

## Food Crime is an International Problem

There is a new and growing danger with the food we eat. Criminal gangs are selling billions of dollars of fake food to supermarkets around the world. In the past few years, there have been some high-profile scandals. In Britain, tons of horse meat ended up in products that were labeled as beef. British police recently found a product that used cheaper peanut powder instead of almond flour. This could seriously harm or kill people with peanut allergies. In 2008, six babies died in China after gangs made and sold fake milk powder. Gangs can make a lot of money from fake food. It is also safer than selling drugs for the gangs because the penalties are lower.

The assistant director of Interpol, Michael Ellis, told the BBC that food crime is very similar to the drugs trade. He said: "In my experience, the patterns used by criminals involved in counterfeiting are very similar to those used in the dealing of drugs." The police found children's candies that were dyed with a poisonous chemical, 430,000 liters of fake drinks and 22 tons of long-grain rice that was labeled as high-quality basmati rice. The British government said it was a difficult problem to tackle. It said that using technology might be the only way to beat the criminal gangs.

Source: [www.breakingnewsenglish.com](http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com)

### Vocabulary

high-profile - attracting much attention or publicity

scandal - a situation or event that is thought to be shocking and immoral and that everyone knows about

counterfeiting - the crime of making an exact copy of something in order to trick people into thinking that it is the real thing

tackle - to make an effort to deal with a difficult problem or situation

You can see the whole lesson from your teacher, please ask them to send it to you before the class.

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