

**Session Society: April 12th 11.30 hrs**

**2s2: Food safety and risks is a circular system**

## **LIMITING EXPOSURE OF LIFESTOCK TO MYCOTOXINS BY MONITORING AND FORECASTING OF CONTAMINATIONS IN FEED CROPS**

Schweiger W 1), Platzer A 1), Jenkins T 2), Schatzmayr G 1)

1) BIOMIN Research Center, Technopark 1, 3430 Austria

---

Mycotoxins are prevalent fungal contaminants in animal feed crops. They negatively affect animal health and consequently performance. Minimizing mycotoxins improves the animal's development but also reduces crop waste or need for blending below harmful levels. Occurrence in crops may vary strongly depending on growing region, agronomic factors and climatic conditions. Measures aiming to reduce contamination in feed need to be based on prior knowledge of toxin prevalence and contamination levels in a certain area. The BIOMIN mycotoxin survey is an extensive database that aggregates global mycotoxin occurrence data from over 130.000 samples collected on the field, from various crop-based commodities as well as finished feed. It provides users with a sound basis for estimating their local mycotoxin risk. This service is now expanded to prediction of mycotoxins in upcoming harvests by using weather as main predictor. Users can either access field-based custom predictions for deoxynivalenol on wheat via the adapted MyToolBox platform or access weekly-updated regional predictions for maize and wheat in combination with four regulated mycotoxins. Increased regional risk, may warrant targeted toxin-specific measures, ranging from changed agronomic practices, to additional testing of grains at risk or treatment of finished feed with mycotoxin degrading products, such as Biomin's Mycofix product line.

---

*Keywords: mycotoxins, livestock, feed*