

Special Issue

The Effects of Mycotoxins on Human and Animal Health—a Special Focus on the Cellular and Molecular Mechanisms Responsible for Mycotoxin Toxicity

Message from the Guest Editors

Mycotoxins are secondary metabolites synthesized mainly by fungi belonging to the *Aspergillus*, *Fusarium* and *Penicillium* genera. The contamination of cereals and agricultural products by mycotoxins may lead to a variety of adverse health effects, ranging from acute to chronic toxicity, with serious health implications for both humans and animals. Mycotoxins' toxic effects are characterized by lesions in target organs such as the liver and kidneys and in the pulmonary, intestinal, immune and central nervous systems, which can vary according to the type of toxin, time of exposure, mycotoxin concentration, animal species, sex etc. At the cellular level, many processes such as apoptosis, genotoxicity, oxidative stress and inflammation have been described as being responsible for the effects of mycotoxins. However, more research is needed in order to explain the molecular mechanisms involved in mycotoxin toxicity.

Guest Editors

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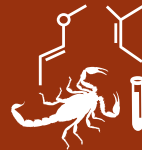
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Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (31 July 2021)



Toxins

an Open Access Journal
by MDPI

Impact Factor 4.0
CiteScore 8.2
Indexed in PubMed



mdpi.com/si/50599

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Toxinology is an incredibly diverse area of study, ranging from field surveys of environmental toxins to the study of toxin action at the molecular level. The editorial board and staff of *Toxins* are dedicated to providing a timely, peer-reviewed outlet for exciting, innovative primary research articles and concise, informative reviews from investigators in the myriad of disciplines contributing to our knowledge on toxins. We are committed to meeting the needs of the toxin research community by offering useful and timely reviews of all manuscripts submitted. Please consider *Toxins* when submitting your work for publication.

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