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Status of food irradiation in the world

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Abstract

The status of food irradiation in the world in 2005 was investigated using published data, a questionnaire survey and direct visits. The results showed that the quantity of irradiated foods in the world in 2005 was 405,000 t and comprised 1,86,000 t (46%) for disinfection of spices and dry vegetables, 82,000 t (20%) for disinfestation of grains and fruits, 32,000 t (8%) for disinfection of meat and fish, 88,000 t (22%) for sprout inhibition of garlic and potato, and 17,000 t (4%) of other food items that included health foods, mushroom, honey, etc. Commercial food irradiation is increasing significantly in Asia, but decreasing in EU.

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Keywords

Food irradiation; Economic scale

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