

## Mycotoxin Summary

### ▶ What are mycotoxins?

- Secondary metabolites produced by certain molds which can contaminate a wide range of feed ingredients
- When ingested, mycotoxins can be detrimental to health, reproduction and performance of animals, as well as potentially harmful to humans

### ▶ Common mycotoxins

- Aflatoxins, fumonisins, type A trichothecenes (including T2-toxin and HT-2 toxin), type B trichothecenes (including deoxynivalenol aka “vomitoxin” and nivalenol), ochratoxin A, zearalenone, and ergot alkaloids

### ▶ Mycotoxins can affect animals in a variety of ways

- Mycotoxins can evoke both subclinical and clinical effects
- The outcomes in animals vary depending on a variety of factors including the type(s) and level(s) of mycotoxin(s) present, the duration of exposure, the age/sex/breed, nutritional status, and the presence of other stressors
- Some potential signs include: reduced feed intake, diarrhea, impaired gut integrity, oral lesions, tail and ear necrosis, infertility and impaired immune function which can contribute to vaccine failure

### ▶ Testing for mycotoxins in your feed

- Many options are available, ranging from on-site quick tests to more advanced testing that requires sample submission to a laboratory
- DSM, together with Romer Labs, offers a full array of mycotoxin analytical services

### ▶ Assess the risk of mycotoxins on your operation

- Assessing contamination is difficult due to uneven distribution of mycotoxins in feeds
- Mycotoxins can be present whether or not there is visible mold growth
- Collection of a representative sample is key
- Periodically monitor contamination over time
- DSM offers sampling guidelines and other resources to help assess risk in your operation

### ▶ Stay ahead of mycotoxin threats

- Surveillance testing is key to understanding potential exposure
- Develop an appropriate mitigation strategy based on test results and clinical concerns on-farm
- DSM offers various resources to help guide development of tailored mycotoxin risk management programs

#### Resources



[DSM North America Mycotoxin Corn Survey](#)



[Mycotoxins.info](#)

#### Recent Articles



[Mycotoxins: The Invisible Profit Killer, Part 1 - Will 2022 harvest bring mycotoxin challenges?](#)



[Mycotoxins: The Invisible Profit Killer, Part 2 - Harvest insights for your operation](#)



[Mycotoxins: The Invisible Profit Killer, Part 3 - Analytical options and mitigation considerations](#)



[Challenges related to testing for mycotoxin biomarkers](#)