



Ways/Opportunities of Decontamination Processes of Surface Moulds and Mycotoxins

Guest Editors:

Dr. Manuela Zadavec

Department for Veterinary Public Health, Croatian Veterinary Institute, HR-10000 Zagreb, Croatia

Prof. Dr. Jelka Pleadin

Department for Veterinary Public Health, Croatian Veterinary Institute, HR-10000 Zagreb, Croatia

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Message from the Guest Editors

The production process of mycotoxins is stimulated by certain environmental factors and therefore the extent of contamination differs with geographical location, implemented agricultural methods and conditions, as well as the susceptibility of commodities to the penetration of fungi during storage and processing periods. Among the hundreds of known mycotoxins, special attention is paid to aflatoxins, ochratoxins, and the *Fusarium* mycotoxins fumonisin, zearalenone, deoxynivalenol (DON), and T-2/HT-2 toxin, as they contaminate many different types of foodstuffs of plant and animal origin and occur all over the world. Previous research suggests that elevated carbon dioxide concentration, the increase of temperatures, and the occurrence of extreme droughts and rainy periods have a significant impact on mould growth and the appearance of mycotoxins. Therefore, because of the huge economic losses and health hazards which can be caused by toxicogenic moulds and mycotoxins, it is of great importance to develop nonharmful methods for their elimination or decontamination in agriculture and industry.





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Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Giancarlo Cravotto

Department of Drug Science and
Technology, University of Turin,
Via P. Giuria 9, 10125 Turin, Italy

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MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
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