

4th International Symposium

Mycotoxins: Challenges and Perspectives



Ghent – Belgium
Tuesday May 24th 2011



www.food2know.be



Abstract submission

Abstracts (1 page) for oral and poster presentations should be emailed to Sandra.VanVlierberghe@UGent.be before January 15th 2011

Registration

Please register at www.mytox.be

Regular fee: € 175 (before March 15th: € 150)
Fee for PhD students: € 70
(before March 15th: € 60)

Registration fee includes abstract book, coffee and lunch

Erkenningsnummer Hogeschool Gent KMO-
Portefeuille : DV.O101616

Invited speakers

Isabelle Oswald, INRA, Toulouse
Ibtisam Tohill, Cranfield University
Yun Yun Gong, University of Leeds
José Diana Di Mavungu, Ghent University
Mari Eskola, EFSA, Parma

Venue

Hogeschool Gent
Campus Bijloke
Room 'Zwarte zaal'
Jozef Kluyskensstraat 2
9000 Gent

Mycotoxins -toxic fungal secondary metabolites - play a significant role in food and feed safety. Indeed, mycotoxins have shown to be the number one threat regarding chronic toxicity. Economic losses are due to effects on livestock productivity and direct losses in crop yield and stored agricultural products. Legislative limits for a range of mycotoxins continue to develop worldwide resulting in an increased number of official controls deriving from national food safety plans and for food trade purposes.

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

- *Different fungal species produce mycotoxins;*
- *Most of the mycotoxin producing fungi are able to produce more than one mycotoxin;*
- *Mycotoxin levels are influenced by environmental conditions during growth and storage;*
- *The presence of masked mycotoxins;*
- *Interaction of various mycotoxins and environmental factors.*

New developments in mycotoxin analysis focus on faster, environmentally friendly, cost-effective and fit-for-purpose methods in food, feed, biological tissue and body fluids. A trend towards multi-mycotoxin analysis has been noticed.

Mycotoxigenic fungi, mycotoxins and food safety will continue to be a critical interest to researchers for years to come. Innovations take place at a rapid pace. The investigational area is broad (phytopathology, analytical methods, risk management, animal health, ...) 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.

