

Sequence of events: Infant Formula Recall (29 January 2026)

At the end of November 2025, following routine checks post-installation of new equipment on a production line at our factory in the Netherlands, we detected very low levels of cereulide in product samples.

We immediately halted production and dismantled the line for inspection of the newly installed equipment parts. We then sent additional product samples for further in-depth laboratory analysis.

We received the results at the **beginning of December 2025**, confirming the presence of trace amounts of cereulide in batches of finished products under our control.

As a precautionary measure, we decided to recall all products manufactured since the new equipment installation in our factory in the Netherlands.

On **10 December 2025**, we informed the Dutch authorities (where our factory is located) and all potentially impacted countries, as well as the European Commission, to share our analyses and risk assessment on the potential presence of cereulide in some of our products.

We submitted our proposed course of action to recall potentially affected products already on the market out of an abundance of caution.

In strict alignment with authorities of the countries impacted, the same day, we initiated a voluntary and precautionary public recall of all batches produced (25 in total) in 16 countries in Europe.

We also informed customers, partners, and more importantly, consumers about this recall.

This was the first public recall.

Validation of the root cause

We continued to deepen our investigations searching for the root cause by retesting all product ingredients.

On **23 December 2025**, initial test results showed that the contamination came from an oil blend used to produce infant formula in several of our factories. This was confirmed on 24 December. The oil blend contained arachidonic acid oil (ARA), sourced from a global industry supplier.

We immediately stopped using all mixes containing ARA oil from this supplier and blocked distribution of all corresponding infant formula finished products. We also sent samples of ARA oil to one of our accredited laboratories.

On **29 December 2025**, following confirmation of the contamination of the ARA oil, we, Nestlé, informed the supplier of our findings.

We also alerted the industry through the trade associations (SNE and ISDI) on **30 December 2025** to enable action across manufacturers and help safeguard infant safety.

Extensive analyses of retained ARA oil and corresponding oil mixes in our laboratories were conducted during the period between 23 December 2025 and 3 January 2026 - despite logistical and staffing constraints due to the year-end holidays. The pace reached up to 60 analyses per day, totaling more than 400 samples.

As we progressively received the results, this information enabled us to map the scope of the issue and identify the batches that needed to be recalled.

As of **2 January 2026**, we began notifying the authorities progressively in the affected countries and, as a precaution, initiated the voluntary public recall as from **5 January 2026**.

The public recall was carried out after our actions were validated by the authorities in each impacted country.

How do you do a recall?

Once we have decided to proceed with a recall, clear steps are taken:

- Determine the locations of all affected products by tracking their batch number (and whether they are in our warehouses, with distributors, in-store, or with consumers at home).
- Identify the quantity that is no longer under our control.
- Confirm which products to recall and in which countries.



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- Manufacturers are legally obliged to inform the authorities in the countries where the products to recall have been distributed, the brands concerned, and the quantities involved.

NOTE: This last step is mandatory before initiating any recall.