

3rd SYMPOSIUM: MYCOTOXINS THREATS AND RISK MANAGEMENT

Tuesday April 28, 2009, *Het Pand, Ghent, Belgium*

Mycotoxins are secondary metabolites naturally produced by fungi which have an impact on animal and human health, animal productivity and because of national and international legislation on domestic and international trade. Worldwide, mycotoxins are present and have become a key problem of our food and feed chain. Economic losses are due to effects on livestock productivity and direct losses in crop yield and stored agricultural products.

The challenges in mycotoxin research are enormous due to frequency of presence, the complexity and variability in occurrence. Several aspects make the control of mycotoxins difficult:

- Different fungal species produce mycotoxins;
- Most of the mycotoxin producing fungi are able to produce more than one mycotoxin;
- There are hundreds of mycotoxins known but few have been extensively investigated and even fewer have good methods for analysis available;
- Mycotoxin levels are strongly influenced by environmental conditions during growing and storage;

- The presence of masked mycotoxins;
- Interaction of mycotoxins with each other and with environmental factors;
- The genetic variability in mycotoxin producing species;

The serious risks for human and animal health and the economic consequences triggered a worldwide research effort on mycotoxins and mycotoxin producing fungi. The investigational area is broad (phytopathology, risk management, analytical methods,...) but necessary to ensure a safe food and feed supply.

The symposium will bring knowledge of several disciplines together to find solutions for the problems connected with mycotoxins contamination. The complex character of mycotoxin related problems make a multidisciplinary approach necessary.

INVITED LECTURERS

C. Waalwijk, PRI, the Netherlands
"Population dynamics of *Fusarium* in Western Europe and China"

M. Kimanya, Tanzania Food and Drugs Authority
"Exposure assessment and management options for fumonisins in maize based complementary foods in rural Tanzania"

H. Van Egmond, RIVM, the Netherlands
"Harmonization of reliable and validated rapid methods for mycotoxins: the *MoniQA* approach."

D. Jans, FEFANA
"Update on the regulatory status of feed additives for the control of mycotoxins - practical interest in their use"

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

C. Van Peteghem, Ghent University
S. De Saeger, Ghent University
P. Dubruel, Ghent University
G. Haesaert, University College Ghent
P. Maene, University College Ghent
J. Diana Di Mavungu, Ghent University
S. Monbaliu, Ghent University

CONTRIBUTED PAPERS

The contributed papers (oral presentations or posters) will beside the general aspects of mycotoxins and risk management cover the following particular topics:

- Analytical aspects
- Mycotoxin reduction and management
- Human and animal health
- Mycotoxin production
- Genetic and physiological aspects
- Regulatory aspects and risk assessment

ABSTRACTS

Scientists wishing to present a contributed paper are invited to return a 1-page abstract before December 1, 2008 to jose.dianadimavungu@UGent.be. The authors should indicate their preference as to the presentation mode (oral or poster). The time allotted for oral presentation will be 20 min, discussion included.

The surface available for poster presentation will be 200 cm (height) x 100 cm (width).

PRELIMINARY REGISTRATION

Surname:
First name:
CONTRIBUTED PAPER <input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO
<input type="radio"/> ORAL
<input type="radio"/> POSTER
<input type="radio"/> NO PREFERENCE
Firm:
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E-mail:

EXHIBITION

Rates for the rental of space are available on request. Interested companies are asked to contact peter.maene@hogent.be.