Laboratorio Analisi Zootecniche	MOLD CONTAMINATION AND QUALITY OF LIVESTOCK FOOD	**TAB-1-M** Ed. 27 apr 2005 Pag 1 di 1

Food	Normal values	Mediocre values (depleting quality)	Excessive values (marked deterioration)	Notes/type of treatment
Corn (dried grains)	Less than 25.000	28.000 and 80.000	More than 80.000	Thermal*
Corn (with antifungals)	Less than 10.000			Chemical
Milling by-products	Less than 10.000	10.000 and 30.000	More than 30.000	
Cotton (seeds)	Less than 10.000	10.000 and 40.000	More than 40.000	
Soybean Flour Extraction	Less than 1.000	1.000 and 10.000	More than 10.000	Thermal
Fish Meal	Less than 5.000	5.000 and 20.000	More than 20.000	Thermal
Feed (pellets)	Less than 5.000	5.000 and 10.000	More than 10.000	Thermal-mechanical
Feed (flour)	Less than 10.000	10.000 and 40.000	More than 40.000	
Hay (dried)	Less than 20.000	20.000 and 80.000	More than 80.000	Thermal
Hay silages/ Grass silages	Less than 1.000	1.000 and 10.000	More than 10.000	Fermentative
Corn Silages	Less than 1.000	1.000 and 10.000	More than 10.000	Fermentative
Unifeeds	Less than 10.000	10.000 and 40.000	More than 40.000	
Barley/wheat grain	Less than 20.000	20.000 and 400.000	More than 40.000	

Values expressed in CFU/gr (colony or thallus forming units, yeasts are not counted)
(* for corn, drying reduces about 40%, however in the first storage period after harvesting, higher values can be temporarily tolerated).

Molds are microscopic, heterotrophic fungi, dependent on the organic substrates on which they develop. The consequences of fungal growth are manifold but three types of fundamental problems can be differentiated due to ingestion:

1) organoleptic and nutritional alterations leading to a decrease in livestock production.
2) Appearance of various pathologies due to the presence of some fungal strains (mycoses, allergies, etc ...).
3) Acute or chronic intoxications due to the presence of toxigenic molds (mycotoxicosis)

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The information is based on current experience and knowledge; they are derived from the literature and especially from the analytical data obtained in the Laboratory[1], they are therefore subject to change.