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HEALTH RISKS OF ANIMALS AND HUMANS CAUSED BY TOXINS OF FILAMENTOUS FUNGI IN FEED AND FOOD

Key words: feed, filamentous fungi, food, mycotoxices, mycotoxins

Summary

This compiled literature review highlights the health risks of animals and humans caused by toxins of filamentous fungi occurring in feed and food. The moulds producing mycotoxins were characterized and the factors influencing their synthesis were discussed. The characteristic of the most important groups of mycotoxins: aflatoxins, ochratoxin, trichothecene, fumonisins and zearalenone in terms of their occurrence and toxicity was presented. The influence of the mycotoxins occurrence in feed on food contamination was discussed. Emphasis was given to aflatoxin B1, which can be accumulated in milk as aflatoxin M1. Possible methods of preventing the mycotoxins synthesis by fungi and strategies of feed and food detoxification were reviewed. The perspective role of biological methods of detoxification with the use of specific properties of some microorganisms and particular lactic acid bacteria, yeasts and mould was underlined.