



New Insights of Ochratoxins

Guest Editor:

Dr. Hyun Jung Lee

University of Idaho, School of
Food Science, Moscow, United
States

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Message from the Guest Editor

Ochratoxin A (OTA) has received attention in recent years as one of the most commonly occurring mycotoxins in the world. OTA is known as nephrotoxin and a possible human carcinogen. This mycotoxin is produced by many *Aspergillus* and *Penicillium* species that commonly occur in foods. Because of the diverse environmental conditions in which those fungi can grow and owing to the heat stability under most food processing conditions, OTA has been found in a wide range of agricultural commodities and their derived food products, especially in oats and oat-based products. The toxicity mechanism of OTA is still unclear, but it is absorbed into the gastrointestinal tract through food intake, and then absorbed OTA binds to albumin which has a very long half-life, resulting in its accumulation. Therefore, contamination of OTA in foods is a significant concern in food safety and public health. This Special Issue is dedicated to current understanding of the impact of OTA on human health, including its mechanism and toxicology, risk assessment, processing technologies and surveillance, as well as mycology or fungal biology. Review articles on this topic will also be considered.





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Prof. Dr. Jay Fox

Department of Microbiology,
University of Virginia,
Charlottesville, VA, USA

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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Toxins Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland

Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
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