Compared to 2015 the increase in warnings was 26.6%, with a significant reduction of the litigation and of the penalties imposed, while achieving the result of the regularization of products.

The 2016 results of the ICQRF have even more value if we consider the reduction of staff caused by the turn over block, which lasts from 8 years. Even with fewer resources, in 2016 the ICQRF has improved its results, to confirm the efficiency and quality of work done by women and men of ICQRF.

The ICQRF Report 2016 is also available in Italian and Chinese on the website [www.politicheagricole.it](http://www.politicheagricole.it).

The Chief of ICQRF  
Stefano Vaccari

## 2. Protection of agri-food “made in Italy” in the world and on the web

With its 814 agri-food PDO/PGI/TGS products recognised by the European Union<sup>1</sup>, Italy is the leader in the field of agri-food products of excellence.

The Italian model for protecting its Geographical Indications (PDO and PGI) has become a reference model in Europe. The ICQRF pursues three lines of action:

- As Italian ex officio authority<sup>2</sup>, acts to stop the unlawful use in Europe of Geographical Indications (for Italian GIs and for GIs of other Member States as well);
- As Italian Liaison Body with other Member States in the wine sector<sup>3</sup>, acts to protect Italian DO and GI wines in Europe and on the web;
- By the means of collaboration with the main e-commerce players, acts to ensure protection of the Italian products on the web.

The ICQRF operates on eBay, Alibaba and Amazon as a party (*owner*) entitled to protect the “name” of the Italian Geographical Indications. With eBay, there is a specific agreement for the protection of the protected names in agri-food sector. On Alibaba, the ICQRF can operate directly on the intellectual property protection system “Aliprotect”, and has signed a specific MoU concerning the protection of the Italian agri-food products on all of the Alibaba Group websites. Amazon Europe cooperates on blocking irregular listings with products evoking or misusing protected names of Italian wines.

In the last three years, through the above-mentioned three lines of actions, the ICQRF has taken **No. 1,562 actions abroad and on the web**, including actions on the three main marketplaces of the world: Alibaba, eBay and Amazon.

In 2016, the ICQRF tackled down **No. 971 cases** of misuses and evocations, of which: No. 202 products on sale on eBay, No. 184 on Amazon, No. 33 on Alibaba, No. 72 on other service providers, No. 516 wine products on sale on the web and in public places. No. 108 actions concerned extra-EU countries.

The following graphs and tables show the counterfeit products, the cases where the ICQRF took action, and the countries or the web marketplaces involved. Moreover, the actions are broken down by the tool used for the protection (ex officio, Italian Liaison Body in the wine sector, cooperation agreements for the web).

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<sup>1</sup> Figures as at 21 December 2016.

<sup>2</sup> Art. 16 of the Decree of the Italian Minister of Agriculture of 14 October 2013, implementing Art. 13, par. 3, Reg. EU No. 1151/2012

<sup>3</sup> Decree of the Italian Minister of Agriculture 19 June 2014, implementing Art. 82, par. 2, Reg. EC No. 555/2008

**I. Total actions of the ICQRF on the web and abroad since June 2014**

<b>Pruduct</b>	<b>Total actions</b>	<i>Of which</i> <b>Web cooperation</b>	<i>Of which</i> <b>Wine sector Liaison Body</b>	<i>Of which</i> <b>Ex officio</b>
Aceto balsamico di Modena	72	43		29
Aceto balsamico tradizionale di Modena	10	10		
Amarone della Valpolicella	12	4	8	
Arancia di Ribera	9	9		
Asiago	26	22		4
Barolo	17		17	
Beneventano	4	4		
Brunello di Montalcino	6	2	4	
Bruzio (EVO oil)	4	4		
Campi Flegrei	21	21		
Capocollo di Calabria	8	8		
Cappero di Pantelleria	4	4		
Chianti	1		1	
Collio Goriziano	2		2	
Coppa di Parma	1	1		
Cotechino Modena	1	1		
Culatello di Zibello	1	1		
Dauno (EVO oil)	35	35		
Emilia	1		1	
Falerio	1	1		
Fontina	3			3
Frascati	3		3	
Garda (EVO oil)	1			1
Gorgonzola	7	3		4
Grana Padano	11	8		3
Lambrusco	4		4	
Lessini Durello	1		1	
Marche	1	1		
Melannurca campana	3	3		
Mela Alto Adige	1			1
Montepulciano d'Abruzzo	5	4	1	
Mortadella di Bologna	1			1
Mozzarella di Bufala Campana	3	3		
Pancetta di Calabria	2	2		
Pane di Altamura	1	1		
Panforte di Siena	2	2		

<b>Product</b>	<b>Total actions</b>	<i>Of which</i> <b>Web cooperation</b>	<i>Of which</i> <b>Wine sector Liaison Body</b>	<i>Of which</i> <b>Ex officio</b>
Parmigiano Reggiano	321	178		143
Pecorino di Filiano	1	1		
Pecorino Romano	11	8		3
Pecorino Sardo	2	2		
Pecorino Siciliano	31	31		
Pecorino Toscano	25			25
Peperone di Senise	3	3		
Piadina Romagnola	1	1		
Piemonte	1		1	
Pistacchio Verde di Bronte	3	3		
Primitivo di Manduria	3	2	1	
Pomodoro di Pachino	2	2		
Prosciutto di Parma	13	2		11
Prosciutto San Daniele	5			5
Prosecco	530	148	382	
Riviera Ligure (EVO oil)	3	1		2
Roma	1		1	
Romagna	2	1	1	
Salame Felino	3	3		
Salame Piacentino	1	1		
Salamini Italiani alla Cacciatora	3	3		
Salento	2		2	
Salsiccia di Calabria	8	8		
Sardegna (EVO oil)	1			1
Soave	1	1		
Soppresata di Calabria	6	6		
Taleggio	1			1
Terra di Bari (EVO oil)	12	12		
Toscana	1		1	
Toscana (EVO oil)	12	9		3
Tuscia (EVO oil)	2	2		
Umbria (EVO oil)	2	2		
Veneto	1		1	
Vino Nobile di Montepulciano	2	2		
Wine kit evoking several products	259	9	250	
Zampone Modena	2	2		
<b>Total</b>	<b>1.562</b>	<b>640</b>	<b>682</b>	<b>240</b>

**II. Total actions of the ICQRF on the web and abroad in 2016**

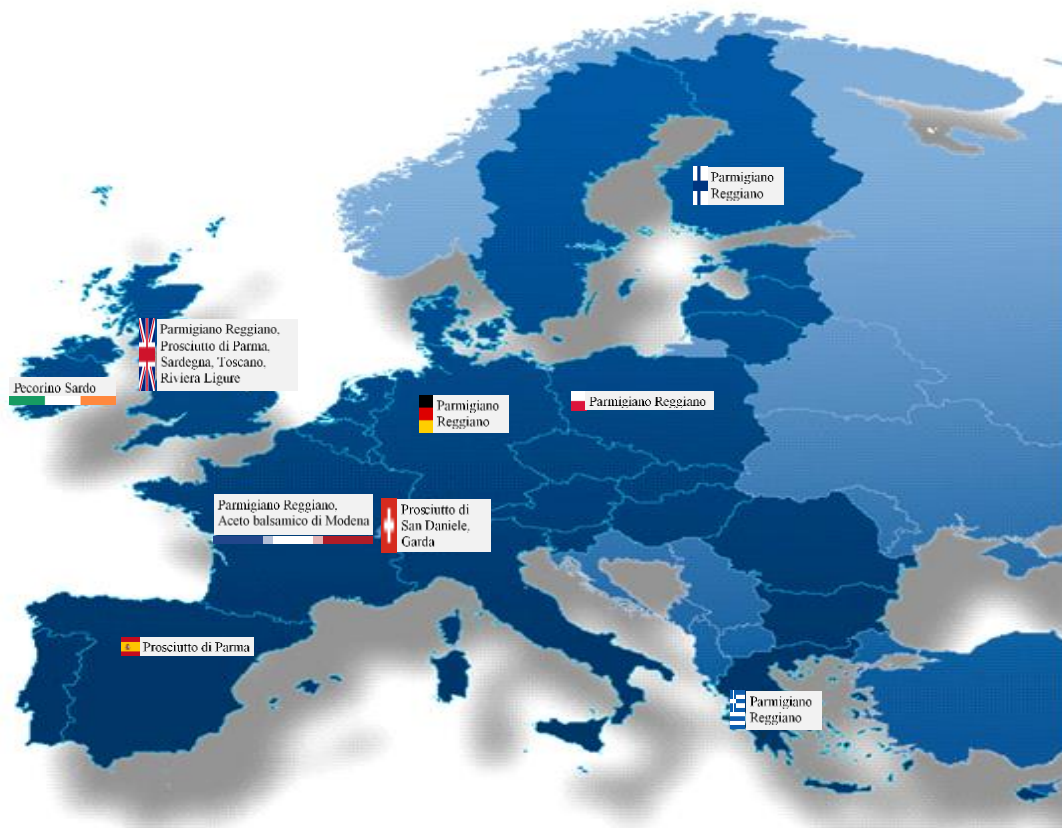
<b>Product</b>	<b>Total actions</b>	<i>Of which</i> <b>Web cooperation</b>	<i>Of which</i> <b>Wine sector Liaison Body</b>	<i>Of which</i> <b>Ex officio</b>
Aceto balsamico di Modena	11	1		10
Amarone della Valpolicella	5	4	1	
Arancia di Ribera	9	9		
Asiago	13	13		
Brunello di Montalcino	3	2	1	
Capocollo di Calabria	8	8		
Chianti	1		1	
Collio goriziano	1		1	
Cotechino Modena	1	1		
Dauno (EVO oil)	35	35		
Emilia	1		1	
Garda (EVO oil)	1			1
Gorgonzola	3	3		
Grana Padano	8	8		
Montepulciano d'Abruzzo	4	4		
Pancetta di Calabria	2	2		
Pane di Altamura	1	1		
Panforte di Siena	2	2		
Parmigiano Reggiano	183	130		53
Pecorino di Filiano	1	1		
Pecorino Sardo	2			2
Pecorino Siciliano	3	3		
Peperone di Senise	3	3		
Piadina Romagnola	1	1		
Pistacchio Verde di Bronte	3	3		
Pomodoro di Pachino	2	2		
Prosciutto di Parma	2			2
Prosciutto San Daniele	1			1
Prosecco	350	90	260	
Riviera Ligure (EVO oil)	1			1
Romagna	1		1	
Salame Felino	3	3		
Salamini Italiani alla Cacciatora	2	2		
Salsiccia di Calabria	8	8		
Sardegna (EVO oil)	1			1
Soppressata di Calabria	6	6		



<b>Product</b>	<b>Total actions</b>	<i>Of which</i> <b>Web cooperation</b>	<i>Of which</i> <b>Wine sector Liaison Body</b>	<i>Of which</i> <b>Ex officio</b>
Terra di Bari (EVO oil)	12	12		
Toscana (EVO oil)	10	9		1
Tuscia (EVO oil)	2	2		
Umbria (EVO oil)	2	2		
Vino Nobile di Montepulciano	2	2		
Wine kit evoking several products	259	9	250	
Zampone Modena	2	2		
<b>Total</b>	<b>971</b>	<b>383</b>	<b>516</b>	<b>72</b>

**III. ICQRF – Actions in 2016 - “Ex officio” Authority**

Products	Cases (no.)	Countries involved
Parmigiano Reggiano	53	Germany, UK, France, Finland, Greece, Poland
Aceto balsamico di Modena	10	France
Pecorino Sardo	2	Ireland
Prosciutto di Parma	2	UK, Spain
Riviera Ligure (EVO oil)	1	UK
Sardegna (EVO oil)	1	UK
Toscana (EVO oil)	1	UK
<b>EU</b>	<b>70</b>	
Prosciutto San Daniele	1	Switzerland
Garda (EVO oil)	1	Switzerland
<b>Third Countries</b>	<b>2</b>	
<b>Total</b>	<b>72</b>	



**IV. ICQRF – Actions in 2016 – Wine sector Liaison Body**

Product	Cases (no.)	Countries involved
Prosecco	255	Germany, Netherlands, UK, Austria, Czech Republic, Poland, Romania, Belgium, Ireland, Portugal, Greece, Denmark
Websites evoking several products	150	UK, Ireland
Amarone della Valpolicella and Valpolicella ripasso	1	Sveden
Brunello di Montalcino	1	Poland
Collio Goriziano	1	Slovenia
Emilia	1	Spain
Romagna	1	Denmark
<b>EU</b>	<b>410</b>	
Wine kit evoking several products	100	USA
Prosecco	5	Switzerland, USA, Moldova, Ukraine
Chianti	1	USA
<b>Third Countries</b>	<b>106</b>	
<b>Total</b>	<b>516</b>	



**V. ICQRF – 2016 - listings removed on the online marketplaces – per product (No. cases)**

Product	Total, of which:	e-bay	Amazon	Alibaba
Parmigiano Reggiano	130	42	65	23
Prosecco	90	15	72	3
Dauno (EVO oil)	35	35		
Asiago	13	5	2	6
Terra di Bari (EVO oil)	12	12		
Arancia di Ribera	9	9		
Toscano (EVO oil)	9	9		
Wine kit evoking several products	9		9	
Capocollo di Calabria	8	8		
Grana Padano	8	8		
Salsiccia di Calabria	8	8		
Soppressata di Calabria	6	6		
Amarone della Valpolicella	4	4		
Montepulciano d'Abruzzo	4	4		
Gorgonzola	3	2		1
Pecorino Siciliano	3	3		
Peperone di Senise	3	3		
Pistacchio verde di Bronte	3	3		
Salame Felino	3	3		
Brunello di Montalcino	2	2		
Pancetta di Calabria	2	2		
Panforte di Siena	2	2		
Pomodoro di Pachino	2	2		
Salamini Italiani alla Cacciatora	2	2		
Tuscia (EVO oil)	2	2		
Umbria (EVO oil)	2	2		
Vino Nobile di Montepulciano	2	2		
Zampone Modena	2	2		
Aceto balsamico di Modena	1	1		
Cotechino Modena	1	1		
Pane di Altamura	1	1		
Pecorino di Filiano	1	1		
Piadina Romagnola	1	1		
<b>Total</b>	<b>383</b>	<b>202</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>33</b>



Vegan products evoking and misusing the PDO "Parmigiano Reggiano": commercialization stopped



Cheese made in Belgium and marketed in Luxembourg evoking the PDO "Pecorino Sardo"



**Prosciutto San Daniele DOP  
geschnitten**

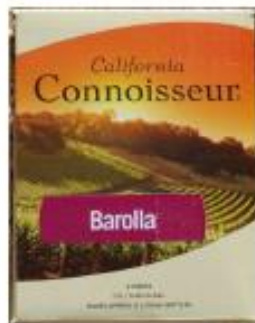
**CHF 16.70 \***

Stop to trade of raw ham in Switzerland  
misusing the PDO "Prosciutto di San  
Daniele"

**Prosecco: the ICQRF carries on the enforcement activity, stopping the unlawful marketing of fake Prosecco in cans and on tap in pubs and minivan**



**Wine kits: enforcement activity against the unlawful marketing of "wine kits" that evoking/ usurping the Italian wine excellences in Europe and in third countries**



### 3. The activity in Italy

#### An overview of the control activity

In the year 2016 the ICQRF carried out 38,756 inspections and analyzed 9,554 samples for a total amount of 48,310 controls. The operators controlled have been more than 25,000 and the products controlled have exceeded 53,000 units.

The infringements detected have concerned 27.4% of the operators, 17.4% of the products and 9.4% of the samples.

In relation to the results reported above, the ICQRF forwarded to the Judicial Authority 311 crime reports and imposed 4,096 administrative sanctions.

During the inspection activity, the ICQRF inspectors seized irregular agri-food products for a total amount of 13,000 tons with a commercial value of over 12.5 million of Euros. Furthermore, throughout 2016 personal properties for over a million of euro, plus real estate and administrative documents have also been seized.

Inspection activity	
Controls (no.)	38,756
Controlled Operators / Premises (no.)	25,190
Irregular Operators / Premises (%)	27.4
Controlled products (no.)	53,427
Irregular products (%)	17.4
Analysed samples (no.)	9,554
Irregular samples (%)	9.4

Results	
Crime reports (no.)	311
Administrative penalties (no.)	4,096
Seizures (no.)	471
Amount of seized products (tons)	13,241
Economic value of seizures (€)	13,636,862
Warnings (no.)	3,527

#### *ICQRF – Amount and economic value of seizures*

Seized goods	Amount	Value
Agri-food products (tons)	13,241	12,519,815
Real estate (no.)	3	7,665,000
Personal properties (no.)	12	349,808
Documents (no.)	3,069	739

**ICQRF - Distribution of the inspections per province in 2016\***

*(\*) Each circle represents a province. The number of controls is proportional to the size of the circle*





## Controls on Quality Products

### PDO, PGI and TSG products

The ICQRF is the main enforcement authority involved for the protection quality Italian products, especially as concerns the safeguard of PDO, PGI and TSG products.

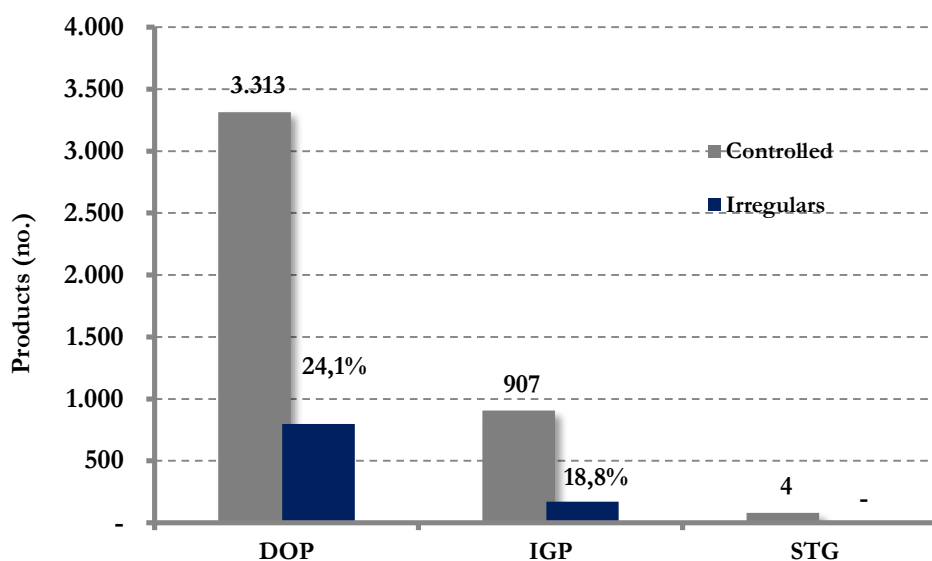
Hereinafter, are reported the main results of the control activity carried out by ICQRF throughout 2016, in the field of PDO, PGI and TSG agri-food products and DO and GI wines.

#### *ICQRF – controls in 2016 on PDO, PGI and TSG products*

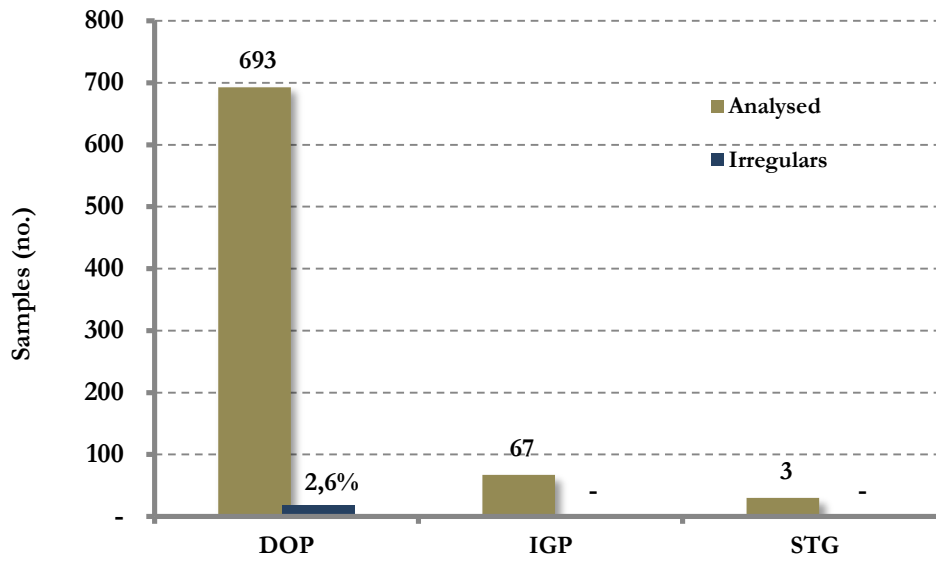
Inspection activity	
Controls (no.)	3,199
Controlled Operators / Premises (no.)	2,524
Irregular Operators / Premises (%)	20.7
Controlled products (no.)	4,225
Irregular products (%)	22.9
Analysed samples (no.)	763
Irregular samples (%)	2.4

Results	
Crime reports (no.)	37
Administrative penalties (no.)	670
Seizures (no.)	22
Amount of seized products (tons)	101
Economic value of seizures (€)	415,386.00
Warnings (no.)	297

#### *ICQRF - PDO, PGI and TSG agri-food products controlled and irregulars*



**ICQRF - Samples of PDO PGI and TSG products analyzed and irregulars**



## DO and GI wines

With over 6,000 controls carried out in 2016 on quality wines, the ICQRF definitely contributed to the success of the Italian wine (the most exported agricultural product), guaranteeing in this way its quality all over the world.

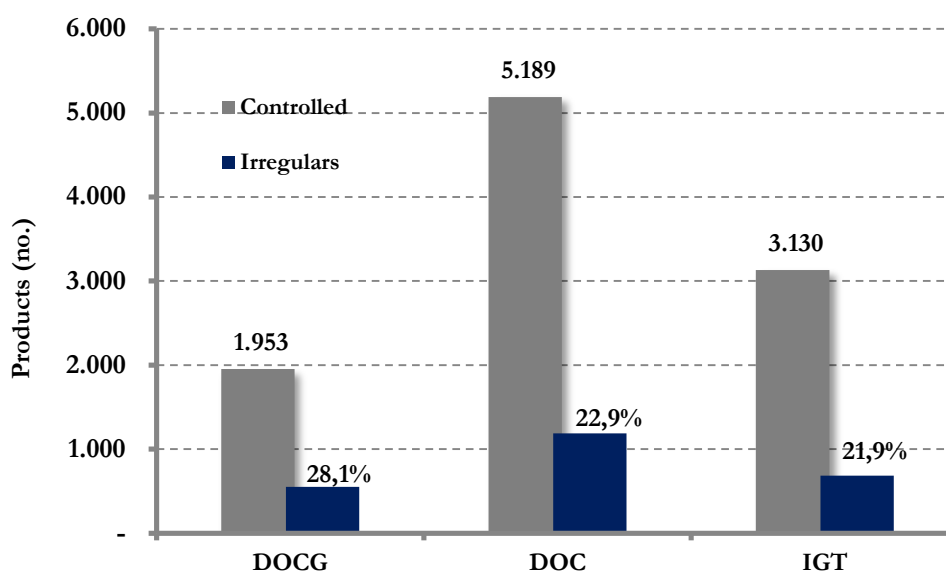
The constant tuning of the risk analysis procedures and the high level of professionalism of the inspectors allowed to obtain a percentage of irregularities detected, on products controlled, of over 35%.

### ICQRF – 2016 inspections on DO and GI wines

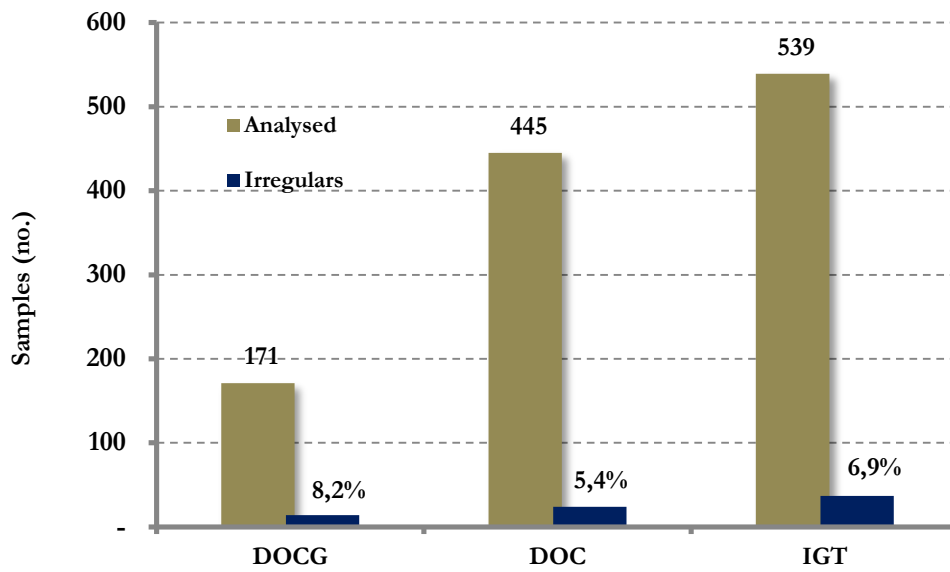
Inspection activity	
Controls (no.)	6,453
Controlled Operators / Premises (no.)	5,597
Irregular Operators / Premises (%)	35.2
Controlled products (no.)	10,273
Irregular products (%)	23.6
Analysed samples (no.)	1,155
Irregular samples (%)	6.5

Results	
Crime reports (no.)	49
Administrative penalties (no.)	880
Seizures (no.)	113
Amount of seized products (tons)	2,255
Economic value of seizures (€)	5,048,793.02
Warnings (no.)	555

### ICQRF – DO and GI wines inspected and irregulars



**ICQRF - Samples of DO and GI wines analysed and irregulars**



## Organic productions

In 2016 the ICQRF carried out 2,690 controls in the field of organic farming sector, inspecting 1,596 operators and 3,121 products.

Olive oil sector, cereals and fruit and vegetables sectors have been the most inspected agri-food productions.

The activities of judicial police already implemented in the previous years has been carried out intensively also during the 2016. In relation to that, the ICQRF has seized goods for a value that exceeded 1,500 million of Euros.

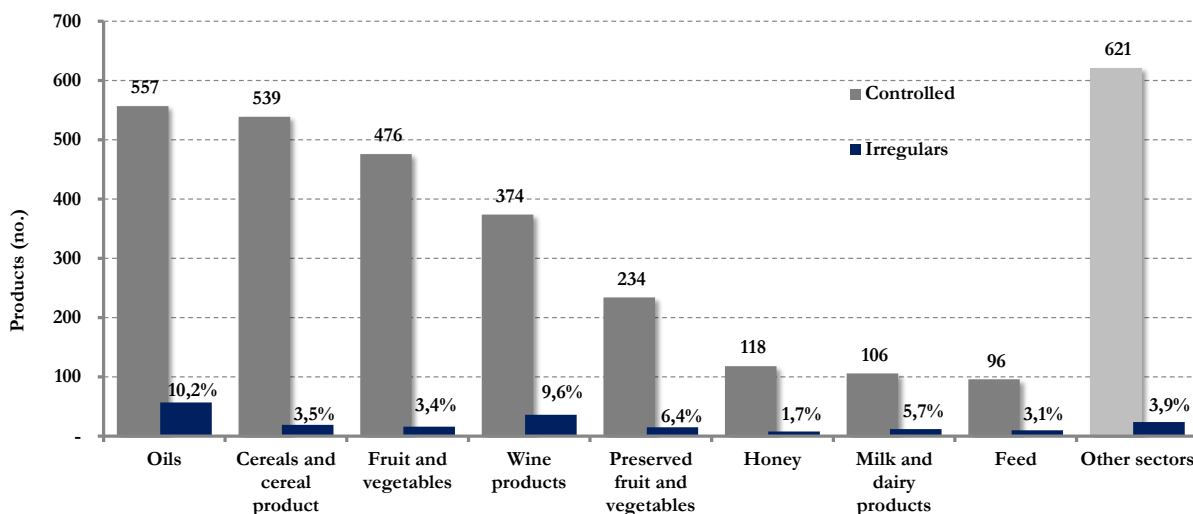
### ICQRF – 2016 inspections on organic productions

Inspection activity	
Controls (no.)	2,690
Controlled Operators / Premises (no.)	1,956
Irregular Operators / Premises (%)	7.4
Controlled products (no.)	3,121
Irregular products (%)	5.7
Analysed samples (no.)	784
Irregular samples (%)	5.4

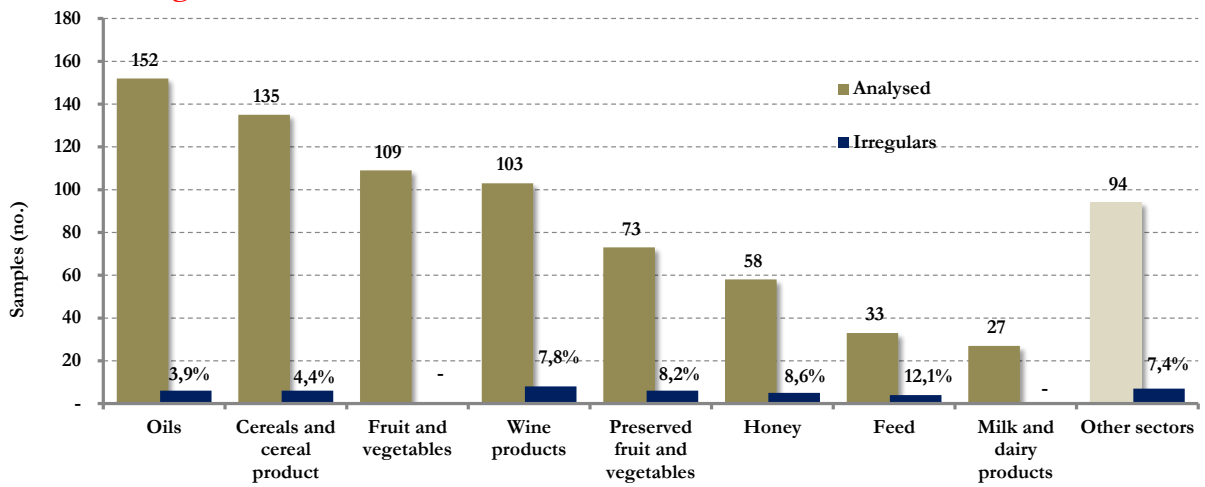
### Results

Crime reports (no.)	37
Administrative penalties (no.)	107
Seizures (no.)	32
Amount of seized products (tons)	2,377
Economic value of seizures (€)	1,562,523
Warnings (no.)	49

### ICQRF - Organic products inspected and irregulars among the most relevant agri-food sectors



**ICQRF – Samples of organic products analyzed and irregulars among the most relevant agri-food sectors**



## 4. The contrast to agri-food crime

Also in 2016 the ICQRF performed complex investigations, throughout the national territory, of initiative or delegated and coordinated by the Italian Prosecutors.

The actions to combat agro crime were carried out by all the local offices and the ICQRF Central Investigative Unit, with analytical support of the Laboratories.

Some operations started in 2015, in particular "Hydrias" and "Max" in the wine industry frauds, continued in 2016 to support the Prosecutors in the preparation of the trial.

Hereinafter are briefly presented the most significant operations of Judicial Police carried out in 2016 by the ICQRF concerning the wine, olive oil and organic products sectors.

### OLIVE OIL – Operation “Mamma Mia”

Directed by the public Prosecutor of Trani (BT), the investigations were delegated to Central Investigation Unit (UIC) and the Office ICQRF Southeast Italy.

The search activities were conducted in the first week of February.

Total targets were 24 (16 seized farms, and 8 people subjected to personal and houses searches). More than 90 staff units have been used. On some targets staff of the *Guardia di Finanza* (the Tax Police) were involved too.

The activities led to the seizure of copious commercial and IT documentation and to the seizure of 76 tons of extra virgin olive oil and to the withdrawal from the market of further 275.6 tons. **Overall ICQRF seized 351,600 liters of oil!**

The complex system of fraud involved the role of "paper companies" based in Puglia and in Calabria. They issued false documents certifying the Italian origin of extra virgin olive oil, actually Spanish and / or Greek. By artifices and documentary triangulations, the oil was sold as Made in Italy to unaware bottlers responsible of the packaging and distribution in the market.

### WINE - Operation “Pinocchio”

Directed by the public Prosecutor of Venice, the investigations were co-delegated with the Tax Police of Treviso.

During the operation were seized more than 130,000 liters of falsely labeled wine with the PGI "Puglia" Pinot Grigio, but in fact obtained from variety of white grape different than Pinot Grigio.

### ORGANIC PRODUCTS

Following a report received by authorized Control Bodies operating in organic farming, the ICQRF has stopped the sale of durum wheat, pasta and tomatoes falsely declared as organic by operators located in Puglia. The activity was carried out in coordination with the public Prosecutor of Foggia.

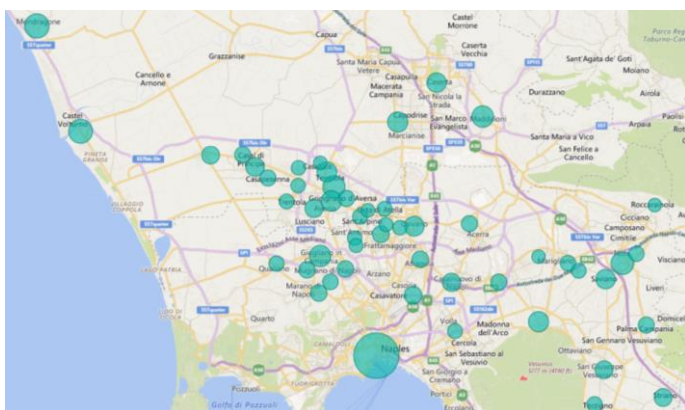
Through in-depth audits on traceability, the ICQRF **seized 2,000 tons of wheat, 20 tons of pasta and 130 tons of tomato puree.**

## EGGS

Seized in the province of Verona about **8 million fresh eggs** whit lach of traciability and in poor preservative condition. Investigations are still ongoing to check for any liability of other companies involved in the processing process of the products.

## ICQRF activities in the so-called “Land of fires” (*Terra dei fuochi*)

Also in 2016 the ICQRF has honored the commitment, undertaken since November 2013, related to the intensification of controls in the 57 municipalities of the “Land of fires”, contributing concretely to give certainty to producers and consumers on the quality of products from Campania.



*Controls distribution in the municipalities of the so-called “Land of fires”*

Attention was focused on agri-food sectors with the highest risk for the productive aptitude of the area. In fact, 51% of the inspected products concerned the fresh and preserved fruit and vegetable sectors, and dairy products.

The results are reported in the following table. The ICQRF has also made public the inspections carried out on the “Prometeo” website of the Prefecture of Naples, on the web page:

[http://www.utgnapoli.it/public/roghi2013/index\\_attivita\\_icqrf.php](http://www.utgnapoli.it/public/roghi2013/index_attivita_icqrf.php).



**ICQRF - Activities 2016 in the so-called “Land of fires”**

<b>Inspection activity</b>	
<b>Controls (no.)</b>	562
<b>Controlled Operators / Premises (no.)</b>	388
<b>Irregular Operators / Premises (%)</b>	30,4
<b>Controlled products (no.)</b>	846
<b>Irregular products (%)</b>	20,0
<b>Analysed samples (no.)</b>	188
<b>Irregular samples (%)</b>	10,6

<b>Results</b>	
<b>Seizures (no.)</b>	20
<b>Crime reports (no.)</b>	11
<b>Administrative penalties (no.)</b>	88
<b>Warnings (no.)</b>	54

**Main infringements found**

- ✓ Irregular labeling of food products
- ✓ Non-compliance in the traceability system of buffalo milk
- ✓ Buffalo mozzarella containing cow’s milk
- ✓ Irregular keeping of cellar’s compulsory documentation

## 5. Focus on the agri-food sectors inspected

The following tables show the ICQRF activity carried out in 2016 and the operational results achieved, per each agri-food sector.

### ICQRF - 2016 Control activity per each agri-food sector

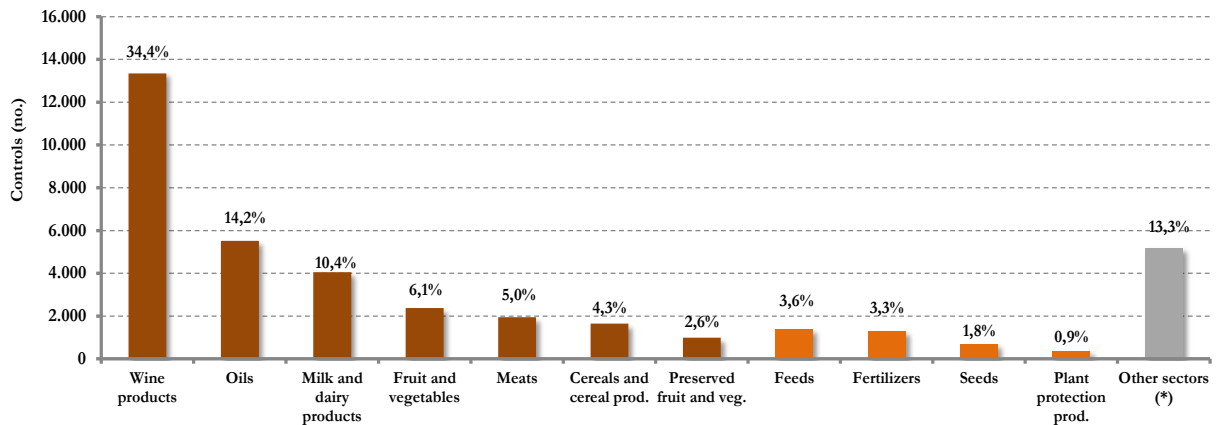
Sector	Controls (no.)	Controlled Operators (no.)	Irregular Operators (%)	Controlled products (no.)	Irregular products (%)	Analysed samples (no.)	Irregular samples (%)
Wine products	13,340	8,546	39.0	19,191	25.4	2,416	8.2
Oils	5,518	3,277	20.9	6,978	12.5	1,439	6.4
Milk and dairy products	4,048	2,875	30.9	5,775	19.4	1,242	4.8
Fruit and vegetables	2,374	1,623	20.0	3,666	13.0	213	0.5
Meats	1,952	1,341	28.2	2,608	17.8	156	18.6
Cereals and cereal prod.	1,652	1,109	17.2	2,251	8.6	451	1.8
Eggs	639	504	19.6	825	13.9	-	-
Preserved fruit and veg.	992	769	12.0	1,491	6.2	431	13.7
Honey	467	377	9.8	695	4.2	281	9.6
Sugars and supplements	1,506	550	43.1	1,264	23.6	15	-
Spirits drinks	429	227	18.3	606	10.9	131	20.6
Feeds	1,399	1,214	17.5	2,267	10.1	1,120	20.4
Fertilizers	1,282	953	11.9	1,573	4.9	1,005	13.4
Seeds	694	374	21.9	1,181	9.6	225	3.1
Plant protection products	347	261	4.6	438	4.6	183	1.1
Other sectors (*)	2,117	1,190	16.1	2,618	9.2	246	11.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>38,756</b>	<b>25,190</b>	<b>27.4</b>	<b>53,427</b>	<b>17.4</b>	<b>9,554</b>	<b>9.4</b>

### ICQRF – 2016 Controls' results per each agri-food sector

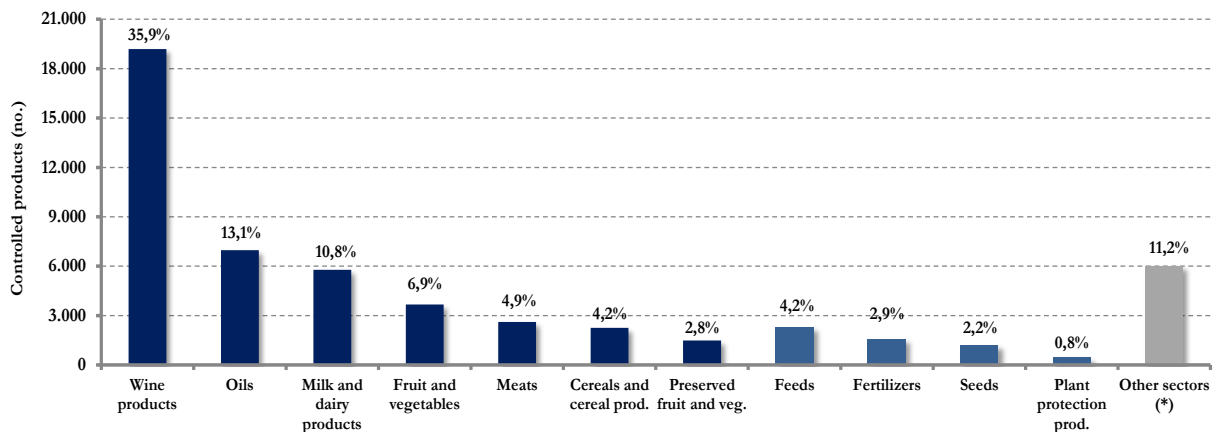
Sector	Crime reports (no.)	Administrative penalties (no.)	Seizures (no.)	Seized products (tons)	Value of seizures (€)	Warnings (no.)
Wine products	92	1,861	203	7,942	7,537,542	1,758
Oils	36	368	75	193	1,152,411	408
Milk and dairy products	46	302	23	25	476,082	556
Fruit and vegetables	12	228	22	82	571,183	136
Meats	40	315	6	5	13,241	165
Cereals and cereal prod.	9	165	20	2,127	1,129,008	62
Eggs	3	86	7	136	1,496,470	29
Preserved fruit and veg.	11	80	17	220	379,530	25
Honey	4	39	6	3	10,067	9
Sugars and supplements	17	20	4	2	1,903	225
Spirits drinks	1	35	5	1	9,757	7
Feeds	8	238	15	46	17,148	31
Fertilizers	5	148	30	84	74,221	7
Seeds	6	63	20	1,991	219,862	21
Plant protection prod.	-	11	1	0.02	629	10
Other sectors (*)	21	137	17	384	547,808	78
<b>Total</b>	<b>311</b>	<b>4,096</b>	<b>471</b>	<b>13,241</b>	<b>13,636,862</b>	<b>3,527</b>

(\*) Confectionery products, fish products, beers, vinegars, spices, non-alcoholic beverages, additives, mineral water and soft drinks

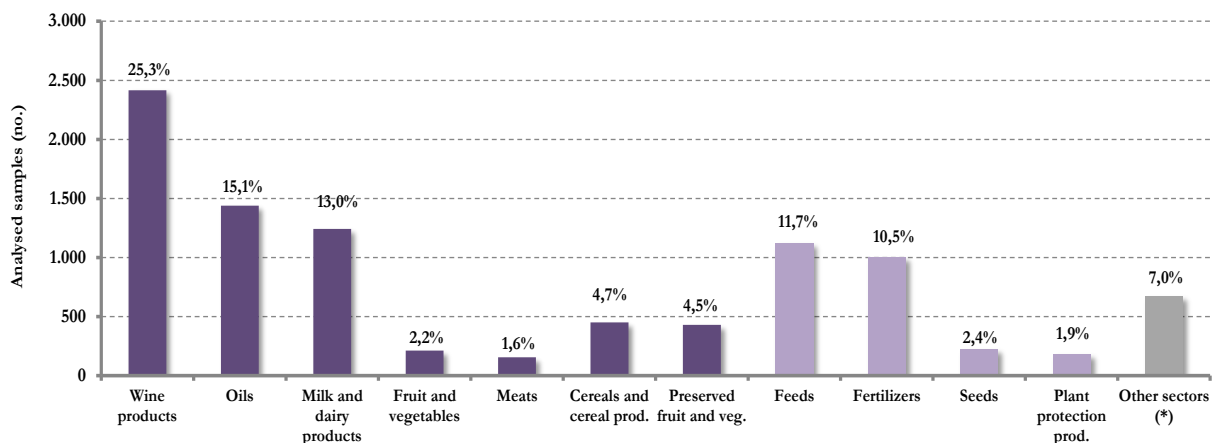
### ICQRF - 2016 Control activity per each agri-food sector



### ICQRF – 2016 Products inspected per each agri-food sector



### ICQRF – 2016 Analysed samples per each agri-food sector



## Wine products

Inspection activity	
Controls (no.)	13,340
Controlled Operators / Premises (no.)	8,546
Irregular Operators / Premises (%)	39.0
Controlled products (no.)	19,191
Irregular products (%)	25.4
Analysed samples (no.)	2,416
Irregular samples (%)	8.2

Results	
Crime reports (no.)	92
Administrative penalties (no.)	1,861
Seizures (no.)	203
Amount of seized products (tons)	7,942
Economic value of seizures (€)	7,537,542
Warnings (no.)	1,758

### Main infringements found

- ✓ Sophistication of generic wines, and sometimes PGI, by sugar addition/or water dilution
- ✓ Detention wine-product not justified by the official documentation of the winery
- ✓ PDO and PGI Wines which not meet the requirements established by the production specifications
- ✓ Fraud on the market for adding artificial aromas in PDO and PGI wines and generic wines
- ✓ Must of “Moscato” grapes and sparkling wine “Moscato” with irregular analytical parameters due to the absence of the typical aromatic compounds of the declared varieties
- ✓ Wines declared organic with presence of residues of phytosanitary products
- ✓ PGI wine that does not meet the legal requirements as concerns geographical origin and year of production
- ✓ Violations of the provisions concerning the description and presentation of generic and DO wines
- ✓ Musts or wines subjected to unauthorized processing, altered, or containing banned substances or with anomalous composition in relation to the parameters set by law

## Oils

Inspection activity	
Controls (no.)	5,518
Controlled Operators / Premises (no.)	3,277
Irregular Operators / Premises (%)	20.9
Controlled products (no.)	6,978
Irregular products (%)	12.5
Analysed samples (no.)	1,439
Irregular samples (%)	6.4
Samples submitted to Panel test (no.)	468
Irregular samples to Panel test (%)	5.1

Results	
Crime reports (no.)	36
Administrative penalties (no.)	368
Seizures (no.)	75
Amount of seized products (tons)	193
Economic value of seizures (€)	1,152,411
Warnings (no.)	408

### Main infringements found

- ✓ Olive oil commercialised as extra virgin that through the chemical and / or organoleptic analysis resulted to belong to the category of virgin olive oils
- ✓ Olive oil classified as extra virgin olive oils, sometimes even organic and 100% Italian, obtained by mixing with blatant and deodorized oils produced in Spain
- ✓ Oils falsely classified as extra virgin olive oil, produced in Morocco and Tunisia, which resulted from the chemical and organoleptic analysis belonging to the lampante category
- ✓ Omissions of mandatory particulars, irregular use of voluntary indications, misleading use of the designation of origin in labeling and presentation of olive oils
- ✓ Lack or irregular keeping of records

## Milk and dairy products

Inspection activity	
Controls (no.)	4,048
Controlled Operators / Premises (no.)	2,875
Irregular Operators / Premises (%)	30.9
Controlled products (no.)	5,775
Irregular products (%)	19.4
Analysed samples (no.)	1,242
Irregular samples (%)	4.8

Results	
Crime reports (no.)	46
Administrative penalties (no.)	302
Seizures (no.)	23
Amount of seized products (tons)	25
Economic value of seizures (€)	476,082
Warnings (no.)	556

### Main infringements found

- ✓ Cheese, in some cases also PDO, with preservatives prohibited or undeclared
- ✓ Buffalo mozzarella and Mozzarella di Bufala Campana DOP produced with high percentages of cow milk
- ✓ Sheep cheese and goat cheese detected at the analysis produced with the addition of cow milk
- ✓ Cheese containing fat with different origin than milk
- ✓ Sheep cheese, in some cases also PDO, with unauthorized substances on the external surface

## Fruit and vegetables

Inspection activity	
Controls (no.)	2,374
Controlled Operators / Premises (no.)	1,623
Irregular Operators / Premises (%)	20.0
Controlled products (no.)	3,666
Irregular products (%)	13.0
Analysed samples (no.)	213
Irregular samples (%)	0.5

Results	
Crime reports (no.)	12
Administrative penalties (no.)	228
Seizures (no.)	22
Amount of seized products (tons)	82
Economic value of seizures (€)	571,183
Warnings (no.)	136

### Main infringements found

- ✓ Irregular labeling of fruit and vegetables, for use of misleading indications of origin, provenance, quality and other mandatory information
- ✓ Evocation or usurpation of PDO and PGI
- ✓ Fruit and vegetables without traceability records

## Meats

Inspection activity	
Controls (no.)	1,952
Controlled Operators / Premises (no.)	1,341
Irregular Operators / Premises (%)	28.2
Controlled products (no.)	2,608
Irregular products (%)	17.8
Analysed samples (no.)	156
Irregular samples (%)	18.6

Results	
Crime reports (no.)	40
Administrative penalties (no.)	315
Seizures (no.)	6
Amount of seized products (tons)	5
Economic value of seizures (€)	13,241
Warnings (no.)	165

### Main infringements found

- ✓ Pork products and beef products with meat from different species
- ✓ Pork products with irregular designation and / or irregular for the presence of non declared additives
- ✓ Irregular mixture of pork meat with added water not declared or with fat percentage higher than the maximum admitted level
- ✓ Ham irregularly labeled by omission or misstatement of the ingredients used
- ✓ Beef hamburger irregular by the addition of vegetable fiber and / or water not declared on the label



## Cereals and cereal products

Inspection activity	
Controls (no.)	1,652
Controlled Operators / Premises (no.)	1,109
Irregular Operators / Premises (%)	17.2
Controlled products (no.)	2,251
Irregular products (%)	8.6
Analysed samples (no.)	451
Irregular samples (%)	1.8

Results	
Crime reports (no.)	9
Administrative penalties (no.)	165
Seizures (no.)	20
Amount of seized products (tons)	2,127
Economic value of seizures (€)	1,129,008
Warnings (no.)	62

### Main infringements found

- ✓ Rice with flaws exceeding the legal tolerances
- ✓ Durum wheat PGI pasta irregular for ash content exceeding the legal limit, and the composition does not comply to the requirements of the product specifications
- ✓ Durum wheat wholemeal flour with ash content exceeding the legal limit
- ✓ Egg pasta with an egg content of less than the legal limit

## Eggs

Inspection activity	
Controls (no.)	639
Controlled Operators / Premises (no.)	504
Irregular Operators / Premises (%)	19.6
Controlled products (no.)	825
Irregular products (%)	13.9
Analysed samples (no.)	-
Irregular samples (%)	-

Results	
Crime reports (no.)	3
Administrative penalties (no.)	86
Seizures (no.)	7
Amount of seized products (tons)	136
Economic value of seizures (€)	1,496,470
Warnings (no.)	29

### Main infringements found

- ✓ Eggs sold as “Extra” after the permitted deadline
- ✓ Labeling and packaging with non-compliant particulars, even related to voluntary information
- ✓ Eggs without traceability and in poor preservation condition

## Preserved fruit and vegetables

Inspection activity	
Controls (no.)	992
Controlled Operators / Premises (no.)	769
Irregular Operators / Premises (%)	12.0
Controlled products (no.)	1,491
Irregular products (%)	6.2
Analysed samples (no.)	431
Irregular samples (%)	13.7

Results	
Crime reports (no.)	11
Administrative penalties (no.)	80
Seizures (no.)	17
Amount of seized products (tons)	220
Economic value of seizures (€)	379,530
Warnings (no.)	25

### Main infringements found

- ✓ Jams with not admitted additives or with additives not declared on the label or with irregular sugar content
- ✓ Preserved truffle products with truffle spores of different species than declared
- ✓ Preserved tomato products that does not comply with legal requirements or containing molds higher than the legal limits
- ✓ Lemon juice, also organic, containing additives not permitted and / or with residuals of phytosanitary products
- ✓ Preserved tomato products illegally labeled as PGI
- ✓ Preserved tomato products marketed as PDO with unknown origin

## Honey

Inspection activity	
Controls (no.)	467
Controlled Operators / Premises (no.)	377
Irregular Operators / Premises (%)	9.8
Controlled products (no.)	695
Irregular products (%)	4.2
Analysed samples (no.)	281
Irregular samples (%)	9.6

Results	
Crime reports (no.)	4
Administrative penalties (no.)	39
Seizures (no.)	6
Amount of seized products (tons)	3
Economic value of seizures (€)	10,067
Warnings (no.)	9

### Main infringements found

- ✓ Monofloral honey, often from the European Community, whose botanical or geographical origin does not meet the category declared and / or with abnormal chemical or organoleptic features
- ✓ Irregular labelling of honey for irregular particulars or without compulsory particulars
- ✓ Organic honey with abnormal organoleptic and microscopic features as altered by fermentation

## Sugars and supplements

Inspection activity	
Controls (no.)	1,506
Controlled Operators / Premises (no.)	550
Irregular Operators / Premises (%)	43.1
Controlled products (no.)	1,264
Irregular products (%)	23.6
Analysed samples (no.)	15
Irregular samples (%)	-

Results	
Crime reports (no.)	17
Administrative penalties (no.)	20
Seizures (no.)	4
Amount of seized products (tons)	2
Economic value of seizures (€)	1,903
Warnings (no.)	225

### Main infringements found

- ✓ Lack or irregular keeping of records
- ✓ Non-compliance in traceability system of products
- ✓ Supplements with irregular nutritional characteristics or illegal health claims

## Spirits drinks

Inspection activity	
Controls (no.)	429
Controlled Operators / Premises (no.)	227
Irregular Operators / Premises (%)	18.3
Controlled products (no.)	606
Irregular products (%)	10.9
Analysed samples (no.)	131
Irregular samples (%)	20.6

Results	
Crime reports (no.)	1
Administrative penalties (no.)	35
Seizures (no.)	5
Amount of seized products (tons)	1
Economic value of seizures (€)	9,757
Warnings (no.)	7

### Main infringements found

- ✓ Spirits drinks with composition non compliant to legal or declared values
- ✓ Non-compliance in traceability system of products
- ✓ Irregular labelling of products

## Feed

Inspection activity	
Controls (no.)	1,399
Controlled Operators / Premises (no.)	1,214
Irregular Operators / Premises (%)	17.5
Controlled products (no.)	2,267
Irregular products (%)	10.1
Analysed samples (no.)	1,120
Irregular samples (%)	20.4

Results	
Crime reports (no.)	8
Administrative penalties (no.)	238
Seizures (no.)	15
Amount of seized products (tons)	46
Economic value of seizures (€)	17,148
Warnings (no.)	31

### Main infringements found

- ✓ Feed for farm animals and pet, with composition non-compliant to legal limit or to that declared in label
- ✓ Feed for organic productions with residuals of phytosanitary products
- ✓ Feed infringing the labeling and packaging provisions

## Fertilizers

Inspection activity	
Controls (no.)	1,282
Controlled Operators / Premises (no.)	953
Irregular Operators / Premises (%)	11.9
Controlled products (no.)	1,573
Irregular products (%)	4.9
Analysed samples (no.)	1,005
Irregular samples (%)	13.4

Results	
Crime reports (no.)	5
Administrative penalties (no.)	148
Seizures (no.)	30
Amount of seized products (tons)	84
Economic value of seizures (€)	74,221
Warnings (no.)	7

### Main infringements found

- ✓ Fertilizers with composition non-compliant to legal limit or to that declared in label
- ✓ Presence of active ingredient undeclared or not authorized
- ✓ Irregular labelling of fertilizers for lack or non-compliant mandatory particulars



## Seeds

Inspection activity	
Controls (no.)	694
Controlled Operators / Premises (no.)	374
Irregular Operators / Premises (%)	21.9
Controlled products (no.)	1,181
Irregular products (%)	9.6
Analysed samples (no.)	225
Irregular samples (%)	3.1

Results	
Crime reports (no.)	6
Administrative penalties (no.)	63
Seizures (no.)	20
Amount of seized products (tons)	1,991
Economic value of seizures (€)	219,862
Warnings (no.)	21

### Main infringements found

- ✓ Seeds of different botanical variety than the declared one
- ✓ Seeds not comply with legal limits for germinability
- ✓ Seeds with purity value lower than declared on the label

## Plant protection products

Inspection activity	
Controls (no.)	347
Controlled Operators / Premises (no.)	261
Irregular Operators / Premises (%)	4,6
Controlled products (no.)	438
Irregular products (%)	4,6
Analysed samples (no.)	183
Irregular samples (%)	1,1

Results	
Crime reports (no.)	-
Administrative penalties (no.)	11
Seizures (no.)	1
Amount of seized products (tons)	0,02
Economic value of seizures (€)	629
Warnings (no.)	10

### Main infringements found

- ✓ Presence of active ingredients different than those declared on the label
- ✓ Marketing of plant protection products not authorized

## Other sectors

(Confectionery products, fish products, beers, vinegars, spices, nervine beverages, additives, mineral waters and soft drinks)

Inspection activity	
Controls (no.)	2,117
Controlled Operators / Premises (no.)	1,190
Irregular Operators / Premises (%)	16.1
Controlled products (no.)	2,618
Irregular products (%)	9.2
Analysed samples (no.)	246
Irregular samples (%)	11.4

Results	
Crime reports (no.)	21
Administrative penalties (no.)	137
Seizures (no.)	17
Amount of seized products (t.)	384
Economic value of seizures (€)	547,808
Warnings (no.)	78

### Main infringements found

- ✓ Non-compliance in traceability system of products
- ✓ Irregular labeling
- ✓ Non-compliance of the particulars stated on the label or packaging, in reference to the voluntary labeling
- ✓ Beer with total acidity higher than legal limits

## 6. Delegation of task related to official control on quality products to control bodies and their supervision

The ICQRF has the task of authorizing the, private or public, certification and control bodies (CBs) that certify quality products (products with PDOs, PGIs, including wines, organic products and spirits, voluntary certifications of quality). The ICQRF also approves the control plans of each PDO and PGI and the costs of controls paid by producers.

At the 31st December 2016, 814 were the registered designations (523 of which wines). The Italian Ministry of Agriculture recognized 247 producer groups, exactly 109 for wines and 138 for others PDO and PGI products.

The control bodies certify the registered designations are 48 (20 of which are private and 28 public). Those controlling and certifying PDO and PGI wines are 31 (7 of which are private and 24 public). Those controlling the organic production are 14, all of them private.

Moreover, there are 6 control bodies included in the list certifying GI spirits.

To level out the controls on operators and the activities of CBs, the ICQRF plays an intense coordination action. Only in 2016 the ICQRF sent about 70 notes concerning the application of PDOs and PGIs control plans.

### **Among the most significant coordination initiatives there have been:**

**Organic Farming:** clarification of the conditions of use of databases prepared by associations, to prevent free market restrictions and to ensure the transparency of transactions. In addition, the ICQRF has prepared a framework of a legislative decree that provides sanctions in the organic farming and has sent it for evaluation.

**PDO and PGI products (others than wine):** many indications have been given for the correct implementation of control plans concerning PDO and PGI olive oils, and 45 control plans for food PDOs and PGIs have been approved.

**PDO and PGI wines:** instructions have been given for the correct application of the control plans, the use of the inspection staff and the management of the non-compliances. Two control plans and the related tariffs have been approved. The ICQRF has established provisions for the public control structures in order to ensure the transparency of charges applied to producers. This as a consequence of a decision taken by the Competition Authority regarding the conditions of economic transparency that the control bodies must ensure for the certification activity on wines.

More than 5,000 documents have been evaluated and approved (curricula vitae, procedures, quality manual, etc.). Those documents, transmitted by the control bodies, are related to the continuous quality improvement strategy.

All control plans and tariffs approved during the year, as well as the authorization decrees issued, have been published (127 documents in total) on the website of the Ministry.

Once the CBs have been delegated for task related to official controls on quality products, they will be supervised by the ICQRF in order to verify the maintenance of the organization, management and administrative requirements that are necessary for operating in the control and certification schemes.

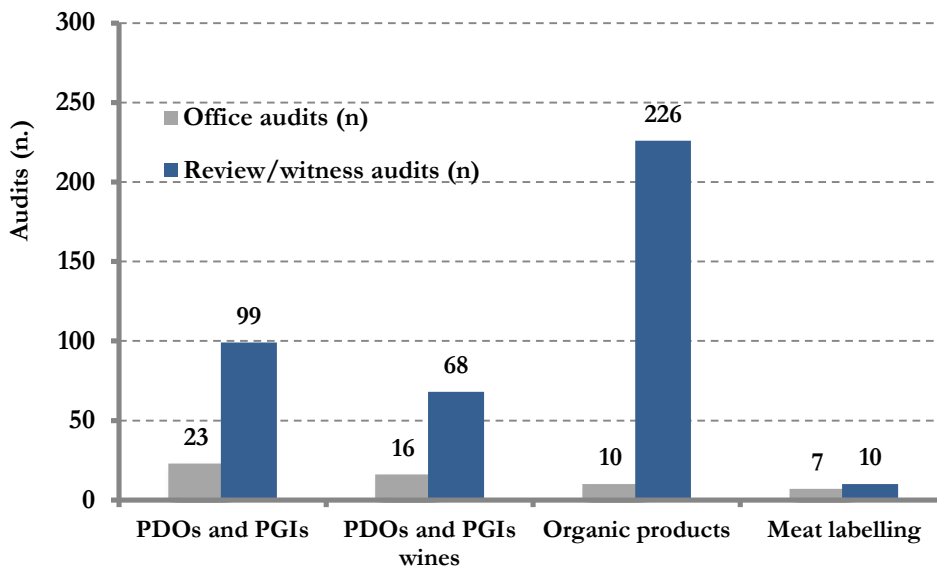
The ICQRF also evaluates the effectiveness of the control system implemented by the CBs.

The ICQRF supervision of CBs consists of office audits at the CBs headquarters, reviews and /or witness audit at a representative number of food business operators controlled by the CBs.

In 2016 they were supervised 56 control bodies/quality scheme and conducted 403 review/witness audits of operators as detailed below.

**ICQRF – Supervision activity on CBs per quality scheme**

Quality scheme	Office audits (no.)	Review/witness audits (no.)
PDOs and PGIs	23	99
PDOs and PGIs wines	16	68
Organic products	10	226
Meat labelling	7	10
<b>Totale</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>403</b>



## 7. The ICQRF Laboratories: quality protection and research

With 6 analytical laboratories and over 100 laboratory technicians, the ICQRF holds an in house capability to perform the analytical verification of agri-food products that has few equals in Europe.

All laboratories operate in accordance with the **EN ISO / IEC 17025: 2005** “General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories” and routinely check conformity to according to analytical determinations accredited by “ACCREDIA”. ACCREDIA is the single national accreditation body mutually recognized in Europe in compliance with Reg. EC/765/2008 and ISO 17011: 2004 “Conformity assessment - General requirements for accreditation bodies accrediting conformity assessment bodies”.

The scope of the accreditation covers **334 individual determinations**. An updated list of all accredited tests and inherent method of analysis is available for each individual ICQRF Laboratory in the ACCREDIA website<sup>1</sup>.

The ICQRF laboratories operate five panels of tasters that aimed at officially assessing the organoleptic characteristics of extra virgin and virgin olive oils according to the EU methodology.

All panels, beside being officially recognized at national level, also hold the international recognition by the International Olive Council (I.O.C).

All Laboratories, routinely participate in various **proficiency test** or intercalibration circuits (ring tests) organized by specific providers (preferably accredited according to UNI CEI EN ISO / IEC 17043).

The PREF IV office supervises and coordinates harmonization of **Quality Assurance System** of each individual laboratory.

All the ICQRF laboratories are significantly involved in **research activities** aimed at fighting frauds in the food industry and valorizing the quality of authentic productions.

The ICQRF research activity focus in particular on developing new methods of analysis to reveal the possible use of fraudulent manufacturing practices in food and feed matrices and to identify new parameters for characterizing particular agri-food productions of registered quality.

Another part of the research activity is aimed at updating obsolete methodologies (no longer consistent with the evolution of production technologies or that can be implemented with the use of more modern analytical instrumentation).

List of research activity carried out in 2016:

- Characterization of wine aromas;
- Development of an analytical method for the quantitative determination of hydroxymethionine used as a nutritional additive in feeds;
- Spectroscopic near infrared (NIR) characterization of feeds;
- Development of a method of analysis for the detection of copper chlorophyllins (E141 ii) used as illegal dye in table olives;
- Development of a fast screening method to be used as an alternative to the official method for analyzing sterols and triterpene alcohols in olive oils;
- Development and validation of a simplified method, to be used as an alternative to the official method for the determination of stigmastadienes in olive oils;

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<sup>1</sup> [http://www.accredia.it/accredia\\_labsearch.jsp?ID\\_LINK=293&area=7&dipartimento=L,S&desc=Laboratori](http://www.accredia.it/accredia_labsearch.jsp?ID_LINK=293&area=7&dipartimento=L,S&desc=Laboratori)

- Identification of the presence of non Italian olive cultivars in extra virgin olive oil declared "100% Italian by mean of DNA analysis ";
- Histological analysis of animal origin in food products: a preliminary study for the development of a detection method to identify Mechanically Separated Meat (MSM), in meat preparations and meat products;
- Development of an analytical method for the determination of modified starch in dairy products;
- Implementation of a database of isotope ratios (D / H) I, (D / H) II, R and  $^{13}\text{C} / ^{12}\text{C}$  of the ethanol and  $^{18}\text{O} / ^{16}\text{O}$  water for characterization of citrus juices (oranges, lemons, tangerines, mandarins) of known Italian origin;
- Implementation of a database of anthocyanin HPLC profiles of red fruits used as natural dyes: (elderberry, red potato, blackberry, blueberry, violet potato, radish, black carrot, etc.);
- Characterization of wine anthocyanins profiles in monocultivar wines of central Italy: Sangiovese, Montepulciano, Canaiolo, Sagrantino, Pinot Nero and Lacrima di Morro d'Alba;
- Determination of  $^{15}\text{N} / ^{14}\text{N}$  isotope ratio to discover the possible illegal use of mineral nitrogen fertilizers in organic farming.

List of main scientific publications:

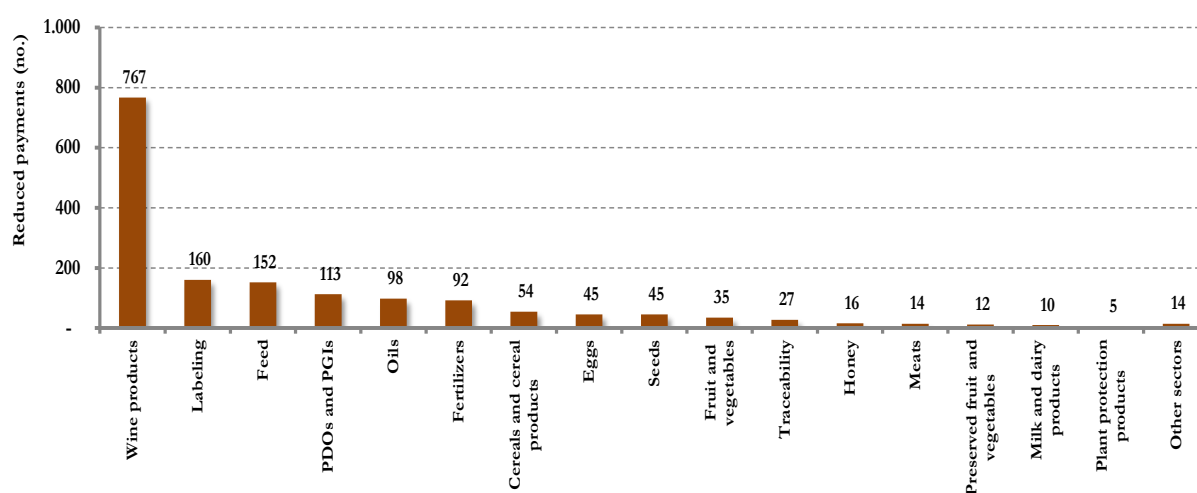
- ✓ “*Ethyl esters versus fermentative organoleptic defects in virgin olive oil.*”: Maria Gabriella Di Serio, Lucia Giansante, Giuseppina Di Loreto, Angelo Faberi, Lorenzo Ricchetti, Luciana Di Giacinto; Food Chemistry (link: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.foodchem.2016.09.109>).
- ✓ “*fit-for-purpose- simultaneous extraction of water-soluble vitamins (PP, B2, B6, B9, B5) from mineral feeds and premixes and simultaneous determination OF B1 AND nicotinic acid*” di Fabrizia Forghieri, Biagio Formisano, Lucia Casarin, David Latini, Rita Maria Maestro - ICQRF-; to be published on Journal of Analytical Chemistry.
- ✓ “*Strigolactones: how far is their commercial use for agricultural purposes?*” (2016) di M. Vurro, C. Prandi and F. Baroccio; pubblicato in Pest Management Science DOI: 10.1002/ps.4254.
- ✓ “*Analytical methods for characterisation of biostimulating properties in fertilisers*” (2016) Poster. F. Baroccio, N. Barilaro, A. Benedetti. In: Program & Abstracts Book – STREAM COST Action FA1206, WG3-Role of SLs in the Soil Biota - “Plant Bio-Stimulants in Agriculture” – Ashdod, Israel 14-16th March 2016.
- ✓ “*The regulatory framework of biostimulants*” (2016). In: Program & Abstracts Book – STREAM COST Action FA1206, WG3-Role of SLs in the Soil Biota - “Plant Bio-Stimulants in Agriculture” – Ashdod, Israel 14-16th March 2016. Presented by F. Baroccio.
- ✓ “*Leggi che disciplinano la vendita dei concimi in Italia e in Europa*”. Giornata su “La concimazione organo-minerale per la valorizzazione e la sostenibilità delle filiere di qualità”; Ordine Dottori Agronomi e Dottori Forestali della Provincia di Latina. Latina, 23 Marzo 2016. Presented by F. Baroccio.
- ✓ “*Contrasto alle frodi agroalimentari*” di F. Baroccio; Presented at CREA-RPS Roma, 15 settembre 2016.

- ✓ “*Working Party on Technical Harmonisation del Consiglio dell’Unione Europea*”. Riunione Comitato Tecnico Assofertilizzanti Milano, 22 novembre 2016. Presented by F. Baroccio.
- ✓ “*Stable isotope ratios of H,C, and O in Italian citrus juices*” di M. Fiorillo, R. Caruso, G.L. Gambino, P. Traulo, G. Gagliano. Convegno “1° Isotope ratio MS Days” organizzato dalla Fondazione E. Mach di S. Michele all’Adige dal 9-11 maggio 2016. Poster and Presentation.
- ✓ “*Fermentation and re-fermentation process: effect on isotopic parameters in sweet wines*” di R. Caruso, M. Fiorillo, G.L. Gambino, F. Thomas, P. Traulo, G. Gagliano - Convegno “1° Isotope ratio MS Days” organizzato dalla Fondazione E. Mach di S. Michele all’Adige dal 9-11 maggio 2016. Poster and Presentation.
- ✓ “*Advancement in the use of dyes in food industry: the challenge of controls*” di Scordino M, Sabatino L, Lazzaro F, Borzi M. A., Gargano G., Traulo P., Gagliano G. - Cibus Tec. Parma, 24, 26 ottobre 2016. Poster and Presentation.
- ✓ “*Advancement in the use of dyes in food industry: the challenge of controls*” di Scordino M, Sabatino L, Lazzaro F, Borzi M.A., Gargano G., Traulo P. Gagliano G.,- Cibus Tec. Parma, 24, 26 ottobre 2016 . Presentation.
- ✓ “*Results of official controls of C4 sugars added in Honey by Isotope Ratio Mass Spectrometry* “ di A. Deluca, P.P. Curia, V. Di Martino, F. Fuselli, P. Tolomei - Convegno “1° Isotope ratio MS Days”. Fondazione E. Mach di S. Michele all’Adige dal 9-11 maggio 2016. Poster and Presentation.



## 8. The results of the control activities: reports of infringement, penalties, reports of warning, orders for payments

In 2016 the ICQRF imposed No 4,096 penalties and for No 1,659 of them had been voluntary paid by the offender, taking advantage for reduced payments granted by the law. In this way, the State earned more than 3.6 million of EURO.



### ICQRF – Reduced payments for penalties imposed in 2016 considering the checked sectors

Sectors/Fields	Reduced payments (No)	Amount of the payments (€)
Wine products	767	935,992.66
Labelling	160	360,523.65
Feeds	152	292,685.99
PDOs and PGIs	113	1,516,616.27
Oils	98	50,877.53
Fertilizers	92	149,396.76
Cereals and Cereal products	54	8,884.40
Eggs	45	58,145.15
Seeds	45	126,928.50
Fruit and vegetable	35	31,528.50
Traceability	27	32,710.99
Honey	16	16,503.56
Meats	14	37,734.23
Preserved foods	12	27,474.40
Milk and dairy products	10	10,238.40
Plant protection products	5	9,117.00
Other sectors \ Fields	14	7,026,.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,659</b>	<b>3,672,384.31</b>

**ICQRF – Reduced payments on penalties imposed in 2016 for each of the provision infringed**

Sectors\Fields	Penalty rules applicable	Payments (No)	Amount (€)
Wine products	Leg. Decree No 260 of 10/08/2000	502	349,593.30
	Leg. Decree No. 61 of 08/04/2010	151	368,549.66
	Law No 82 of 20/02/2006	114	217,849.70
Oils	Leg. Decree No 103 of 23/5/2016	22	12,201.38
	Leg. Decree No 225 of 30/09/2005	70	31,538.90
	Law No 1407 del 13/11/1960	6	7,137.25
Milk and dairy products	Law Decree No 91 of 24/06/2014	6	9,275.20
	Law No 138/74 of 11/04/1974	2	843.00
	Law No 1526 of 23/12/1956	2	120.20
Fruit and vegetables	Leg. Decree No 306 of 10/12/2002	35	31,528.50
Meats	Leg. Decree No 58 of 29/01/2004	14	37,734.23
	Decree of the President of the Republic. No 187 of 09/02/2001	1	524.86
Cereal and cereal products	Law No 325 of 18/03/1958	32	3,277.72
	Law No 580 of 04/07/1967	20	4,498.49
	Regional Law of Campania No 2 of 01/02/2005	1	583.33
Eggs	Law No 88 of 07/07/2009	45	58,145.15
Preserved Fruit and vegetables	Leg. Decree. No 151 of 21/05/2004	9	21,874.40
	Leg. Decree No 50 of 20/02/2004	3	5,600.00
Honey	Leg. Decree No 179 of 21/05/2004	16	16,503.56
Feeds	Law No 281 of 15/02/1963	152	292,685.99
Fertilizers	Leg. Decree No 75 of 29/04/2010	92	149,396.76
Seeds	Law No 1096 of 25/11/1971	45	126,928.50
Plant protection products	Leg. Decree No 150 of 14/08/2012	2	700.00
	Leg. Decree No 69 of 17/4/2014	3	8,417.00
PDOs and PGIs	Leg. Decree No 297 of 19/11/2004	113	1,516,616.27
	Leg. Decree No 109 of 27/01/1992	152	348,515.07
	Leg. Decree No 178 of 12/06/2003	1	1,866.66
	Leg. Decree No 77/93 of 16/02/1993	1	903.00
	Law No 350 of 24/12/2003	1	3,567.52
	Law No 690 of 25/10/1978	1	71.40
Traceability	Leg. Decree No 190/2006 of 05/04/2006	27	32,710.99
	Leg. Decree No 193 of 06/11/2007	7	5,525.50
Other sectors	Law No 1354 of 16/08/1962	5	879.22
	Law No 283 of 30/04/1962	2	621.60
<b>Total</b>		<b>1,659</b>	<b>3,672,384.31</b>

In addition, the ICQRF delivered No **3,527 reports of warning against non-compliant operators**, in accordance with the Law Decree called “Campolibero (Field free)”. Indeed, the report of warning is a new and innovative legal tool which allows the operators concerned to rectify their own position in case of infringements which are, at the same time, non-serious and

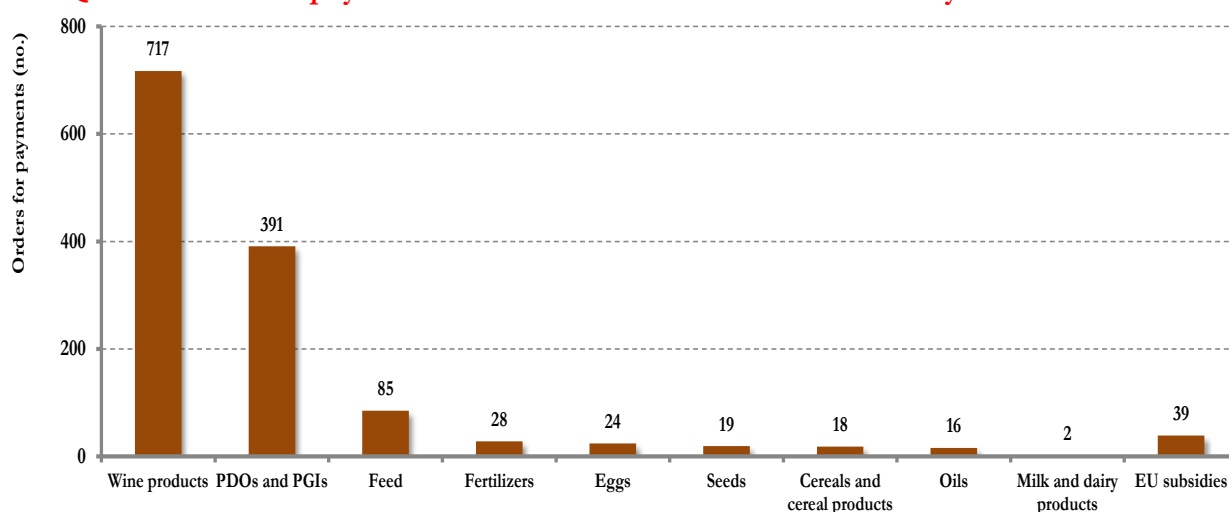
correctable, on condition that such infringements are committed for the first time e sanctioned exclusively by monetary penalties.

By delivering reports of warning, as well as by allowing operators to use the means of reduced payments, the penalty proceeding shall not be initiated e this implies a huge reduction of litigation which may occur between the Administration and the operators interested.

For many products of the agro-food sector (especially for PDOs and PGIs, wines, oils, etc.), the ICQRF has been appointed by the law to impose penalties as a result of report of infringements issued both by its local Inspection branches and Laboratories and by other Control Authorities .

**In 2016, the ICQRF ha issued No 1,339 orders for payments, amounting to about 50 million of EURO.**

### ICQRF – Orders for payments issued in 2016 for each field of activity



Sectors\Fields	Orders for payments (No)	Amount of the payments (€)
Wine products	717	2,934,665.23
Quality registered products (PDOs and PGIs)	391	1,084,558.46
Feeds	85	171,955.00
Fertilizers	28	88,700.00
Eggs	24	62,548.73
Seeds	19	20,123.30
Cereals and cereal products	18	18,589.20
Oils	16	6,808.29
Milk and dairy products	2	351.70
EU subsidies	39	45,509,220.01
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,339</b>	<b>49,897,519.92</b>

**ICQRF – Orders for payments issued in 2016 for each of the provisions infringed**

Sectors\Fields	Penalty rules applicable	Orders for payments issued (No)	Amount (€)
Wine products	Leg. Decree No 260 of 10/08/2000	293	1,029,973.62
	Leg. Decree No 61 of 08/04/2010	330	944,869.53
	Law No 82 of 20/02/2006	94	959,822.08
Oils	Law No 1407 of 13/11/1960	15	19,523.30
	Law No 35 of 27/01/1968	1	600,00
Milk and dairy products	Law No 1526 of 23/12/1956	2	351.7
Cereals and cereal products	Law No 325 of 18/03/1958	7	753
	Law No 580 of 04/07/1967	11	6,055.29
Egg	Law No 88 of 07/07/2009	24	18,589.20
Feeds	Law No 281 of 15/02/1963	85	171,955.00
Fertilizers	Leg. Decree No 75 of 29/04/2010	28	88,700.00
Seeds	Law No 1096 of 25/11/1971	19	62,548.73
Quality registered products (PDOs and PGIs)	Leg. Decree No 297 of 19/11/2004	390	1,074,229.46
	Law No 26 of 13/02/1990	1	10,329.00
EU subsidies	Law No 898 of 23/12/1986	39	45,509,220.01
<b>Total</b>		<b>1,339</b>	<b>49,897,519.92</b>

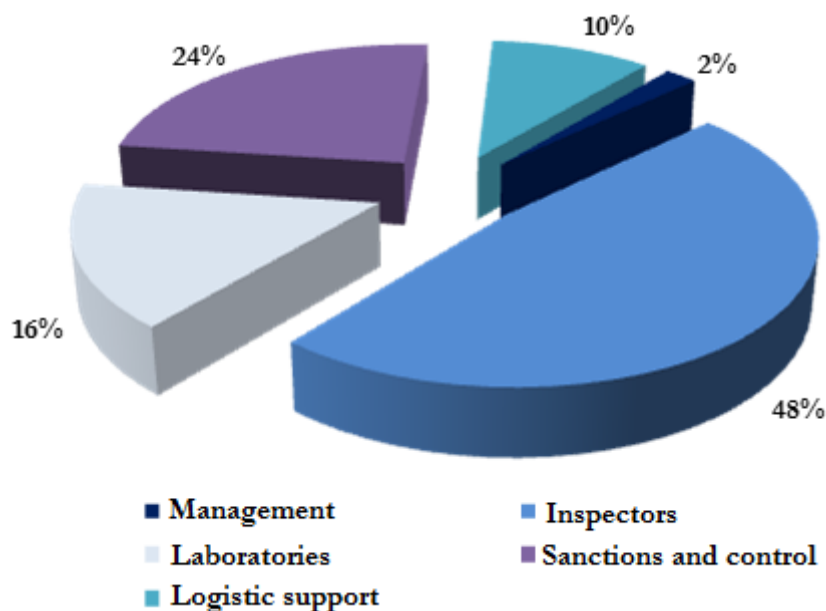
## 9. The staff of the ICQRF, their proficiency and the regional organization

The personnel of the ICQRF theoretically in service at 31 December 2016 amounts to No. **747 units** (of which, 17 managers, with a **percentage ratio managers/employee of 2.3%**, well below the limit laid down in the national *spending review*).

It is also worth stressing the reduction of the staff of 211 units in the last eight years, as well as the cut of one fifth of the managers due to the *spending review*.

The personnel **actually on duty** at the end of 2016 amounts to No. **729** units, broken down as follows:

**ICQRF – distribution of staff (percentage)**



The structure of the ICQRF on the territory consists of 29 regional offices and 6 laboratories. At national level, the central investigation unit and the *ex officio* unit coordinate the main actions in Italy, on the web and worldwide. The following processes are managed at national level: planning, monitoring and control, sanctioning, monitoring, supervision, authorization of control bodies, logistics, staff training, procurement for offices and labs. More than 87% of the personnel is located in regional offices and labs.



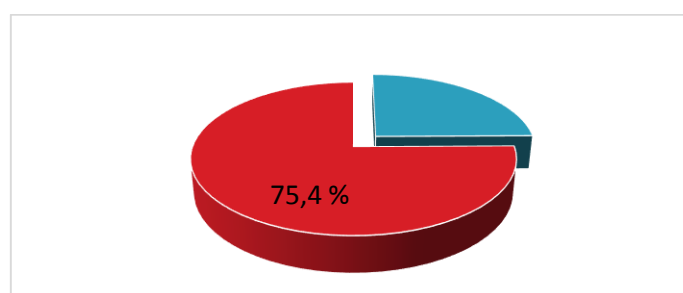
**ICQRF - distribution of personnel (by place of work)**

Office/Lab	Location	Local units	Personnel on duty (No.)
Central Administration	Roma		96
ICQRF Nord ovest	Torino	Asti Genova	46
ICQRF Lombardia	Milano	Brescia	36
ICQRF Nord est	Susegana	Verona Udine S. Michele all'Adige	52
ICQRF E. Romagna e Marche	Bologna	Modena Ancona	54
ICQRF Toscana e Umbria	Firenze	Pisa Perugia	58
ICQRF Italia Centrale	Roma	Pescara	44
ICQRF Italia Meridionale	Napoli	Salerno Cosenza Lamezia Terme	65
ICQRF Italia Sud est	Bari	Lecce Potenza Campobasso	69
ICQRF Sicilia	Palermo	Catania	50
ICQRF Sardegna	Cagliari	Sassari	29
Laboratory of Catania			33
Laboratory of Conegliano			14
Laboratory of Modena			20
Laboratory of Perugia			22
Laboratory of Salerno			22
Laboratory of ROMA			19
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>729</b>

**Staff training**

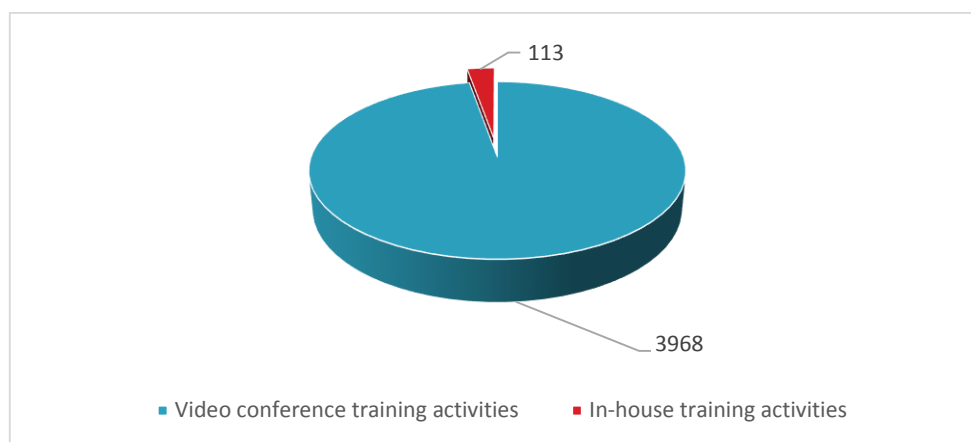
The ICQRF takes great care to the train of its own staff, constantly aiming to the development of the professional skill, with an eye to the development of the agri-food fraud enforcement techniques, in Italy, worldwide and on the web.

In 2016, the ICQRF involved in training activities No. 550 units of personnel, equal to the 75.44% of the total.



ICQRF - percentage of personnel trained in 2016 on the total

The total of the training activities has been No. **4081**; every employee has been able to participate to more than one activity.



**ICQRF – Total training activities (video conference, in-house)**

The main training activities in 2016 are detailed as follows:

### ***In-house activities (focus group – training courses)***

- Dematerialized archives in wine sector (duration 4 days - No. 39 participants);
- Auditor/Lead auditor in quality management systems (duration 5 days - No. 59 participants);
- Certification in bovine carcasses raters (duration 3 days - No. 9 participants);
- NMR spectrometers (duration 3 days - No. 6 participants).

### ***Blended activities (in-house + e-learning)***

- Protection of GIs: relationship with foreign authorities – English language expert level (duration 30 h. - No. 60 participants).

### ***Video conference activities (seminars, updates, detailed studies, meetings, debates)***

- Accompanying documents in the wine sector (duration 1 day - No. 136 participants);
- Implementation of research programmers in dairy sector (duration 1 day - No. 126 participants);
- Improving research programmers in labs in fertilizer sector (duration 1 day - No. 189 participants);
- Protection of GIs: fight against counterfeit products on the web (duration 1 day - No. 297 participants);
- Agri-food products labelling: updates (duration 1 day - No. 100 participants);
- Feedback on the Spanish Focus group in oil sector (duration 1 day - No. 202 participants);
- BTSF - New investigation techniques for official controls along the food chain (duration 1 day - No. 187 participants);
- Chemiometric analysis for protection of made in Italy (duration 1 day - No. 32 participants);
- BTSF - Organic Farming (duration 1 day - No. 157 participants);
- Evolution of the monitoring database (duration 3 days - No. 172 participants);



- Recent experiences on the controls on the German market and internet sales (duration 1 day - No. 69 participants);
- Dematerialized archives for sugar substances, farinaceous and dairy products (duration 1 day - No. 201 participants);
- Protection of GIs and brands (duration 1 day - No. 194 participants);
- Feedback on the Focus group about criminal police activities (duration 1 day - No. 168 participants);
- Feedback on the Focus group about monitoring activities on public and private bodies (duration 1 day - No. 129 participants);
- Eggs and egg products (duration 1 day - No. 139 participants);
- Buffalo sector traceability (duration 1 day - No. 144 participants);
- Updates for internal auditors - SGQ (duration 1 day - No. 38 participants);
- Updates for RAQ e Vice-RAQ - quality management system in laboratories (duration 3 days - No. 12 participants);
- The new crime of self-laundering (duration 1 day - No. 206 participants);
- BTSF - Controls on contaminants in feed and food (duration 1 day - No. 167 participants);
- Protection of GIs: fight against counterfeit products on the web – continuation (duration 1 day - No. 225 participants);
- AAC System Training from EC staff (duration 1 day - No. 179 participants);
- Plant protection products sector (duration 1 day - No. 130 participants);
- Online food and food fraud (duration 1 day - No. 80 participants);
- Dematerialized archives in wine sector (duration 1 day - No. 14 participants);
- Honey: updates (duration 1 day - No. 190 participants).

## Contacts

**The Department of Central Inspectorate for quality safeguarding and anti-fraud of foodstuff and agricultural products (ICQRF)**

[www.politicheagricole.it/flex/cm/pages/ServeBLOB.php/L/IT/IDPagina/7553](http://www.politicheagricole.it/flex/cm/pages/ServeBLOB.php/L/IT/IDPagina/7553)

**ICQRF - Directorate general for the accreditation of control bodies, certification and consumer protection (VICO)**

[www.politicheagricole.it/flex/cm/pages/ServeBLOB.php/L/IT/IDPagina/7498](http://www.politicheagricole.it/flex/cm/pages/ServeBLOB.php/L/IT/IDPagina/7498)

**ICQRF – Directorate general for prevention and enforcement of agri-food frauds (PREF)**

[www.politicheagricole.it/flex/cm/pages/ServeBLOB.php/L/IT/IDPagina/7504](http://www.politicheagricole.it/flex/cm/pages/ServeBLOB.php/L/IT/IDPagina/7504)

**ICQRF - Local offices and local units**

[www.politicheagricole.it/flex/cm/pages/ServeBLOB.php/L/IT/IDPagina/7535](http://www.politicheagricole.it/flex/cm/pages/ServeBLOB.php/L/IT/IDPagina/7535)

**ICQRF - Laboratories**

[www.politicheagricole.it/flex/cm/pages/ServeBLOB.php/L/IT/IDPagina/7540](http://www.politicheagricole.it/flex/cm/pages/ServeBLOB.php/L/IT/IDPagina/7540)

