



Second International
Conference on
Radiation and Dosimetry in
Various Fields of Research

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May 27 - 30, 2014 | Faculty of Electronic Engineering | Niš | Serbia

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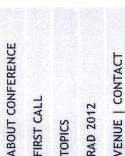






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IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGES ON INCREASED LEVELS OF AFLATOXINS IN FEEDSTUFFS AND RAW MILK FROM REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

Elizabeta Dimitrieska-Stojkovic, Biljana Stojanovska-Dimzoska, Gordana Ilievska, Katerina Davceva, Risto Uzunov, Aleksandra Angeleska, Zehra Hajrulai-Musliu, Aleksandra Angelova

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Since the beginning of the 21st century there are a numerous reports and modeling simulations by competent expert bodies, as well as published articles, showing that climate changes affect significantly the agricultural production, treating, thereby, food safety as well as public health. Drought stresses reduces the crop plants resistance, and extreme precipitations and heat waves increases the possibility of growth of plant pathogenic moulds, which produce the toxic metabolites - mycotoxins, both prior to and post harvest. Aflatoxins are highly toxic, mutagenic, teratogenic and carcinogenic fungal metabolites from Aspergillus found in foods and feeds. The attention to the presence of aflatoxins in feed is important due to the possible contamination of the milk produced by animals fed with aflatoxin-contaminated feed. Aflatoxin M1 (AFM1), the hydroxylated metabolite of Aflatoxin B1 (AFB1), may be found in milk and milk products obtained from livestock that have ingested contaminated feed. At the end of 2012 and beginning of 2013 the risk of mycotoxins was brought to public attention in Balkans and Central European countries following the European Commission Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed, where ten alerts for the presence of increased amounts of AFB1 in maize panel, have been reported. Additionally, several investigations from the countries in this region revealed an increased occurrence of Aspergillus strains capable of production aflatoxins. This paper presents part of the results from the survey on AFB1 and AFM1 in samples from Macedonia, conducted during the 2013. In total 117 samples of feedstuffs and 3099 samples of raw milk were tested for the presence of AFB1 and AFM1, respectively. AFB1 has been detected in 47 % of the samples tested; the revealed average concentration has been 5.30 µg/kg, and in comparison to the years before, when AFB1 has been sporadically detected, this was a significant increase. Unlike the previous years, when AFM1 was detected over the limit of detection of the method being applied only in few cases, during this survey the prevalence has been 31.4 %. This was not unexpected, having on mind the fact that Macedonia is highly dependent on import of feedstuffs from the region. Since the border control has been performed on the risk analysis and risk assessment from the obtained data in the previous years, the reason for detection of such increased levels of aflatoxins in feedings and milk is quite understandable.