



**Athens, 24<sup>th</sup> of April 2013**

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Information regarding recall of natural decorative egg colouring – Rubia (Radix Cut)**

EFET's Regional Directorate of Attica has conducted sampling of decorative egg colourings as part of the Targeted Food Safety and Quality Control during the Easter period, in collaboration with the General Chemical State Laboratory.

A sample of the natural decorative egg colouring, "Rubia, Radix Cut" was taken in bulk, with the same trade name, Lot Number LOT 11190 and best before date 31.12.2014.

The above mentioned product originates from Iran, is distributed in Greece by the company "Alexopoulos Al. & SIA S.A." (in Greek: "Αλεξόπουλος Αλ. & ΣΙΑ Ο.Ε."), based at Ag. Marinis street, Postal Code 19300, Aspropirgos and was sampled at the company "AFOI Pant. Xatzigeorgiou S.A." (in Greek: "Αφοι Παντ. Χατζηγεωργίου Ο.Ε."), 37 Evripidou str., Athens.

The specific decorative colouring was characterized as "non safe" as it comes from a plant, for which no history for safe food use is available and it is not included in the list of permitted colourings for the decoration colouring of eggshells.

EFET requested the immediate recall/withdrawal of the implicated product in its total. Relevant controls are in progress.

EFET informs consumers not to use this specific decorative colouring for the traditional dyeing of eggs in Easter.