



Mycotoxins in Aquaculture: Feed and Food

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Mycotoxins in Aquaculture: Feed and Food

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Abstract

Mycotoxins, secondary metabolites produced by molds, are responsible for causing significant economic losses due to spoilage of agricultural products but also due to direct or indirect health impact on livestock upon ingestion of mycotoxin contaminated feedstuffs. Aquaculture farmed species are not an exception and studies reporting mycotoxin-related issues in the aquaculture industry have been increasing. However, our understanding on the prevalence and impact of mycotoxins in the aquaculture sector is still lower compared to the terrestrial livestock sector. Consequently, regulatory limits and guidance values have been defined based on the studies on terrestrial farm animals.

The aim of this review is to compile and critically assess mycotoxin occurrence and co-occurrence in aquaculture finished feeds, and understand the risk of mycotoxin carry-over in aquaculture seafood products. Furthermore, we aim with this review to raise awareness to the scientific community, the regulatory authorities and the aquaculture industry to the need for specific aquaculture mycotoxin maximum concentration levels for both aquaculture feeds and foods.

Keywords: mycotoxins occurrence; carry-over effects; fish; shrimp; aquafeeds; transfer factor

1

2 **Mycotoxin abbreviations:**

3 AFs: aflatoxins; meaning the sum of AFB₁, AFB₂, AFG₁ and AFG₂

4 AFB₁: aflatoxin B₁

5 AFB₂: aflatoxin B₂

6 AFG₁: aflatoxin G₁

7 AFG₂: aflatoxin G₂

8 DON: deoxynivalenol

9 ENNs: enniatins

10 FUM: fumonisins; meaning the sum of FB₁ and FB₂

11 FB₁: fumonisin B₁

12 FB₂: fumonisin B₂

13 OTA: ochratoxin A

14 ZEN: zearalenone

15 α -ZEL: alpha-Zearalenol

16 β -ZEL: beta-Zearalenol

17

18 **Other abbreviations:**

19 TF – Transfer factor

20 DN – Denmark

21 AT – Austria

22 NL – the Netherlands

23 DE – Germany

24 VN – Vietnam

25 ID – Indonesia

26 MM - Myanmar

27 INTRODUCTION

28 Mycotoxins are secondary metabolites produced by some molds (Hussein and Brasel, 2001).
29 These can be produced on agricultural commodities pre- and/or post-harvest including
30 directly in finished feeds. Mycotoxins are responsible for significant economic losses due to
31 the spoilage of agricultural products (CAST, 2003; Shane and Eaton, 1994; Vasanthi and Bhat,
32 1998). Furthermore, mycotoxins can cause diseases problems when consumed by humans
33 and livestock, causing significant problems worldwide (Zain, 2011). Despite being identified
34 as categorically undesirable for most aquaculture species, their occurrence, at least in field
35 conditions, is not completely preventable even when using good manufacturing practices
36 (FAO 1979). The awareness of mycotoxin-related issues in the aquaculture industry has been
37 increasing, accentuated by the increased inclusion levels of plant meals in aquafeeds (Tacon
38 *et al.* 2011). Traditionally, the use of minor amounts of plant feed stuffs led to an accepted
39 perception that mycotoxins were not a relevant issue in aquaculture and that the majority of
40 mycotoxin issues would stemmed only due to poor storage conditions. *Aspergillus* spp. and
41 *Penicillium* spp. can grow on feed stored in poor conditions, ultimately leading to the
42 production of aflatoxin (AF) and ochratoxin A (OTA). This would seem to be particularly the
43 case in countries where climate conditions are favourable to the growth of *Aspergillus* spp.
44 and *Penicillium* spp. fungi. However, optimal storage conditions should prevent the
45 contamination of raw materials and finished feeds from AF or OTA. However, some plant
46 commodities such as cottonseed and peanut meals commonly present detectable levels of
47 AF and/or OTA (Gonçalves *et al.* 2017), even when stored using appropriate conditions.
48 With the increased use of plant meals in aquafeeds, other mycotoxins besides AF and OTA
49 have been reported in finished feeds, as mycotoxins are reasonably stable to processing
50 conditions (Cheli *et al.* 2013). *Fusarium* mycotoxins (Type B and A, trichothecenes and
51 fumonisins) are, contrary to AF and OTA, mainly produced at pre-harvest stage. The
52 production of these mycotoxins by *Fusarium* spp. seems to be highly influenced by
53 environmental conditions, so an increase in occurrence is expected due to climate change
54 (Miraglia *et al.* 2009; Paterson and Lima, 2010; Paterson and Lima, 2011). This contamination
55 may potentially cause harm to the fish and shrimps, dependent upon mycotoxin
56 concentration and co-occurrence, consequently resulting in significant economic losses,
57 directly (e.g., mortality or decreases in performance), or indirectly (e.g. higher susceptibility
58 to diseases). However, one of the biggest barriers to quantify the impact of mycotoxin

contamination in the aquaculture industry is the apparent lack of clinical signs or biomarkers in aquatic species for mycotoxin exposure, especially compared to terrestrial livestock. While several reports describe broad and non-specific clinical signs for the most common mycotoxins (see review from Anater *et al.* (2016)), these lack specificity and could be attributed to a number of pathologies or challenges such as the presence of anti-nutrition factors or lectins in the diet (Hart *et al.* 2010). The case of aflatoxicosis, (yellowing of the body surface, (Deng *et al.* 2010) and ingestion of fumonisins (FUM; alteration of the sphinganine to sphingosine ratio, (Tuan *et al.* 2003)) are two notable exceptions. Also, Gonçalves *et al.* (2018b) described DON-3-sulfate as a potential biomarker of deoxynivalenol (DON) exposure in rainbow trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*).

Carry-over denotes the conveyance of undesired compounds from contaminated feed into food of animal origin. The potential of carry-over of several mycotoxins in terrestrial animals such as poultry, swine and cows issue was highlighted by the European Food Safety Authorities (EFSA) and FAO (Domenico Caruso *et al.* 2013; EFSA, 2004b FAO, 2001)). However, no guidelines are available regarding carry-over in farmed fish and shrimp species. Therefore, the present review aims to compare the mycotoxin occurrence and co-occurrence in aquaculture finished feeds with the potential risk of mycotoxin carry-over in aquaculture seafood products across main aquaculture produced species. Furthermore, we aim to critically compare carry-over obtain in aquaculture species to the ones obtained for livestock species. With this review, we intend to raise awareness to the scientific community, the regulatory authorities and the aquaculture industry to the possible need for specific aquaculture mycotoxin maximum concentration levels for both aquaculture feeds and foods. Furthermore, authors aware for particular cases in aquaculture sector, where edible tissues may change in different regions, therefore increasing the risk of mycotoxicosis.

OCCURRENCE OF MYCOTOXINS IN AQUAFEEDS

The high cost and limited availability of fishmeal has led the aquaculture industry to gradually increase the levels of alternative protein sources as a substitute for fishmeal in their feeds (Davis and Sookying, 2009). Overall, a wide range of products, e.g. animal by-products, fishery by-products, insect meals, macro-algae meals or single-cell protein, have been explored as alternatives to fishmeal. However, for several reasons (e.g., production scalability, market availability, batch uniformity or price competitiveness) plant-based meals

remain the most widely used alternative protein source. When considering plant-based meals for aquafeeds, it is commonly agreed that one of the negative aspects is the presence of anti-nutrients (e.g. cyanogens, saponins, tannins etc.) which are detrimental to fish and shrimp (Krogdahl *et al.* 2010). Conversely, the negative impact of mycotoxins is often overlooked. The disbelief in the negative effects of mycotoxins on aquatic species might be related to the lack of observable clinical signs in aquatic species directly related to mycotoxin ingestion compared to terrestrial livestock species where the effects are more pronounced. However, the awareness of mycotoxin-related issues in the aquaculture industry has grown in recent years as feed manufacturers and producers have recognised the importance of mycotoxins and their potential to impact production, final product quality (García-Morales *et al.* 2013) and safety for consumers (Michelin *et al.* 2017). The evolution of the analytical platforms used to detect mycotoxins and the easier access to analytical labs or simple ELISA strip tests kits for *in situ* testing, has also increased the awareness of mycotoxins to feed millers and farmers.

During the revision of the peer-reviewed literature on the occurrence of mycotoxins in aquafeeds, summarized in this review, a pattern of the target mycotoxins analysed in feed samples emerged. In samples analysed before 2012, the main mycotoxins analysed were AFs (AFB₁, AFB₂, AFG₁, AFG₂; in most of the cases only AFB₁; see Table 1) and in some cases zeralenone (ZEN) and OTA (Fegan and Spring 2007) (with the exception of (Martins *et al.* 2008) and, possibly based on previous data reported on terrestrial livestock feed samples. After 2012, other mycotoxins were beginning to be reported besides AF's (Table 1). These studies have either targeted the analysis of specific mycotoxins due to the inclusion of certain plant meals (e.g., (Pietsch *et al.* 2013; Woźny *et al.* 2013) or explored a broad mycotoxin occurrence (Gonçalves *et al.* 2018a; Gonçalves *et al.* 2018; Gonçalves *et al.* 2017; Náchér-Mestre *et al.* 2015). This different pattern in the target mycotoxin analysed in feed might be a reflection of increasing awareness of mycotoxins in aquaculture, but also as a result of the easier access to mycotoxin analytical methods.

Aquafeed studies with samples preceding 2012

The oldest documented survey of mycotoxin occurrence in aquaculture finished feed was by Bautista *et al.* (1994). In this study, a total of 62 samples collected in the Philippines between August 1990 to February 1991 from black tiger shrimp (*Penaeus monodon*) feed, sourced

from feed mills and at farm level were analysed (Table 1). The authors observed that only two of the 62 samples were free from AFs, 36 samples were contaminated with AFs at levels between 10 and 20 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$, 21 samples contained AFs at levels between 30 and 40 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ and two samples had AFs levels of 60 and 120 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$. The second study was from Bintvihok *et al.* (2003) which analysed samples collected in the eastern and southern regions of Thailand (1997 to 1998) and by Altuğ and Berklevik (2001) with samples collected in Turkey from 1998 to 2000 (Table 1). Bintvihok *et al.* (2003) analysed 150 samples of commercial shrimp feed (formulated for *Penaeus monodon*) composed mainly of fishmeal, soybean and corn. Samples were collected directly from farms in ten different provinces during the summer months (March to June 1997), the rainy season (July to October 1997) and the winter (November to February 1998) and analysed for AFB₁, AFB₂, AFG₁ and AFG₂. Bintvihok *et al.* (2003) observed that feed was more frequently contaminated in the eastern region (43 contaminated out of 75 collected samples) compared to the southern region (14 contaminated out of 75 collected samples). Contamination also occurred more frequently during rainy season (29 contaminated out of 50 collected samples) followed by winter (20 contaminated in 50 collected samples). AFB₁ was the most prevalent mycotoxin found in samples, although at relatively low concentrations ($< 1 \mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$; Table 1). However, the study lacked information regarding levels of inclusion of the plant ingredients as well as storage time and conditions prior to analysis, which does not allow drawing further conclusions regarding the origin of the AF contamination (i.e., from raw materials or contamination during storage). Soybean and corn are not typically contaminated with AFs, at least in the field, as these plant commodities are more likely contaminated with DON, FUM and ZEN (Gonçalves *et al.* 2018a). Therefore, AF contamination in finished feeds could reflect inadequate storage conditions of raw materials or feeds. Reporting inclusion levels of plant ingredients would be very useful. Importantly, Altuğ and Berklevik (2001) analysed 170 fish finished feed samples for the presence of AFB₁ in Turkey between 1998 and 2000. Samples were collected at farm level, feed mills or imported feeds. In this study, AFB₁ was found below detection limits in 43 samples (25.2% of samples), in 20 samples (11.7% of samples) AFB₁ levels were above 20 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ and in 85 samples (50% of samples) AFB₁ ranged between 21.2 to 42.4 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$. Authors from this study concluded that levels of AFB₁ were higher in samples taken from farms compared to feed mill or imported feed samples.

Fegan and Spring (2007) reported, to our knowledge, the first and most complete mycotoxin occurrence survey on fish and shrimp feeds before 2012. Samples were collected in India and Thailand and analysed for the presence of AFs, T-2, ZEN and OTA. No information is available on the period of sampling, region area or sample origin (feed mill or farm). Nonetheless, the information reported shows a different contamination pattern between fish and shrimp feeds and also shows co-occurrence of mycotoxins. Out of the nine fish feed samples analysed from Thailand, all samples were contamination predominantly by ZEN, at levels ranging from 36.20 to 118.48 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$, followed by T-2 (2.6 to 50.03 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$) and OTA (2.32 to 7.74 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$). Also in Thailand, shrimp feed samples (n=7) were contaminated with ZEN and OTA while no data on AFs was available (Table 1). Shrimp feed samples (n=10) collected from India were mostly contaminated with AFs, ranging between 40 and 90 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$. However, it is important to mention that levels of sensitivity are mycotoxin-specific and therefore although OTA reported levels were in general lower than ZEN, aquatic species are more sensitive to OTA (see Gonçalves *et al.* 2018 for sensitivity levels in aquatic species). In their study, Fegan and Spring (2007) also reported mycotoxin occurrence in the raw materials used to formulate aquafeeds. While the objective of the present review is only to report mycotoxin occurrence in finished feed, it is inevitable and fundamental to highlight the occurrence of mycotoxins (T-2 and ZEN and OTA) in marine ingredients (fishmeal from China, Myanmar, Thailand; fish and shrimp meal from Thailand) which will be further discussed in next sections.

An exception to the almost exclusive AF analysis in finished feeds prior to 2012, are the results presented by Martins *et al.* (2008), who analysed 20 samples of fish feed sourced from Portugal for the presence of AFB₁, OTA, DON, ZEN and fumonisin B1 (FB₁). In this study, no detectable levels of the target mycotoxins were obtained.

In the remaining studies shown in Table 1, in which samples were collected in or before 2012 (Alinezhad *et al.* 2011; Almeida *et al.* 2011; Gonçalves-Nunes *et al.* 2015), the target mycotoxin analysed in feed was always AFB₁. Almeida *et al.* (2011), did not detect AFB₁ in the 87 samples of seabass feed collected in Portugal. Interestingly, 35 of the 87 samples analysed were contaminated with *Aspergillus* spp., which highlights that the presence of fungi does not necessarily mean the presence of the toxin and vice-versa. Alinezhad *et al.* (2011), detected levels high concentrations of AFB₁ in fishmeal (average = 67.35 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$). In

Brasil, Gonçalves-Nunes *et al.* (2015), reported the presence of AFB₁ ranging from 1.6 to 9.8 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ in samples collected directly at the feed plant.

Aquafeed samples after 2012

From 2012 onwards, the number of peer-reviewed publications and technical articles (not covered in this review) related to the presence of mycotoxins (including not only AFBs) in aquaculture feeds increased considerably. In 2013, Woźny *et al.* (2013) analysed the presence of ZEN in trout feed collected from three farms in November. One of the farms had no detected levels of ZEN while the other two farms had 81.8 ± 25.8 and $10.3 \pm 0.9 \mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ of ZEN in their feed respectively. The same study also explored the carry-over of ZEN from feed by analysing several rainbow trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) organs for ZEN presence, results that are further explored in next section. Pietsch *et al.* (2013), unveiled the presence of DON ($236.18 \mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$) and ZEN ($63.82 \mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$) in common carp (*Cyprinus carpio*) feeds in samples from central Europe. Still in Europe, Nacher-Mestre *et al.* (2015), investigated the occurrence of mycotoxins in Atlantic salmon (*Salmo salar*) and gilthead sea bream (*Sparus aurata*) feeds, with respectively, high and low inclusion of plant meals. From the 18 mycotoxins analysed, the most representative mycotoxins found were FUM and DON. In Atlantic salmon, from the three types of feeds analysed, levels of DON were 22.4, 19.4 and $23.1 \mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ and 148, 754 and $112 \mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ of FUM respectively. For gilthead sea bream, two samples were found to contain 79.2 and $53.5 \mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ of DON, and $6.4 \mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ of FUM in only one of the samples. In Argentina, Greco *et al.* (2015) also analysed salmonids feeds. In this study, 28 samples of rainbow trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) feed were sampled at the farms, ranging throughout the feed portfolio for different development stages (starter feed (13 samples); grower feed (13 samples); 4 pigmented and 9 unpigmented feed and finisher feed (2 pigmented samples). The authors observed median values of: AFs = 2.82; OTA = 5.26; T-2 = 70.08; DON = 230 and ZEN = $87.97 \mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$. It was also highlighted that, there was a co-occurrence of at least two out of six mycotoxins in 93% (26/28) of the analysed samples. Gonçalves *et al.* (2018a; 2018; 2017) focused on unveiling the mycotoxin occurrence in plant meals (not reported here) and aquaculture finished feeds in Europe and Southeast Asia. In 2014, from January to December, 41 fish and shrimp feed samples were collected from Europe (n = 6 to 10; Croatia and Portugal) and SE Asia (n = 31; Singapore, India, Thailand and

Myanmar). Samples were analysed for AFs, ZEN, DON, FUM and OTA (Table 1). Interestingly, a higher occurrence of FUM was found in European samples (average 3419.92 and maximum 7533.61 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$) compared to SE Asia. The remaining mycotoxins showed similar occurrence average and maximum levels for Europe and SE Asia, with mycotoxins being detected in all analysed samples. In this mycotoxin survey (Gonçalves *et al.* 2018), it was reported that in Europe, 50% of the samples had more than one mycotoxin per sample, and in Asia, 84% of the samples were contaminated with more than one mycotoxin per feed sample.

In 2015, analysing the same mycotoxins as in the previous study, Gonçalves *et al.* (2017) sourced 25 samples of fish and shrimp feeds in Europe ($n = 4$; Denmark, Austria, Netherlands and Germany) and SE Asia ($n = 21$; Vietnam, Indonesia, Myanmar). Contrary to samples collected in 2014, the European samples analysed in 2015 showed relatively low mycotoxin contamination, with only DON contamination reaching values up to 20 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$. In SE Asian samples, contamination was also generally lower when compared to the previous year, with only AFs showing similar contamination levels to 2014 (average contamination of 58 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ and maximum of 201 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$). However, the co-occurrence risk increased in both regions.

From January to December 2016, Gonçalves *et al.* (2018a) sampled four shrimp feeds from India and 12 fish feeds from Indonesia, Myanmar, Taiwan and Thailand. Interestingly, the fish and shrimp feeds showed a relatively different mycotoxin contamination pattern, possibly due to the type of raw materials used to manufacture these diets. Fish feed samples showed lower contamination (Table 1), when compared with shrimp feeds. However, a higher number of co-occurring mycotoxins were observed in fish feeds. Shrimp feeds showed a relatively high contamination of DON, with an average contamination level of 881.66 and maximum of 2287 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$.

Mycotoxins also represent a big challenge to the increasingly successful aquaculture sector on the African continent. Marijani *et al.* (2017), analysed mycotoxin occurrence in Nile tilapia (*Oreochromis niloticus*) and African catfish (*Clarias gariepinus*) feeds, gathering 16 samples from Kisumu, Kenya, 13 samples from Ukerewe, Tanzania, 10 samples from Kigembe, Rwanda and 13 samples from Jinja, Uganda. Samples were collected from farms (farm-made feeds; $n = 14$), local feed millers ($n = 14$) or imported feeds from Israel and India ($n = 12$). From the 52 samples analysed, Marijani *et al.* (2017) observed that farm-made feeds were highly contaminated with AF, FUM and DON (Table 1). On the other hand, feed samples from local feed millers, as well as the imported feed samples, had only minor contamination of AF.

Discussion on the occurrence of mycotoxins in aquafeeds

From the documented peer-reviewed literature, it is possible to observe a growing interest in the occurrence of mycotoxins in aquatic feeds. It is also observable that there is a shift regarding the target mycotoxins analysed in feeds. Most of the earlier studies evaluating mycotoxins in aquafeeds (Bintvihok *et al.*, 2003, Altuğ and Berklevik, 2001) mainly focused on aflatoxin occurrence and only in recent years, other mycotoxins were analysed. This research pattern, i.e., high focus on AFs and only later on other mycotoxins, can also be observed in the peer-reviewed literature studying the impact of mycotoxins in aquatic animal health and performance (Gonçalves *et al.* 2018). The increasing interest in mycotoxins in aquafeeds, and particularly the interest in other mycotoxins besides AFs, is certainly related to the increasing inclusion levels of plant meals in aquafeeds, as well as, the awareness of mycotoxins conveyed from these plant meals to aquafeeds. However, we cannot exclude the easier access to analytical instrumentation to determine mycotoxins together with the evolution of the analytical methods *per se* as a plausible contribution to this shift.

The results of the most recent mycotoxin occurrence surveys of aquaculture feeds (Gonçalves *et al.* 2018a; Gonçalves *et al.* 2018; Gonçalves *et al.* 2017; Marijani *et al.* 2017; Náchér-Mestre *et al.* 2015) clearly show an increase in mycotoxin occurrence compared to previous surveys (Alinezhad *et al.* 2011; Almeida *et al.*, 2011; Altuğ and Berklevik, 2001; Bintvihok *et al.* 2003). Unfortunately, it cannot be concluded, from this data, that there is a higher mycotoxin risk now compared to the past. This is because the target mycotoxins analysed in older studies were not the same and sensitivity detection levels and methodologies have since improved significantly. Nonetheless, it was theoretically expected that an increasing level of plant meals in aquafeeds would lead to increased occurrence of mycotoxins in these feeds, which is observable by the most recent occurrence surveys (Gonçalves *et al.* 2018; Gonçalves *et al.* 2018; Gonçalves *et al.* 2017; Marijani *et al.* 2017; Náchér-Mestre *et al.* 2015).

Besides the increasing mycotoxin occurrence and the focus on a broad range of mycotoxins, several other important conclusions can be taken from the studies summarized in Table 1. A key aspect is the regional differences in mycotoxin occurrence reported and the correlation between fungi contamination and the presence of mycotoxins. The presence of molds in a

fish feed is the first indication that something is wrong with its hygiene. There are several reasons why feeds get moldy, from improper storage conditions (high humidity, high variations in temperatures leading to condensation, etc) to poor manufacturing process (e.g., insufficient drying time, lack of preservatives/anti-molds, etc). Fungi contamination can also originate from inappropriate selection of ingredients, which can carry fungi spores that are resistant to extrusion/pelleting, having the capacity to germinate afterwards (due to improper storage or poor manufacturing processes).

While the presence of fungi might be a direct risk for the host, e.g., *Fusarium oxysporum* and *Fusarium solani*, known as opportunistic pathogens for fish and shrimp (Hatai *et al.* 1986; Lightner, 1996; Ostland *et al.* 1987; Souheil *et al.* 1999), and an indirect risk which reduces the palatability and therefore intake of the feed, its presence does not necessarily correlate with the presence of the toxin producer mold and *vice-versa* (Alinezhad *et al.* 2011; Greco *et al.* 2015). On the other hand, mycotoxins produced on crops in the field will remain in raw materials, even after processing, due to their heat stability (Pitt, 2014), while fungi will be destroyed due to high temperatures. For example, *Fusarium spp.* are field fungi usually lacking the ability to grow on dry feed. However, the toxins produced by these fungi species (e.g., DON, FUM) will remain stable on the plant raw materials used to manufacture aquafeeds, and in some cases, even be redistributed and concentrated in certain milling fractions (Cheli *et al.* 2013) e.g, corn vs corn gluten meal (Gonçalves *et al.* 2018a). Mycotoxin redistribution and transfer from crops to aquafeeds has been observed and reported by Gonçalves *et al.* (2018a). While it is not the core of the present review, we need to highlight that, with the exception of AF and OTA, most of the other mycotoxins found in the occurrence surveys and shown in Table 1 are probably due to the use of plant meals rather than mycotoxins being produced during storage. So, the selection and analysis of the plant raw materials selected to manufacture aquafeeds is the first step to minimise mycotoxin accumulation risks in aquafeeds.

The regional differences in mycotoxin occurrence is also an important factor which cannot be overlooked. Fungal growth, and consequently mycotoxin production in crops, is influenced by several factors, with weather conditions being the most important (Miraglia *et al.* 2009; Paterson and Lima, 2010; Paterson and Lima, 2011). Consequently, it could be expected that different regions present differences in mycotoxin contamination patterns, and even within a region, mycotoxin occurrence may vary depending on seasonal conditions.

This is shown by the data reported by Bintvihok *et al.* (2003) in samples from Thailand, which suggests that rainy seasons might be more problematic and therefore should be closely monitored. However, factors such as climate change and the world trade of commodities makes it challenging to estimate the risk of mycotoxins in aquaculture finished feeds. For example, as reported by Gonçalves *et al.* (2018), higher levels of FUM in European finished feeds compared to SE Asia samples cannot be easily explained and therefore a better understanding on the origin of sourced ingredients is necessary. The increasing globalisation of trade commodities and incorporation of imported raw materials into aquafeeds exposes the industry to the potential risk of mycotoxins, which are sometimes not even common for the region (not the case in that particular study). Therefore, mycotoxin contamination needs to take into account the globalisation of raw materials, which could already have significant levels of mycotoxins together with the monitoring of finished feeds.

EMERGING MYCOTOXINS

Emerging mycotoxins are a class of mycotoxins which its occurrence in feed and food commodities has been increasing only recently (Kovalsky *et al.* 2016) and which may represent a potential toxicity towards animals and humans. The presence of these mycotoxins also produced by *Fusarium* spp. (as are DON, FUM and ZEN described previously) is expected to increase due to climate change (Miraglia *et al.* 2009; Paterson and Lima, 2010; Paterson and Lima, 2011). However, quantitative estimates of their occurrence are scarce, especially in aquaculture feeds. While for trichothecenes, data on its toxicity, occurrence, and contamination levels are available, reported in previous section, for other metabolites also produced by *Fusarium* spp., such as moniliformin (MON), fusaproliferin (FUS), beauvericin (BEA) or enniatins (ENNs), limited information is available. Moreover, the typical *Fusarium* mycotoxins (DON, FUM and ZEN) are legislated for certain levels in feed commodities, however, for this new diverse group of “emerging toxins” e.g., MON, FUS, BEA and ENNs, legislation is scarce (Kovalsky *et al.*, 2016). Besides that, the effects of these mycotoxins on aquaculture species is still relatively unknown (Gonçalves *et al.* 2018; Jestoi, 2008; Nguyen *et al.* 2003; Tuan *et al.* 2003; Yildirim *et al.* 2000). Generally, is observed that, regulated mycotoxins, i.e., FUM, DON and ZEN occurrence levels in feeds are still higher than these emerging mycotoxins (Kovalsky *et al.* 2016). However, Tolosa *et al.* (2013) identified several enniatins (ENNs; ENA1, ENB and ENB1) in seabream, seabass, tilapia and panga

tissues from commercialized aquaculture fishes. To our knowledge, Tolosa et al. (2013) study is the first of its kind and highlights for the need to better understand mycotoxin carry-over beyond the typical *Fusarium* spp. mycotoxins. This topic will be further discussed in section “Data obtained from commercially sourced aquaculture products”.

CARRY-OVER OF MYCOTOXINS

Bioaccumulation of mycotoxins from feed to animal food products might represent a direct risk to human health (CAST 2003). Mycotoxin bioaccumulation in livestock is well investigated (I. Völkel et al. 2011; Leeman et al. 2007) and the risk to humans is currently being evaluated by the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) for several mycotoxins (AF, OTA, ZEN, DON, FUM, T-2 and HT-2). Bioaccumulation of mycotoxins in poultry, swine and cows is managed by direct regulation of mycotoxins in animal feed (EC, 2006; EFSA, 2004a; EFSA, 2004d; EFSA, 2004c; EFSA, 2005; EFSA, 2011; EFSA, 2013). While regulatory limits have been put in place for AFs (), only guidance values are available for DON, OTA, FUM and zearalenone (ZEN; EC, 2006). This is because feed does not represent a direct risk for human health and because carry-over of these mycotoxins in terrestrial animals is expected to be low (EC. 2006).

Currently, no regulations or guidelines exist in order to avoid deposition of mycotoxins in farmed fish or shrimp, with the exception of fumonisins ($FB1 + FB2 = 10 \text{ mg kg}^{-1}$; EC. 2006). Moreover, it is not taken into consideration that carry-over mechanisms in aquaculture farmed species might be different from terrestrial livestock species. Generally, the possibility of mycotoxin bioaccumulation/biomagnification through the food chain due to the use of mycotoxin contaminated non-plant origin ingredients such as animal by-products (e.g., shrimp head meal or chicken droppings (further discussed in section “Carry-over data obtained from feeding trials”; “Aflatoxins”)) or non-typical mycotoxin contaminated ingredients (e.g., fishmeal), is not taken into consideration and will be addressed during this review.

Bioaccumulation of mycotoxins in aquaculture seafood products is not widely reported and consequently not regulated. This section will focus on documented peer-reviewed mycotoxin carry-over studies focussed in aquaculture species. Existing literature is reviewed, calculating transfer factors when the available data allows it, in order to compare

bioaccumulation risks (Leeman *et al.* 2007). The transfer factor is expressed as the concentration of mycotoxin in animal tissues ($\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$) divided by the concentration of the same mycotoxin in animal feed ($\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$).

Carry-over data obtained from feeding trials

The present section intends to give an overview of studies reporting the carry-over of mycotoxins from feed to animal tissues, assessed in feeding trials with supplemented mycotoxins in feed. We calculated transfer factors for carry-over of mycotoxins from feed to eggs, whole milk, meat and edible offal as calculated by Leeman *et al.* (2007) (Table S1). The data presented by Leeman *et al.* (2007) covered 250 references resulting in a comparison of 3624 transfer factors from livestock species (cattle, poultry, pig, sheep, goat, rabbit, pheasant, turkey, duck and quail). These authors took into account the carry-over of AFs (AFB₁, AFB₂, AFG₁ and AFG₂), DON, OTA, T-2 and ZEN. Leeman *et al.* (2007) reported average transfer factors, ignoring the differences in different mycotoxin kinetics as well as the different metabolism capacity of animals. Nonetheless, the information gathered has a high relevance and allows a first comparison between transfer factors in aquaculture-farmed species *versus* livestock.

Aflatoxins (AFs)

Aflatoxin bioaccumulation from feed to animal tissues is well documented for aquaculture species. A total of 19 studies have evaluated the presence of AFs in fish and crustacean tissues after being fed a certain amount of this same mycotoxin (Table 2).

The first study (Suzy *et al.* 2017) reported in Table 2 raises an interesting and not yet discussed point about the occurrence of mycotoxins in feed conveyed from animal by-products and not necessarily from plant meals. Suzy *et al.* (2017) reported that with increasing aquaculture production in Africa, in this case the West Cameroon region, feed ingredients are a serious limitation to the sustainable growth of the aquaculture sector. The author reported that due to the good protein content, chicken droppings were being used as an ingredient in the local fish food or as direct feed, despite its contamination with AF's. Suzy *et al.* (2017) reported that after feeding African sharptooth catfish (*Clarias gariepinus*) with 10, 17 and 20 $\mu\text{g AFB}_1 \text{ kg}^{-1}$, for three months, 0.05 ± 0.12 , 0.08 ± 0.10 and $0.08 \pm 0.12 \mu\text{g AFB}_1 \text{ kg}^{-1}$ of AFB₁ were found in muscle tissue samples respectively. Calculated transfer

factors (0.004 -0.005) (Table 2) for AF in the muscle are within range to values reported for eggs and meat (Leeman *et al.* 2007).

Regarding cold/temperate water reared species, five studies are available; in European seabass (*Dicentrarchus labrax*) (El-Sayed and Khalil, 2009)), hybrid sturgeon (*Acipenser ruthenus* *A. baeri*) (Rajeev Raghavan *et al.* 2011), walleye fish (*Sander vitreus*) (Hussain *et al.* 1993) and rainbow trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) (Ellis *et al.* 2000; Ngethe *et al.* 1992; Ngethe *et al.* 1993)) (Table 2). Studies in rainbow trout so far have used tritium (^3H) to label AFB₁ and it has been not possible to obtain the amount (in $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$) of AFB₁ in tissues. Both authors detected AFB₁ in several samples (faeces, kidney, gastro-intestinal tract, carcass, urine and bile (Ellis *et al.* 2000); bile, liver, kidney, brain, abdominal fat, muscle, spleen and blood (Ngethe *et al.* 1992); liver and brain (Ngethe *et al.* 1993)) up to six (Ngethe *et al.* 1993), seven (Ellis *et al.* 2000) and eight (Ngethe *et al.* 1992) days after ingestion of AF. El-Sayed and Khalil (2009), after feeding seabass with $18 \mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ of AFB₁, detected $4.25 \pm 0.85 \mu\text{g AFB}_1 \text{ kg}^{-1}$ in muscle samples, which correspond to a TF of 0.278, which is higher than that observed for livestock meat (Table S1). Reported values in muscle in this study ($4.25 \pm 0.85 \mu\text{g AFB}_1 \text{ kg}^{-1}$) are considerably high if one considers that the regulatory limit for AFB₁ in human foods set by the US Food and Drug administration is $5 \mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$. Also, in walleye fish (*Sander vitreus*), Hussain *et al.* (1993) reported high levels of AFB₁, AFB₂, AFG₁ and AFG₂ in muscle, which generated TF of 0.1 to 0.5, which are comparable to what is obtained for edible offal and higher than that observed for livestock meat (Table S1). In the case of the Hybrid sturgeon (*Acipenser ruthenus* *A. baeri*), animals fed with $40 \mu\text{g AF kg}^{-1}$ feed, showed values of $28 \mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ of AF in muscle and $142.80 \mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ in the liver (TF = 0.7 and 3.57) (Raghavan *et al.*, 2011) while when fed with $80 \mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ AF the TF were lower both in muscle and liver (TF = 0.4 and 1.15).

Tropical species have been particularly studied covering both Asian and South American species. Regarding Nile tilapia (*Oreochromis niloticus*) eight studies have been published to date (Abdel Rahman *et al.* 2017; Ayyat *et al.* 2013; Deng *et al.* 2010; Hessein *et al.* 2014; Hussain *et al.* 2017; Mahfouz and Sherif, 2015, Salem *et al.*, 2009; Selim *et al.* 2014). All studies detected bioaccumulation of AF in muscle and the liver (Table 2). However, these studies vary in terms of fed mycotoxin levels as well as tilapia development stages. Mahfouz and Sherif (2015), used tilapias with an initial weight of $35 \pm 0.50 \text{ g}$, and fed them with 20 or $100 \mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ AF for 12 weeks, with intermediary sampling at six weeks (Table 2). This study

found that both AF levels led to accumulation in the liver and muscle, however, in the liver, AFs were found earlier (six weeks post-intake) than in the muscle (only after 12 weeks). The intake period is an important factor to take into consideration as shown by Mahfouz and Sherif (2015), and equally important would be to establish suitable depuration periods for the different mycotoxins. If feasible, adequate fasting periods before harvesting which currently vary from species to species could be set according to mycotoxin tissue levels. Despite using a considerably high range of AFB₁ levels in his study, Deng *et al.* (2010) observed during a 20 week trial, that even relatively low AFB₁ levels (85 µg kg⁻¹) could lead to a significantly high accumulation of AFB₁ in the liver after 20 weeks of ingestion (AFB₁ in the liver after 20 weeks = 30 µg kg⁻¹; Table 2). In short exposure periods to AF (30 days), Abdel Rahman *et al.* (2017) observed that the intake of 200 µg kg⁻¹ of AF accumulated in the liver and muscle at 5 ± 0.5 and 3.7 ± 0.1 µg kg⁻¹, respectively. This might suggest a certain incapability to metabolize AF.

Other studies also performed in tilapia (*Oreochromis niloticus*) (Ayyat *et al.* 2013; Salem *et al.* 2009; Selim *et al.*, 2014), support the previously reported studies, but show a tendency for a higher accumulation of AFs in muscle (Table 2), which could be related to the smaller size of the tilapias used (7 to 15 grams). For example, Selim *et al.* (2014) reported the deposition of 90 µg kg⁻¹ of AFs in the muscle after feeding tilapia (15 ± 2 g) with 200 µg kg⁻¹ of AF for ten weeks. Likewise, the Ayyat *et al.* (2013) and Salem *et al.* (2009) studies that used fish with an initial weight of 7.3 g and 10 g, respectively, also showed high values of AFs in the muscle (78.33 µg kg⁻¹ and 99.48 µg kg⁻¹, respectively). In comparison, in the study by Mahfouz and Sherif (2015) that used fish with an initial weight of 35 g, intake of 100 µg kg⁻¹ AF over 12 weeks led to a lower accumulation of AF in the muscle (0.05 µg kg⁻¹). This tendency for higher AF deposition in younger animals seems to be further confirmed by Hessein *et al.* (2014), where after feeding tilapias of 7.3 grams for 98 days with 250 µg kg⁻¹ AF, an AF deposition of 101.7 µg kg⁻¹ was found. This means a TF of 0.407 that, together with data reported by previous authors (Salem *et al.* 2009, Selim *et al.* 2014), have relatively high TFs for muscle and are only comparable to livestock edible offal (Table S1).

Finally, Hussain *et al.* (2017) showed a high deposition of AF in tilapia muscle, however, the levels of mycotoxins used in this trial (2000 to 4000 µg kg⁻¹) are unlikely to be found in aquafeeds although TFs calculated for AF deposition in the liver are in line with the other studies. The only trial with red tilapia (*Oreochromis niloticus* x *O. mossambicus*), (Usanno *et*

470 *al.* 2005) reported no detectable levels of AF in tilapia tissues, after being fed AF levels
471 ranging from 50 to 2500 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$.

472 The deposition of AFs in the liver and muscle of Gibel carp (*Carassius gibelio*) are similar to
473 the levels reported for Nile tilapia (Huang *et al.* 2011).

474 Lopes *et al.* (2009) reported the deposition of AFs in the liver and muscle in Jundiá (*Rhamdia*
475 *quelen*) fed low (41.90 and 204 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$) and high (350, 757 and 1177 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$) AF levels for 45
476 and 35 days, respectively. Focusing on lower AF levels, as they are within the observed AF's
477 occurrence levels in aquafeeds, 41.90 $\mu\text{g AF kg}^{-1}$ feed led to the deposition of 1 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ in the
478 muscle and 204 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ of AFs led to the deposition of 6.1 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ AFs. These bio-
479 accumulation level of AFs leads to TFs of 0.02, which is comparable to the level of
480 accumulation on livestock edible offal's ((Leeman *et al.* 2007); Table S1)

481 Lambari fish (*Astyanax altiparanae*), a native central/south American small fish (10-15 cm
482 length and 60 g), has been seen as a potential aquaculture species for rural population in
483 Brasil. Michelin *et al.* (2017) reported lambari fish as highly prone to AF deposition in the
484 liver and muscle. After lambari fish were fed 20 kg^{-1} of AFs for 120 days, deposition of AFs in
485 the liver was 265 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ (TF 13.5) and in fish fed 50 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ AFs levels in the liver were 243
486 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ (TF 4.86). This level of bio-accumulation in the liver is higher than the
487 bioaccumulation of highly liposoluble mycotoxins in terrestrial animal fat ((Leeman *et al.*
488 2007); Table S1). Such AFs levels in this species could be particularly challenging as these fish
489 are normally eaten as snacks, i.e., the entire fish is deep-fried, dried and/ or salted.

490 Reports of AF carry-over in shrimp are limited to three studies performed in black tiger
491 shrimp (*Penaeus monodon*). Two of these studies (Bintvihok *et al.* 2003; Bautista *et al.* 1994)
492 did not find any AF residues after feeding shrimps with different AF concentrations (5 to 200
493 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$) for 10 and 62 days, respectively. In contrast, Boonyaratpalin *et al.* (2001) found AF
494 residues in cephalothorax and in muscle, after feeding the shrimps AFB₁ levels ranging from
495 50 to 2500 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ with TF values ranging from 0.006 to 0.052. Contextualizing the AF
496 contamination levels found in feed around SE Asia (< 500 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$; (Fegan and Spring, 2007;
497 Gonçalves *et al.* 2018a; Gonçalves *et al.* 2018; Gonçalves *et al.* 2017)) with the
498 Boonyaratpalin *et al.* (2001) study, shrimps fed AFB₁ levels of 50 and 100 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ led to
499 considerably high AF deposition in head and shell (2.6 and 3.5 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ AFB₁, respectively) and
500 in muscle (13 and 14.2 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ AFB₁, respectively), after four weeks of AFB₁ intake. For the
501 same intake amounts (50 and 100 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ AFB₁), AFB₁ deposition levels in head/shell and

muscle samples decreased over time (after six weeks; Table 2). This might suggest a certain capacity to eliminate or metabolize AFB₁.

Ochratoxins (OTA)

Ochratoxin bioaccumulation studies in aquaculture-farmed species are very scarce. The most comprehensive study was carried out by Bernhoft *et al.* (2017) in Atlantic salmon (*Salmo salar*). Bernhoft *et al.* (2017) studied the deposition of OTA in liver, muscle, kidney and skin samples after feeding salmon with 800 or 2400 µg kg⁻¹ of OTA for eight weeks. Deposition of OTA in kidney and skin samples was not detected (except in kidney for high intake dosage after eight weeks, Table 3). In muscle samples, OTA levels were under the limit of quantification. Major deposition was observed in the liver, however, a bioaccumulation over the exposure period was not found, with the highest OTA deposition peaking after three weeks (both for ingestion of 800 and 2400 µg kg⁻¹ OTA). This suggests that Atlantic salmon might have the ability to eliminate OTA. Previously, OTA deposition in salmonids (rainbow trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*)) was investigated by Fuchs *et al.* (1986) where the deposition of OTA in several organs (Table 3) was analysed up to eight weeks after an intravenous injection of OTA (0.160 µg kg⁻¹). Authors observed that OTA deposition in the kidney and bile was persistent during the whole trial, also suggesting the action of the kidney in detoxification mechanism of OTA. The only study reporting carry-over of OTA in shrimp (*Penaeus monodon*) was by Supamattaya *et al.* (2005a), which did not detect OTA deposition in tissues after feeding shrimps with OTA levels ranging from 100 to 1000 µg kg⁻¹. However, the limit of detection given in the manuscript (44,000 µg kg⁻¹) seems to be particularly high for HPLC, suggesting a possible error in the units reported.

Deoxynivalenol (DON) and fumonisins (FUM)

Deoxynivalenol and/or FUM bioaccumulation data in aquaculture species is summarized in Table 4. Similar to OTA, DON and FUM carry-over effects in aquaculture-farmed are scarce. In Atlantic salmon (*Salmo salar*), two studies are available (Bernhoft *et al.* 2017 and Nacher-Mestre *et al.* 2015). Bernhoft *et al.* (2017) fed salmon with 2000 and 6000 µg kg⁻¹ DON over the course of eight weeks and sampling liver, muscle, kidney and skin at three, six and eight weeks. The authors observed that both exposure dosages (2000 and 6000 µg kg⁻¹ DON) led

to DON deposition in the liver and muscle at all sampling points, except for the higher dosage at the last sampling point (eight weeks), at which DON was found in all sampled tissues (Table 4). In the case of the study performed by Nácher-Mestre *et al.* (2015), Atlantic salmon were fed lower levels of mycotoxins, however, with multi-occurrence. The three diets were mainly formulated with DON and FUM, but also minor levels of T-2 and 15-AcDON (Table 4). Salmon fed for six months with testing diets did not show detectable levels of DON and FUM in the tissues studied. The same authors (Nácher-Mestre *et al.* 2015) also studied bioaccumulation of mycotoxin co-occurrence (DON, 15-AcDON and FUM) in Gilthead sea bream (*Sparus aurata*) at two levels for 8 months. The authors did not observe mycotoxin deposition in muscle samples.

In common carp (*Cyprinus carpio*), Pietsch *et al.* (2014) observed that after feeding fish with 352, 619 and 953 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ DON for four weeks, minor deposition of DON was observed in the muscle (Table 4). Interestingly, after the four weeks of DON exposure, fish were fed a non-contaminated diet for a period of two weeks and DON levels in the muscle were re-analysed. At the lower DON intake level (352 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$), DON level in the muscle was higher after the depuration period (1.4 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$) when compared to the level found at the end of feeding trial (eight weeks; 0.6 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ DON). At the medium DON intake level (619 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$), after the recovery period, a level of 0.7 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ DON was still found in the muscle, and at the higher level, however, no DON was detected after the recovery period.

In shrimps, two studies are available (Supamattaya *et al.* 2005b and Trigo-Stockli *et al.* 2000) Table 4), in which both reported that DON was not detected in the muscle. Supamattaya *et al.* (2005b) drew its conclusion after feeding black tiger shrimp black (*Penaeus monodon*) with 500, 1000 and 2000 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ DON for eight weeks. Trigo-Stockli *et al.* (2000) conducted its study using Pacific white shrimp (*Litopenaeus vannamei*), fed with 200, 500 and 1000 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ DON for 16 weeks.

Zearalenone (ZEN)

Zearalenone (ZEN) is a regular contaminant of cereal crops worldwide, and being a phytoestrogenic compound (Diekmann and Green, 1992), is mainly responsible for estrogenic agonist related effects (Marasas, 1991). As a hormone mimicking substance, ZEN can bind to estrogen receptors in target cells (Kumar *et al.*, 2013). Generally, ZEN studies

have focused mainly on dysfunction or structural disorders in the reproductive tract of farm animals (Minervini and Aquila, 2008; Zinedine *et al.* 2007; Woźny *et al.* 2013). While it seems that ZEN does not directly affect the growth performance of aquaculture-farmed species, its deposition in fish tissues seems to be common and already well documented particularly in cold water species (Pietsch *et al.* 2015; Woźny *et al.* 2015; Arukwe *et al.* 1999; Woźny *et al.* 2017).

In common Carp (*Cyprinus carpio*), Pietsch *et al.* (2015) found that after exposing fish to four weeks with 332, 621 and 797 $\mu\text{g ZEN kg}^{-1}$ feed, minor residues of ZEN and α -ZEN were found in the muscle. Interestingly, after two weeks of depuration, α -ZEN was not detected and ZEN levels in the muscle decreased significantly (Table 5).

Woźny *et al.* (2015; 2017) dedicated significant efforts at understanding the potential of ZEN bioaccumulation in fish, using mainly rainbow trout as a model. The authors found that after feeding rainbow trout with 1,810 $\mu\text{g ZEN kg}^{-1}$ feed for 71 days, ZEN was found at a concentration of 732.2 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ in the intestine while non-quantifiable levels of ZEN were found in liver and female ovaries. In another trial, Woźny *et al.* (2017) used mature females (1,274 \pm 162 g) to study ZEN carry-over into eggs. Authors found that ZEN is transferred from the gastrointestinal tract to the reproductive system of the fish, depositing ZEN metabolites in the somatic cells of the ovaries rather than in the oocytes.

Discussion on the carry-over data obtained from feeding trials

In order to take realistic conclusions regarding the risk of mycotoxin consumption from aquaculture seafood products, it is necessary to have a good overview of mycotoxin occurrence in aquaculture feeds, and to have quality data on mycotoxin bioaccumulation in aquatic species.

From all the studies regarding AF carry-over presented in Table 2, a few of them should be excluded due to the use of high levels of AFs (Hussain *et al.* 2017); or higher dosages, which are not normally observed in commercial feeds (Deng *et al.*, (2010), Boonyaratpalin *et al.* (2001) and Usanno *et al.* (2005)). The studies reported by the remaining authors, employed plausible dietary mycotoxin levels, identifying the carry-over of AFs in several important species.

From these studies, it is possible to conclude that AFs might represent a serious risk for human consumption, especially in cases where fish are eaten as a whole. In general, transfer factors are quite high for these aquaculture species, being comparable with transfer factors for eggs, whole milk and in some cases for edible offal's or fat of livestock provenience.

In the case of European seabass, mycotoxin levels tested by El-Sayed and Khalil (2009) ($18 \mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$), which is a mycotoxin level very plausible to be obtained in commercial diets led to $4.25 \pm 0.85 \mu\text{g AFB}_1 \text{ kg}^{-1}$ in the muscle,. As shown by Altuğ and Berklevik (2001) (Table 1), of the 170 samples collected in Turkey, which is the main EU seabass producer, 105 samples were contaminated with AFs at levels higher than $20 \mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$. Regarding hybrid sturgeon (*Acipenser ruthenus*), there is no available mycotoxin occurrence data for this species, even in regions where it is predominantly produced. However, in-feed concentrations tested by Rajeev Raghavan *et al.* (2011), which led to the accumulation of AF in the muscle and liver, seem realistic (40 to $80 \mu\text{g AFB}_1 \text{ kg}^{-1}$) and therefore further research should be carried out to determine mycotoxin levels in feed for this species and AF accumulation in eggs (caviar).

Carry-over effects on Nile tilapia are well described. Taking into account the available occurrence of AF in tilapia producing countries, i.e., Brasil (Barbosa *et al.* 2013), S/ SE Asian countries (Fegan and Spring, 2007; Gonçalves *et al.* 2018a; Gonçalves *et al.* 2018; Gonçalves *et al.* 2017) and Africa (Marijani *et al.* 2017) together with bioaccumulation studies, carry-over of AF in Nile tilapia might represent a challenge worth of further investigation. From the previously cited studies, it is also important to highlight that exposure period is an important factor to take into consideration. Chronic exposure to low AF levels (AF = $85 \mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ for 20 weeks) could lead to a significantly high accumulation in the liver (AF in the liver after 20 weeks = $30 \mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ (Deng *et al.* 2010)). However, short exposure periods should not be undervalued, as periods as short as 30 days can lead to considerable AF deposition in the liver and muscle (Abdel Rahman *et al.* 2017).

Aflatoxin carry-over studies in shrimp are more limited than in fish species. Furthermore, the information available is contradictory, as two studies (Bintvihok *et al.* 2003 and Bautista *et al.* 1994) did not find any AF residues in tiger shrimp muscle while Boonyaratpalin *et al.* (2001) found AF bioaccumulation in head/shell and in the muscle. Results suggested a minor bioaccumulation over time (TFs; Table 2), highlighting a certain capacity to eliminate or metabolize AFB₁. However, levels of AF found in the muscle ($13 \mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ AFB₁) after feeding shrimps $50 \mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ of AFB₁ for four weeks were considerably high and could be a threat for

human food safety. AF deposition, especially in head samples, should not be undervalued. In many countries, heads are used for direct human consumption. Unfortunately, no information is available for Pacific white leg shrimp (*Litopenaeus vannamei*) which is the most important produced shrimp species in terms of volume.

For OTA occurrence, little information is available for aquaculture feeds, however, according to available studies, levels below $10 \mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ have been reported (Fegan and Spring, 2007; Gonçalves et al. 2018a; Gonçalves et al. 2018; Gonçalves et al. 2017; Greco et al. 2015). The risk of OTA carry-over was only successfully addressed in Atlantic salmon and partially in rainbow trout. In Atlantic salmon (Bernhoft *et al.* 2017), it would appear that OTA is rapidly eliminated. Its deposition in tissues was only shown in liver ($4.81 \mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$) and only at the highest OTA intake level ($2400 \mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$). These OTA levels are unlikely to be observed in commercial feeds. In rainbow trout, OTA deposition in the muscle was not detected after 24h of OTA intake. This again suggests a rapid elimination of OTA and decreases the risk for human consumption as fasting periods before slaughter in salmonids are normally longer than 24 hours. However, it is highly recommended that more studies are undertaken on OTA carry-over, especially for species where OTA occurrence in feeds is more frequent and higher, such as tropical species, where fasting periods before harvest also tend to be much shorter than for cold-water species and also tropical crustacean species.

DON, FUM and ZEN occurrence in aquafeeds have been well documented in recent years (Pietsch et al. 2013; Nacher-Mestre et al. 2015; Gonçalves et al. 2018a; Gonçalves et al. 2018; Gonçalves et al. 2017; Greco et al. 2015; Marijani et al. 2017). These mycotoxins have been pointed out as the main mycotoxin contaminants in aquaculture feeds, which is a reflection of the increasing inclusion levels of plant meals in diets, as these mycotoxins are produced in field conditions. However, DON and FUM bioaccumulation has been poorly studied in aquaculture-farmed species. In Atlantic salmon, two interesting and complementary studies are available (Bernhoft *et al.*, 2017 and Nacher-Mestre *et al.*, 2015). While Bernhoft *et al.* (2017) proved the possibility of DON deposition in the liver and muscle in a relatively short exposure period (three weeks) with high DON levels (2000 and $6000 \mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ DON), Nacher-Mestre *et al.* (2015) showed no carry over effects of FUM and DON co-contamination at low levels during long exposure periods. DON and FUM frequently occur together in aquaculture feeds as both mycotoxins are produced by the same fungi species. Therefore, studies testing the effect of co-occurrence are particularly relevant. The levels

tested were within the occurrence values reported in European aquafeeds (Gonçalves *et al.* 2017; Gonçalves *et al.* 2018), however, occasional high occurrences of DON and/or FUM should not be ignored (e.g., FUM occurrence reported by Gonçalves *et al.* (2018)), as shown previously, levels up to 2000 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ can lead to DON deposition in the muscle.

Contrary to Atlantic salmon, in common carp (*Cyprinus carpio*), Pietsch *et al.* (2014) showed that levels as low as 352 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ DON can lead to a minor deposition of DON in the muscle (Table 4). The author described that total DON elimination from the muscle is a relatively long process, taking more than two weeks after stopping DON intake. Information about the complete elimination of DON is very important, as a fasting period before harvesting may be used to guarantee that DON or any other mycotoxin is eliminated during this period. However, in the study reported by Pietsch *et al.* (2014), the elimination period of DON in carp may be longer than the fasting period, which is normally 24 to 48 hours before harvesting. The study by Pietsch *et al.* (2014) highlighted that mycotoxin absorption, distribution, metabolism, and excretion (ADME) is entirely dependent on species, and data or conclusion extrapolations between species should be avoided. *Fusarium* mycotoxins (e.g., DON and FUM) are frequently present in plant commodities used for general aquaculture species, and taking into account the possible ADME differences depending on species and even on development stages, it would be very important to better understand the potential carry-over in the most important aquaculture species, giving a special emphasis to mycotoxin co-occurrence.

Despite the low number of studies on DON and FUM carry-over, apparently, its deposition in tissues seems to be very limited. However, its occurrence is frequent and due to its apparently long elimination period (generally higher than fasting period before slaughter, for the study species), its carry-over risk in aquaculture-farmed species should be better evaluated. Comparing TFs obtained from Atlantic salmon and common carp, it seems that they are in line with the TFs of eggs, whole milk or meat (Table S1, (Leeman *et al.* 2007)).

Is also important to highlight that the species investigated so far are cold/temperate water species. It is essential to increase the knowledge on the possible carry-over of *Fusarium spp.* mycotoxins in tropical species. Especially high value species, normally exported, such as Pacific white leg shrimp, whose feeds have been identified recently as being contaminated with considerably high levels of DON (Gonçalves *et al.* 2018a). Furthermore, these tropical

species present a faster metabolism and consequently lower fasting period before harvest is need, which might greatly influence the deposition of mycotoxins in tissues.

From the few available studies evaluating ZEN carry-over effects, it is possible to conclude that, at least for the cold-water species studied so far (common carp and rainbow trout), ZEN and its metabolites can be deposited in several tissues, including muscle, intestine, liver, ovaries and oocytes. However, the levels found in these tissues, with the exception of the intestine and liver (Table 5, (Woźny *et al.* 2017)), are rather low and do not pose a direct risk to human consumption. In the European Union, the maximum allowable level of ZEN ranges from 20 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ for processed cereal-based foods (excluding processed maize-based foods) and baby foods for infants and young, to 300 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ for unprocessed maize (not for human consumption) (EC, 2006). However, European legislation does not include limits for the concentration of ZEN residuals in food of animal origin, since it is thought that carry-over of the *Fusarium* mycotoxins (including DON and FUM previously discussed) to meat, milk and eggs is only minimal (CONTAM, 2011; EC, 2006).

Moreover, ZEN and its metabolites seem to be more easily deposited in the somatic cells of the ovaries rather than in the oocytes. For rainbow trout and common carp, tissues such as ovaries, liver and intestines are not typically edible, however, for other species this might not be the case. It would be very important to assess the carry-over of ZEN and its metabolites for other aquaculture-farmed species, taking into account what is already known in rainbow trout and common carp. It is particularly interesting to evaluate species that reach sexual maturation before or near harvesting size. ZEN in feed may accelerate the sexual maturation of the fish, leading to energy losses to gonad development, and in some cases organoleptic and physical changes of the final product. For some species, ZEN in feed may also have potential implications for fish and shrimp spawning and further studies need to address this topic. In addition, fish/shrimp species that might be consumed entire, i.e., including tissues such as the liver, intestines and ovaries should be taken into consideration, as ZEN might reach considerably high levels in these tissues. In certain cases, the use of fish/shrimp by-products in direct human consumption (fish oil) or as an ingredient to formulate new products, should also be taken into consideration as *Fusarium* mycotoxins tend to be quite stable to processing conditions and only minor degradation is expected

Data obtained from commercially sourced aquaculture products

Table 6 documents mycotoxin occurrence in commercially sourced aquaculture products. Evaluating the occurrence of mycotoxins directly in fish/shrimp products from aquaculture provenience obtained from commercial farms or local supermarkets is a good strategy to evaluate the potential risk of mycotoxin carry-over from feeds to fish/shrimp edible products. Tolosa *et al.* (2013) analysed several samples ($n = 19$) of fish from aquaculture and wild fishery provenience bought locally in Spain. The author analysed samples for the presence of beauvericin (BEA) and enniatins (enniatin A (ENA), enniatin A1 (ENA1), enniatin B (ENB) and enniatin B1 (ENB1)). As expected, no mycotoxins were detected in the wild fishery samples. ENA and BEA were also not detected in the aquaculture samples. However, ENA1, ENB and ENB1 were detected in most of aquaculture samples (Table 6). Detecting enniatins in aquaculture foods might lead us to two hypothesis. First, that other *Fusarium* mycotoxins (FUM, DON and ZEN mainly) were probably at even higher concentration levels and are not reported as they were not analysed. The second hypothesis is the fact that ENNs might be more easily deposited in the muscle compared to DON/FUM, even if present at lower levels in aquafeeds. As it is known that ENNs normally occur together with the main *Fusarium* mycotoxins (FUM, DON), it would also be important to study if this synergistic presence in the tissues might lead to increased deposition of certain mycotoxins or metabolites. While it is difficult to evaluate the importance of detecting ENNS in aquaculture foods, these results highlight the need to better study the adverse effects of dietary mycotoxins on fish health and welfare, and consequently carry-over risks. There is the need to perform studies for the main EU farmed fish species in order to establish acceptable feed mycotoxin levels for farmed fish (for both fish and consumer safety), but also to actively survey possible mycotoxin deposition in imported aquaculture foods.

Woźny *et al.* (2013) analysed ZEN in rainbow trout from farms based in the north-eastern region of Poland. ZEN was present at non-quantifiable levels ($<2.0 \mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$) in most of the tissues analysed (intestine, liver and ovary) and detectable at quantifiable levels in the muscle and surrounding water. From 2013 to 2015, Woźny *et al.* (2017) surveyed ovary, oocytes and salted roe samples from different fish species collected directly at hatcheries or bought in supermarkets. The authors analysed the samples for the presence of ZEN, α -ZEL and β -ZEL. Generally, in most of the samples analysed mycotoxins were below the detection limits (LOD for ZEN, α -ZEL, and β -ZEL were 5.0, 3.0, and $12.0 \mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$, respectively). The exceptions were α -ZEL in ovary samples ($14.5 \mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$) of *Oncorhynchus mykiss* and α -ZENL

also in ovary samples ($12.6 \mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$) of *Salvelinus fontinalis* both sampled in 2014. The studies reported by Woźny *et al.* (2013; 2017) are also extremely important and highlight the need for guidance values for the amount of ZEN in aquafeeds for fish health and reproductive performance, but also to avoid carry-over risk to human consumers.

Although it did not investigate fish originating from aquaculture, it is important to highlight the recent study published by Slawomir Gonkowski *et al.*, (In Press). Slawomir Gonkowski *et al.*, (In Press) evaluated the deposition of ZEN in sun-dried kapenta fish, which is one of Zambia's major staple foods. This small planktivorous fish is caught in Lake Kariba, sun-dried and sold in local markets. Although the source of the ZEN deposition is not known, the study revealed that levels of ZEN in sun-dried kapenta fish fluctuated from about $27 \mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ to above $53 \mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$. Occurrence of ZEN in sun dried kapenta fish, highlights that carry-over guidelines cannot be assumed only for farmed animals as species and local consumption habits pose mycotoxin-related risks to wider seafood products.

Further considerations

Despite the effort to document mycotoxin occurrence in aquaculture feeds, we are still far from having a good overview on this topic. One of the big challenges is the large number of aquaculture-farmed species, and the impossibility to extrapolate occurrence results from one species to another. Moreover, different species, even in same trophic level, tend to be fed with different raw materials based on local availability and price. This leads to a huge difficulty in having a good overview of mycotoxin occurrence for all aquaculture species or even for a certain region. Nevertheless, knowledge about mycotoxin occurrence in aquaculture commodities could increase significantly if we could better use the available occurrence data from livestock. Surveys on mycotoxin occurrence in plant meals worldwide are frequently available, and this information can be used, at least, to theoretically model the risk of plant feedstuffs included in aquafeeds. However, a fundamental problem is the lack of detailed labelling information regarding ingredient inclusion by (percentage) weight. Therefore, an improvement in labelling policy would help to identify and map sources of mycotoxin inclusion in animal feed, avoiding extra costs for testing mycotoxin levels in finished feeds. Therefore, a close collaboration with the agricultural and livestock sectors to understand the occurrence of mycotoxins in plant meals, might also help to improve our knowledge on mycotoxin conveyance to aquafeeds.

Mycotoxins conveyed from land animals and aquaculture by-products cannot be despised, especially in countries where mycotoxin occurrence might be poorly legislated. The identification of mycotoxins in shrimp head meal or chicken droppings highlights the possible bio-amplification through the food chain.

To our knowledge not yet addressed in an aquaculture context, is the potential for mycotoxins to contaminate water, especially taking into account water stable mycotoxins and closed or semi-closed aquaculture systems. Bucheli *et al.* (2008) evaluated the presence of ZEN and DON in Swiss rivers, confirming the presence of both mycotoxins at levels ranging from 23 ng L⁻¹ to 4.9 µg L⁻¹ for DON and 35 ng L⁻¹ for ZEN. Bucheli *et al.* (2008) highlighted the possibility of mycotoxins as water contaminants, which in the aquaculture context might be extremely relevant. The mycotoxin leach from aquafeed to system water, especially of highly water-soluble mycotoxins in slow feeding species, e.g., DON and FUM in shrimp feed, and the water stability of excreted mycotoxins and metabolites, which might have potential to accumulate, especially in low water hydrodynamics and low renovation rate aquaculture systems, should be urgently addressed.

CONCLUSION

The available carry-over studies indicate that deposition of mycotoxins into edible tissues may be higher than in terrestrial species and it is therefore imprudent to assume the same transfer factors for aquaculture species as for livestock species. In general, aflatoxins seem to be particularly prone to deposition in several fish and shrimp tissues representing a risk for human consumption, especially in species that are eaten as a whole. Ochratoxin A occurrence in aquafeeds has been described as very low. While its deposition in tissues has been reported for some aquaculture species, its rapid elimination decreases the risk for human consumption as the fasting period before slaughter can be safely used as a depuration period. Nonetheless, it is important to make the industry aware of its possible deposition. Deoxynivalenol and fumonisins are some of the most frequently occurring mycotoxins in feeds, and they are occasionally detected at high levels. So far, for the species described, DON and FUM deposition in tissues seems low. However, DON elimination from the muscle takes a relatively long time, much longer than the depuration/fasting period. The presence of enniatins in aquaculture food products highlights the possibility that other

Fusarium metabolites might be more prone to bioaccumulation than the most common frequently analysed *Fusarium* mycotoxins. The presence of enniatins in aquaculture foods highlights the need to understand its potential impact to human food safety.

Regarding ZEN, the potential for deposition in the ovaries and to a lesser extent in oocytes was shown. For the studied species, ZEN can reach considerable levels in the ovaries. No studies are available yet for tropical species. It would be important to investigate whether carry-over of ZEN to ovaries occurs in tropical species as well, as for many of these species, gonads are considered gourmet snacks, representing a direct risk to human health.

While there are many important aquaculture species not investigated yet, it is clear that some mycotoxins are prone to deposition in the tissues of certain aquaculture species. It needs to be considered that in aquaculture species, mycotoxin biotransformation and tendency for deposition in tissues varies greatly depending on factors such as development stage, sex, exposure period and rearing environment.

Due to the use of increasing levels of plant meals in aquafeeds and together the possible mycotoxin increase due to climate change, it is essential to develop more studies on the impact of mycotoxins and metabolites on farmed species with consequent risk assessment of food safety from mycotoxin-contaminated aquafeeds.

Regulation limits for mycotoxins in feeds might need to take into account particular aquaculture species or the sector as a whole. Mycotoxin limits need to take into consideration animal health and welfare but also human health. Particular attention needs to be focused on aquaculture edible tissues and regional guidance limits should be advised depending on local mycotoxin occurrence and the edible tissues consumed. Risk assessment of imported aquaculture foods needs to take into account the mycotoxin occurrence, especially in those products imported from highly mycotoxin contaminated regions, or regions known to use potentially contaminated animal by-products.

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For Review Only

| Table 1: Documented mycotoxin occurrence in aquaculture feeds. | | | | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|---|--|--|---|--|---|
| Reference | Sampling year(s) | Sampling Country | Sampling local | Number of samples | Species to which the feed is intended | Target mycotoxin analysed in feed | Mycotoxin detection level (µg kg ⁻¹) | Method of analysis | Observations |
| Bautista <i>et al.</i> 1994 | August 1990 - February 1991 (rainy season) | Philippines | Feed plant Farm level | n = 62 | Black tiger shrimp | AFB ₁ | n = 2 -> none detected n = 36 -> 10 to 20 µg kg ⁻¹ AFB ₁ n = 21 -> 30 to 40 µg kg ⁻¹ AFB ₁ n = 2 -> 60 to 120 µg kg ⁻¹ AFB ₁ | HPTLC | ----- |
| Bintvihok <i>et al.</i> 2003 | ^S Summer (March - June 1997) ^R Rainy (July - October 1997) ^W Winter (November - February 1998) | Thailand (Eastern and Southern regions) | Farm level | N _t =150 (50 samples from 10 different regions during 3 seasons) | Black tiger shrimp | AFB ₁ AFB ₂ AFG ₁ AFG ₂ | Eastern region ^S 0.003–0.012 ^R 0.003-0.651 ^W 0.003-0.314 Southern region ^S 0.004 ^R 0.003-0.058 ^W 0.003-0.022 | HPLC | ▪ Feeds composed mainly of fishmeal, soybean and corn (no information on ingredient inclusion levels or finished feed storage period) |
| Altuğ <i>et al.</i> 2001 | 1998, 1999, 2000 | Turkey | Farm level Feed plant Imported feeds | n = 170 | Rainbow trout Seabream Pike-perch | AFB ₁ | n = 20 > 20 µg kg ⁻¹ n = 85 = 21.2 to 42.4 µg kg ⁻¹ n = 22 = 5.0 to 20.0 µg kg ⁻¹ n = 43 < LOD | TLC ELISA | ▪ Level of aflatoxins were higher in samples that were taken from farm level compared to feed plant or imported feed samples |
| Alinezhad <i>et al.</i> 2011 | March - July 2009 (1 sample per month) | Iran | Feed plant | n = 6 | Rainbow trout | AFB ₁ | 0.12 to 20.09 µg kg ⁻¹ AFB ₁ | HPLC | ▪ High concentrations of AFB ₁ in fishmeal (\bar{x} = 67.35 µg kg ⁻¹) and soybean meal (\bar{x} = 30.88 µg kg ⁻¹) |
| Fegan & Spring, 2007 | n/a | ^{IN} India TH Thailand | n/a | ^{IN,S} n= 10 ^{TH,S} n= 7 ^{TH,F} n= 9 | Shrimp ^S Fish ^F | ^{IN,S} (AF, T-2, ZEN) ^{TH,S} (T-2, ZEN, OTA) ^{TH,F} (T-2, ZEN, OTA) | ^{IN,S} AF = 40-90; (9/10) ^{IN,S} T-2 = 20-40; (4/10) ^{IN,S} ZEN = 20-40; (4/10) ^{TH,S} T-2 = 2.6-50.03; (3/7) ^{TH,S} ZEN = 16.78-23.00; (6/7) ^{TH,S} OTA = 2.32-7.74; (7/7) ^{TH,F} T-2 = 15.91-49.13; (9/9) ^{TH,F} ZEN = 36.20-118.48; (9/9) ^{TH,F} OTA = 2.16-9.72; (9/9) | n/a | ▪ Marine ingredients (fishmeal from China, Myanmar, Thailand; fish and shrimp meal from Thailand) contaminated with T-2, ZEN and OTA |
| Goncalves-nunes <i>et al.</i> 2015 | January - March 2009 | Brazil (Piauí State) | Feed plant | n = 18 | Fish | AFB ₁ | 1.6 - 9.8 | ELISA | ▪ Finished feed samples were composed of soybean bran (15%), corn bran (27%), other cereals (57.5%). |
| Barbosa <i>et al.</i> 2013 | September 2009 and August 2010 | Brasil (Rio de Janeiro State) | | n = 60 | n/a | FB ₁ AFB ₁ OTA | FB ₁ = (90%) 0.3-4.94; \bar{x} = 2.6 AFB ₁ = present in 55% of the samples OTA = present in 3.3% of the samples | FB ₁ - ELISA AFB ₁ and OTA - TLC | LOD: ▪ 0.2 µg g ⁻¹ for ELISA (FB ₁) ▪ 0.003 and 0.005 µg g ⁻¹ for TLC (AFB ₁ and OTA) ▪ 50% of samples had co-occurrence of |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---|------------------------------|---|--------------------------|---|--|---|--|----------|--|
| | | | | | | | No levels mentioned for AFB ₁ and OTA | | AFB ₁ and FB ₁ ▪ 3.3% of the samples tested positive for the three mycotoxins analysed |
| Martins <i>et al.</i> 2008 | n/a | Portugal | n/a | n = 20 | Fish | AFB ₁ OTA DON ZEN FB ₁ | N.d | HPLC | LOD ▪ AFB ₁ = 0.2 µg kg ⁻¹ ▪ OTA = 20 µg kg ⁻¹ ▪ DON = 100 µg kg ⁻¹ ▪ ZEN = 50 µg kg ⁻¹ ▪ FUM = 20 µg kg ⁻¹ |
| Almeida <i>et al.</i> 2011 | n/a | Portugal | Feed plant | n = 87 | Seabass | AFB ₁ | AFB ₁ n.d. (detection limit of the method was 1.0 µg kg ⁻¹) | HPLC | ▪ 35 samples contaminated with <i>Aspergillus</i> spp. |
| Pietsch <i>et al.</i> 2013 | n/a | Central Europe | n/a | n = 11 | Carp | DON ZEN | DON = 66-825; \bar{x} = 236.18 ZEN = 3-511; \bar{x} = 63.82 | HPLC | ▪ Most common plant ingredients in feeds collected: C = corn; CGF = Corn gluten feed; SEM = soybean extraction meal; SM = soybean meal; SFEM = sunflower feed extraction meal; W = wheat; WB = wheat bran, WDB = wheat distillery by-product; WGF = wheat gluten feed. |
| Woźny <i>et al.</i> 2013 | November 2012 | Poland (North-eastern region) | Farm level | n = 3 | Trout | ZEN | # ₁ = n.d. # ₂ = 81.8 ± 25.8 # ₃ = 10.3 ± 0.9 | HPLC | ▪ Rainbow trout organs were also sampled, refer to table 6. |
| Greco <i>et al.</i> 2015 | n/a | Argentina (Río Negro and Neuquén) | Farm level | n = 28 | Rainbow trout | AF OTA T-2 FUM DON ZEN | AF = 1.3 – 8.91; \bar{x} = 2.82 OTA = 3.5 – 5.0 \bar{x} = 5.26 T-2 = 50 – 105.99; \bar{x} = 70.08 FUM = 190 -222; \bar{x} = -- DON = 150 – 210; \bar{x} = 230 ZEN = 20.04 – 159.76; \bar{x} = 87.97 | ELISA | ▪ Finished feed samples were composed of soybean expeller, disabled soybean, corn, wheat, wheat bran, corn gluten meal ▪ Co-occurrence of at least two out of six mycotoxins was recorded in 93% (26/28) of samples analysed |
| Nacher-Mestre <i>et al.</i> 2015 | n/a | United Kingdom | Feed plant | n = 5 2 diets ^{GSB} with low level plant meal 3 diets ^{AS} with high level plant meal | ^{AS} Atlantic salmon ^{GSB} Gilthead sea bream | AFB ₁ , AFB ₂ , AFG ₁ , AFG ₂ , OTA, NEO, FB ₁ , FB ₂ , FB ₃ , T-2, DIA, ZEN, NIV, DON, 3-AcDON, 15-AcDON, FUX, and HT-2 | DON ^{GSB} = 79.2 and 53.5 DON ^{AS} = 22.4, 19.4 and 23.1 FUM ^{GSB} = -, 6.4 FUM ^{AS} = 148, 754 and 112 | LC–MS/MS | ▪ No carry-over effects observed after 8 ^{GSB} and 7 ^{AS} months of feeding the contaminated diets. ▪ Diets manufactured with contaminated ingredients (wheat (n = 3, Germany and Denmark), wheat gluten (n = 4, UK, Germany, and China), pea (n = 1, Denmark), pea protein (n = 2, Norway), rapeseed meal (n = 1, Denmark), corn gluten (n = 3, China and Germany), soya protein (n = 4, Brazil) and sunflower meal (n = 1, Russia). |
| Gonçalves <i>et al.</i> 2018 | January 2014 – December 2014 | ^A Asia (CN, IN, TH, MN) ^E Europe | Farm level Feed plant | N _t = 41 samples n = 31 Asia | Shrimp Fish | AF ZEN DON FUM | ^A AF: \bar{x} = 51.83; Max = 220.61; (21/31) ^A ZEN: \bar{x} = 60.41; Max = 232.88; (18/31) ^A DON: \bar{x} = 160.86; Max = 413.08; | HPLC | ▪ In Europe, 50% of the samples had more than 1 mycotoxin per sample ▪ In Asia, 84% of the samples had more than 1 toxin per feed |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|--|---|--|--|--|--|--------------|--|
| | | (CR, PT) | | n = 6-10 Europe | | OTA | (21/31) ^A FUM: \bar{x} = 172.63; Max = 573.32; (18/31) ^A OTA: \bar{x} = 2.11; Max = 5.05; (17/31) ^E AF: \bar{x} = 0.43; Max = 0.43; (1/6) ^E ZEN: \bar{x} = 118.01; Max = 305.89; (4/6) ^E DON: \bar{x} = 165.61; Max = 281.72 (4/6) ^E FUM: \bar{x} = 3419.92; Max = 7533.61; (3/10) ^E OTA: \bar{x} = 1.53; Max = 3.1; (4/6) | | |
| Gonçalves et al. 2017 | January – December 2015 | ^A Asia (VN, ID, MM) ^E Europe (DK, AT, NL, DE) | Farm level Feed plant | N _i = 25 ^A n= 21 (20/21) ^E n= 4 (4/4) | Shrimp Fish | AF ZEN DON FUM OTA | ^A AF: \bar{x} = 58; Max = 201 ^A ZEN: \bar{x} = 53; Max = 157 ^A DON: \bar{x} = 29; Max = 63 ^A FUM: \bar{x} = 58; Max= 238 ^A OTA: \bar{x} = - ; Max = 7 ^E AF: not detected ^E ZEN: \bar{x} = -; Max = 6 ^E DON: \bar{x} = -; Max = 20 ^E FUM: n.d. ^E OTA: n.d. | HPLC | ----- |
| Marijani et al. 2017 | n/a | Kenya Kisumu -> n = 16 Tanzania Ukerewe -> n = 13 Rwanda Kigembe -> n = 10 Uganda Jinja -> n = 13 | ^{FM} Farm ^{LFP} Local ^{IF} feed plant ^{IF} Imported feed (from Israel and India) ^{FI} Feed Ingredient s | N _i =52 ^{FM} n= 14 ^{LFP} n = 14 ^{IF} n = 12 ^{FI} n = 12 | Nile tilapia African catfish | 3-ADON 15-ADON DON AF DAS AOH FB ₁ FB ₃ OTA ROQ-C | ^{FM} AF = 2.4-126; \bar{x} = 71.0 ± 31.5 ^{FM} FUM = 33.2-2834.6; \bar{x} = 1136.5 ± 717.9 ^{FM} DON = 69.1-755.4; \bar{x} = 245.8 ± 190.1 ^{LFM} AF = <2-28; \bar{x} = 11.6 ± 0.7 ^{LFM} FUM, DON = <LOD ^{IF} AF = <2-2.6; \bar{x} = 1.4 ± 0.9 ^{IF} FUM, DON = <LOD | LC– MS/MS | ▪ Farmers who formulate their own feed used: sunflower seed cake, rice bran, cotton seed cake, maize bran and soybean. ▪ Feeds co-contaminated with 12 ^{FM} , 4 ^{LFM} and 5 ^{IF} mycotoxins. ▪ NEO, FUX and STERIG were not detected in any of the samples ▪ AF co-occurred with FUM in 13 of 24 feed samples ▪ DON co-occurred with FUM in 2 of 24 feed samples |
| Gonçalves et al. 2018 | January – December 2016 | Asia (SAS: IN, ID, MN, TW, TH) | Farm level Feed plant | N _i = 16 ^S n= 4 ^F n= 12 | Shrimp ^S Fish ^F | AF ZEN DON FUM OTA NIV 3-AcDON 15-AcDON FUX | ^F AF: \bar{x} = 51.83; Max = 32; (8/12) ^F ZEN: \bar{x} = 75.66; Max = 153; (6/12) ^F DON: \bar{x} = 82.87; Max = 396; (8/12) ^F FUM: \bar{x} = 354.22; Max = 993; (9/12) ^F OTA: \bar{x} = 1.65; Max = 3; (6/12) ^S AF: \bar{x} = 0.43; Max = 24; (4/4) ^S ZEN: \bar{x} = 22.0; Max = 53; (3/4) ^S DON: \bar{x} = 881.66; Max = 2287 (3/4) ^S FUM: \bar{x} = - ; Max = 43; (1/4) | LC- MS/MS | ----- |

T-2
HT-2
DAS
NEO

^SOTA: \bar{x} = 2.66; Max = 4; (3/4)

Reference entries are in chronological ordered by sampling date collection or publishing date. Superscript letters give extra information; they are only valid for the same row.

General abbreviations: \bar{x} = average value; \tilde{x} = median value; Max = maximum; HPLC = High-performance liquid chromatography; ELISA = enzyme linked immunosorbent assay; LC-MS/MS = Liquid chromatography-tandem mass spectrometry; TLC = Thin layer chromatography; HPTLC = high performance thin layer chromatography; LOD = limit of detection; n.d.= not detected

Mycotoxins: AF: aflatoxins (the sum of AFB₁, AFB₂, AFG₁ and AFG₂); AFB₁= aflatoxin B₁; AFB₂= aflatoxin B₂; AFG₁= aflatoxin G₁; AFG₂= aflatoxin G₂; DON = deoxynivalenol; FUM = fumonisins (the sum of FB₁ and FB₂); FB₁= fumonisin B₁; FB₂= fumonisin B₂; OTA= ochratoxin A; ZEA= zearalenone; NIV= Nivalenol; 3-AcDON= 3-Acetyldeoxynivalenol; 15-AcDON= 15-Acetyldeoxynivalenol; FUX= fusarenon X-glucoside; fumonisins; DAS= Diacetoxyscirpenol; NEO= neosolaniol; AOH= alternariol; ROQ-C= roquefortine C; STERIG= sterigmatocystin.

Regions: NAS = northern Asia; SAS = South-East Asia; CN = China; IN = India; TH = Thailand; MN = Myanmar; ID = Indonesia; TW = Taiwan; HR = Croatia; PT = Portugal; DK = Denmark; AT = Austria; NL = the Netherlands; DE = Germany.

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Table 2: Documented aflatoxin carry-over on aquaculture species.

| Reference | Species | Tested dosage | Mycotoxin detection level ($\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$) | Transfer factor | Method of analysis | Observations |
|------------------------------------|---|--|--|--|--------------------|--|
| Fish studies | | | | | | |
| Suzy <i>et al.</i> 2017 | African sharptooth catfish (<i>Clarias Gariepinus</i>) | 10 ¹ , 17 ² and 20 ³ $\mu\text{g AFB}_1 \text{ kg}^{-1}$ | M ¹ = 0.05±0.12 $\mu\text{g AFB}_1 \text{ kg}^{-1}$ M ² = 0.08±0.10 $\mu\text{g AFB}_1 \text{ kg}^{-1}$ M ³ = 0.08±0.12 $\mu\text{g AFB}_1 \text{ kg}^{-1}$ | M ¹ = 0.005 M ² = 0.005 M ³ = 0.004 | ELISA | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initial weight: 4±2 g; 3 month study Chicken droppings were used as ingredient contaminated with 5, 7.2 and 8.2 $\mu\text{g AFB}_1 \text{ kg}^{-1}$ Catfish fed 10 $\mu\text{g AFB}_1 \text{ kg}^{-1}$ used as control No differences in haematological parameters |
| El-Sayed and Khalil, 2009 | European seabass (<i>Dicentrarchus labrax</i>) | ^{#1} Oral 96h LC ₅₀ >0.05, 0.10, 0.15, 0.20, 0.25, 0.30, 0.35 and 0.40 mg kg^{-1} ^{#2} 42 day exposure to 10% of oral 96h LC ₅₀ = 180 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ | ^{#2} M = 4.25 ± 0.85 $\mu\text{g AFB}_1 \text{ kg}^{-1}$ | ^{#2} M = 0.236 | ELISA | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initial weight: 40±2 g ^{#1}96h LC₅₀ = 0.18 mg/kg bwt ^{#2}0.018 mg/kg bwt AFB_1 ^{#1,2} Clinical signs: sluggish movement, loss of equilibrium, rapid opercular movement, and hemorrhages of the dorsal skin surface. ^{#2}Yellowish discoloration, pale discoloration of the gills, liver and kidney. Severe distension of the gall bladder. |
| Huang <i>et al.</i> 2011 | Gibel carp (<i>Carassius gibelio</i>) | 3.2, 11.3, 20.2 ¹ , 55.2 ² , 95.8 ³ , 176.0 ⁴ and 991.5 ⁵ $\mu\text{g AFB}_1 \text{ kg}^{-1}$ | L ¹⁻⁵ > 5 $\mu\text{g AFB}_1 \text{ kg}^{-1}$ M ⁵ = 2.35 $\mu\text{g AFB}_1 \text{ kg}^{-1}$ | HP ^{1-5*} > 0.090 M ⁵ = 0.0024 | ELISA | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initial weight: 10.33±0.19 g 12 week study Fish showed strong clearance ability of AFB₁ |
| Raghavan <i>et al.</i> 2011 | Hybrid sturgeon (<i>Acipenser ruthenus</i> x <i>A. baeri</i>) | 0, 1, 5, 10, 20, 40 ¹ and 80 ² $\mu\text{g AFB}_1 \text{ kg}^{-1}$ | M ≈ 28 ¹ and 34 ² L = 142.80 ¹ | M ¹ = 0.7 M ² = 0.425 | ELISA | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initial weight: 10.53 ± 0.17 g 35 day study |

| | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|--|--|--|--|-------|--|
| | | | and 115.60 ² µg kg ⁻¹ | L ¹ = 3.57 L ² = 1.15 | | ▪ Liver hypertrophy and hyperchromasia of nuclei and cytoplasmic vacuoles, presence of inflammatory cells, focal hepatocyte necrosis and extensive biliary hyperplasia. |
| Lopes <i>et al.</i> 2005 | Jundiá (<i>Rhamdia quelen</i>) | ^{#1} 41, 90 ¹ and 204 ² µg AFB ₁ kg ⁻¹ ^{#2} 350 ¹ ; 757 ² ; 1,177 ³ µg AFB ₁ kg ⁻¹ | ^{#1} M = 1 ¹ and 6.1 ² µg AFB ₁ kg ⁻¹ ^{#2} M+L=350 ¹ ; 757 ² µg kg ⁻¹ and 1,177 ³ µg AFB ₁ kg ⁻¹ | ^{#1} M ¹ = 0.024 ^{#1} M ² = 0.030 ^{#2} M+L ¹ = 1 ^{#2} M+L ² = 1 ^{#2} M+L ³ = 1 | HPLC | ▪ Initial weight: 3.21 ^{#1} g and 4.73 ^{#2} g ▪ 45 ^{#1} and 35 ^{#2} day studies |
| Michelin <i>et al.</i> 2016 | Lambari fish (<i>Astyanax altiparanae</i>) | 0, 10 ¹ , 20 ² and 50 ³ µg AFB ₁ kg ⁻¹ | L = 265 ^{2,t} and 243 ^{3,t} µg kg ⁻¹ M = 19 ^{1,t} , 20 ^{2,t} and 50 ^{3,t} µg kg ⁻¹ | L ^{2,t} = 13.25 L ^{3,t} = 4.86 M ^{1,t} = 1.9 M ^{2,t} = 1 M ^{3,t} = 1 | HPLC | ▪ Initial weight: 3.15 g ▪ 120 day study (sampling at day 30, 60, 90 and 120 ¹) ▪ For the first 60 days of exposure, AFs were metabolised by liver and excreted. After 90 days, a lower efficiency in the elimination of AFs |
| Abdel Rahman <i>et al.</i> 2017 | Nile tilapia (<i>Oreochromis niloticus</i>) | (0 and 200 ¹ µg AFB ₁ kg ⁻¹) x (FEO + SC) | L ¹ = 5±0.5 µg AFB ₁ kg ⁻¹ M ¹ = 3.7±0.1 µg AFB ₁ kg ⁻¹ | L ¹ = 0.025 M ¹ = 0.019 | HPLC | ▪ Initial weight: 26.6±0.12 g; 30 day study ▪ Tested fennel essential oil (FEO) and saccharomyces cerevisiae (SC) as mycotoxin management strategy. ▪ AF effects are reported only for 0 and 200 ¹ µg kg ⁻¹ |
| Ayyat <i>et al.</i> 2013 | Nile tilapia (<i>Oreochromis niloticus</i>) | (0, 250 ¹ µg AFB ₁ kg feed ⁻¹) x OZ, B or C | M ¹ = 78.33 µg kg ⁻¹ | M ¹ = 0.313 | HPLC | ▪ Initial weight: 7.3 g; 3 week study ▪ Tested ozone (0.5 mg/L/minute; OZ), bentonite (20 g/kg diet; B) and coumarin (5 g/kg diet; C) as detoxifying strategy |
| Deng <i>et al.</i> 2010 | Nile tilapia (<i>Oreochromis niloticus</i>) | 19; 85 ⁰ ; 245 ¹ ; 638 ² ; 793 ³ and 1,641 ⁴ µg kg ⁻¹ | Y ^{t1-tf;0-4} L ^{t1} = 10 ⁰ , 16 ¹ , 21 ² , 24 ³ and 24 ⁴ µg AFB ₁ kg ⁻¹ liver L ^{tf} = 30 ⁰ , 33 ¹ , 47 ² , 44 ³ and 43 ⁴ µg AFB ₁ kg ⁻¹ liver | Y ^{t1-tf;0-4} L ^{t1} = 0.118 ⁰ , 0.065 ¹ , 0.033 ² , 0.030 ³ and 0.015 ⁴ L ^{tf} = 0.353 ⁰ , 0.135 ¹ , 0.074 ² , 0.055 ³ and 0.026 ⁴ | ELISA | ▪ Initial weight: 20 g; ▪ 20 ¹ week study (sampling at week 5 ¹¹) ▪ AF from mouldy peanut meal |
| Hessein <i>et al.</i> 2014 | Nile tilapia (<i>Oreochromis niloticus</i>) | (0, 250 ¹ mg kg ⁻¹) x Vit or C | M ¹ = mg kg ⁻¹ | M ¹ = 0.407 | HPLC | ▪ Initial weight: 7.3 g; 98 day study ▪ Tested coumarin (5 g/kg diet; C) and vitamin E (50mg kg ⁻¹ diet; Vit) as detoxifying strategy ▪ No differences on Hb, RBCs, Hct, WBCs, Plat Note: Hessein <i>et al.</i> , 2014 reports in his manuscript a residual AF of 107.7 mg kg ⁻¹ , each seems extremely high, which might be a mistake of units mg kg ⁻¹ / µg kg ⁻¹ |
| Hussain <i>et al.</i> 2017 | Nile tilapia (<i>Oreochromis niloticus</i>) | (0, 2000 ¹ , 4000 ² mg kg ⁻¹) x 0.5% and 1% CB | M ² = 0.087±1.32 µg kg ⁻¹ | M ² ~ 0 | HPLC | ▪ Initial weight: 4.5±0.4 g; 10 week study ▪ Tested calcium bentonite (CB) clay as detoxifying strategy; ▪ Tested CB significantly improved some parameters (WG, HIS) ▪ CB significantly reduced bioaccumulation of AFB ₁ residues in muscle tissues. |
| Mahfouz <i>et al.</i> 2015 | Nile tilapia (<i>Oreochromis niloticus</i>) | 20 ¹ and 100 ² µg AFB ₁ kg ⁻¹ feed | L ^{1,t1} = 5 µg kg ⁻¹ ^{1,t2} = 8 µg kg ⁻¹ | L ^{1,t1} = 0.25 L ^{1,t2} = 0.4 L ^{2,t1} = 0.1 | TLC | ▪ Initial weight: 35±0.50 g; 6 ^{t1} or 12 ^{t2} week studies ▪ Challenge test with <i>Aeromonas hydrophila</i> , <i>IP</i> ▪ Expression of liver <i>GPx</i> and <i>GST</i> down-regulated ¹ ▪ The ability to withstand <i>A. hydrophila</i> infection was |

| | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|---|--|---|--|---|
| | | | $^{2,t1} = 10 \mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ $^{2,t2} = 15 \mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ $M^{2,t2} = 5 \mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ | $L^{2,t2} = 0.15$ $M^{2,t2} = 0.05$ | | remarkably lowered |
| Salem et al. 2009 | Nile tilapia (<i>Oreochromis niloticus</i>) | 0, 150 ¹ $\mu\text{g AFB}_1 \text{ kg}^{-1}$ | $M^1 = 99.48 \mu\text{g AFB}_1 \text{ kg}^{-1}$ | $M^1 = 0.663$ | HPLC | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initial weight: 10±3 g; 15 week study AFB₁ was produced through pellet fermentation using <i>Aspergillus parasiticus</i> NRRL 2999 |
| Selim et al. 2014 | Nile tilapia (<i>Oreochromis niloticus</i>) | (0 and 200 ¹ $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$) x HSCAS, SC and EGM | $M^1 \approx 90 \mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ | $M^1 \approx 0.45$ | HPLC | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initial weight: 15±2 g; 10 week study Tested hydrated sodium calcium aluminosilicates (HSCAS; 0.5%), <i>Saccharomyces cerevisiae</i> (S.C.; 0.25%) and an esterified glucomannan (EGM; 0.25%) as detoxifying strategy; AF produced from polished raw rice |
| Ngethe et al. 1993 | Rainbow trout (<i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i>) | 15.6 $\mu\text{g ml}^{-1}$ of AFB ₁ | $L^{1,2,4}$ $B^{1,2,4}$ | n/a | [³ H]-AFB ₁ was measured in a scintillation counter and data expressed in counts per minute (CPM) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initial weight: 200±20 g; 3 week study (sampling at 6h¹, 1 day², 2 days³ and 6 days⁴) Intravenous injection of ³H-AFB₁ |
| Ellis et al. 2000 | Rainbow trout (<i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i>) | 20 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ AFB ₁ and 20 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ AFB ₁ + 2% clay | Detected in: F, K, GI, U, Bi, Ca | n/a | [³ H]-AFB ₁ was measured in a scintillation counter and data expressed in counts per minute (CPM) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initial weight: 266±12.6 g, 7 day study 2% sodium bentonite Volclay tested as detoxifying strategy; |
| Ngethe et al. 1992; | Rainbow trout (<i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i>) | 15.6 $\mu\text{g ml}^{-1}$ of AFB ₁ | Detected in: Bi, L, K, B, AbF, M, Sp and BI | n/a | [³ H]-AFB ₁ was measured in a scintillation counter and data expressed in counts per minute (CPM) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initial weight: 100±15 g, 8 day study (sampling at 6h, 1, 2 4 and 8 days) Intravenous injection and oral dose of ³H-AFB₁ |
| Usanno et al. 2005 | Red tilapia (<i>Oreochromis niloticus</i> x <i>O. mossambicus</i>) | 0, 50, 100, 500, 1,000 and 2,500 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ | Not detected | n/a | n/a | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8 week trial No information on fish weight |
| Hussain et al. 1993 | Walleye fish (<i>Sander vitreus</i>) | 0, 50 and 100 ¹ $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ | Detected in muscle: $AFB_1^1 = 5 \mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ $AFB_2^1 = 10 \mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ $AFG_1^1 = 15 \mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ $AFG_2^1 = 20 \mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ | $AFB_1 = 0.5$ $AFB_2 = 0.1$ $AFG_1 = 0.15$ $AFG_2 = 0.2$ | n/a | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 30 day study No information on fish weight |
| Shrimp studies | | | | | | |
| Boonyaratpalin et al. 2001 | Black tiger shrimp (<i>Penaeus monodon</i> Fabricius) | 0; 50 ¹ ; 100 ² ; 500 ³ ; 1,000 ⁴ ; 2,500 ⁵ $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ AFB ₁ | Head and shell / muscle ($\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$) $^{1,t1} = 2.6/13.0$; $^{1,t2} = 0.5/ 0.4$ $^{2,t1} = 3.5/ 14.2$; $^{2,t2} = -/ 0.6$ $^{3,t1} = 9.1/ 10.6$; $^{3,t2} = 6.8/ 0.3$ $^{4,t1} = 2.3/8.4$; $^{4,t2} = 6.5/0.7$ $^{5,t1} = 3.9/7.4$; $^{5,t2} = 4.9/0.1$ | Head and shell / muscle ($\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$) $^{1,t1} = 0.052/0.26$; $^{1,t2} = 0.01/ 0.008$ $^{2,t1} = 0.035/ 0.142$; $^{2,t2} = -/ 0.006$ $^{3,t1} = 0.0182/ 0.0212$; $^{3,t2} = 0.0136/ 0.0006$ $^{4,t1} = 0.0023/0.0084$; | TLC | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Study in adult stage, Initial weight: 1.0-1.2 g; 8 week trial (sampling at 4^{t1} and 6^{t2} weeks) |

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|--|--------------|-----|-------|---|
| | | | | | | <div><div><div>4,t2 = 0.0065/0.0007</div><div>5,t1 = 0.0016/0.0030;</div><div>5,t2 = 0.0020/~0</div></div></div> |
| Bintvihok <i>et al.</i> 2003 | Black tiger shrimp (<i>Penaeus monodon</i> Fabricius) | 5, 10, 20 µg kg ⁻¹ AFB ₁ | not detected | n/a | HPLC | <div><div>▪ Study in adult stage</div><div>▪ 10 day trial</div><div>▪ AFB₁ was prepared from mouldy corn</div></div> |
| Bautista <i>et al.</i> 1994 | Black tiger shrimp (<i>Penaeus monodon</i> Fabricius) | 25, 50, 75, 100 or 200 µg kg ⁻¹ AFB ₁ | not detected | n/a | HPTLC | <div><div>▪ Study in adult stage, Initial weight: 17.5±0.6 g</div><div>▪ 62 day trial</div></div> |
| Reference entries are alphabetically ordered by species common name. Superscript letters give extra information; they are only valid for the same row. Regarding the mycotoxin contamination, when not mentioned it is assumed that a purified form of the respective mycotoxin was used. | | | | | | |
| General abbreviations: HPLC = High-performance liquid chromatography; ELISA = enzyme linked immunosorbent assay; TLC = Thin layer chromatography; LOD = limit of detection; nd = not detected; n/a = not applicable. | | | | | | |
| Tissue abbreviations: M = Muscle; L = Liver; HP = hepatopancreas; B = Brain; F = faeces; K = Kidney; GI = Gastro intestinal tract; U = Urine; Bi = Bile; Ca = carcass; AbF = abdominal fat; Sp = spleen and BI = blood. | | | | | | |

1140

Table 3: Documented ochratoxin carry-over in aquaculture species.

| Reference | Species | Tested dosage | Mycotoxin detection level (µg kg ⁻¹) | Transfer factor | Method of analysis | Observations |
|------------------------------------|--|---|--|---|--------------------|--|
| Fish studies | | | | | | |
| Bernhoft <i>et al.</i> 2017 | Atlantic Salmon (<i>Salmo salar</i>) | 0, 800 ¹ and 2400 ² µg kg ⁻¹ OTA | <div>L/M/K/SK (µg kg⁻¹) 1,t1 = 1.86/<LOQ/n.s./n.s. 1,t2 = 1.53/<LOQ/n.s./n.s. 1,t3 = 1.01/<LOQ/0.16/n.s. 2,t1 = 4.81/<LOQ/n.s./n.s. 2,t2 = 3.27/<LOQ/n.s./n.s. 2,t3 = 2.61/<LOQ/1.03/n.s.</div> | <div>L/M/K/SK 1,t1 = 0.0023/<LOQ/n.s./n.s. 1,t2 = 0.0020/<LOQ/n.s./n.s. 1,t3 = 0.0012/<LOQ/~0/n.s. 2,t1 = 0.0020/<LOQ/n.s./n.s. 2,t2 = 0.0013/<LOQ/n.s./n.s. 2,t3 = 0.0011/<LOQ/~0/n.s.</div> | HPLC | <div><div>▪ Initial weight: 58 g</div><div>▪ Administration of 14C-OTA A and autoradiography</div><div>▪ Sampling at 3^{t1}, 6^{t2} and 8^{t3} weeks</div></div> |
| Fuchs <i>et al.</i> 1986 | Rainbow trout (<i>Salmo gairdneri</i>) | IV injection of 0.160 µg kg ⁻¹ | <div>Blood = Detected^{t1-t4} Pronephros = Detected^{t1-t4} Opisthonephros = Detected^{t1-t4} Urine = Detected^{t1-t4} Pseudobranch = Detected^{t1-t4} Gills = Detected^{t1-t4} Liver = Detected^{t1-t4} Bile = Detected^{t1-t4} Ventricle wall = Detected^{t1-t4} I'yloric appendices = (contents) = Detected^{t1-t4} Large intestine (contents) = Detected^{t1-t4}</div> | n/a | LC fluorometer | <div><div>▪ Initial weight: 50 g, 8 week study</div><div>▪ Sampling at 5 min^{t1}, 6^{t2} and 8^{t3} weeks</div><div>▪ Fish each was sacrificed at 5^{t1} min, 1^{t2} hr, 24^{t3} hrs and 8^{t4} days after injection.</div></div> |

Splccn ("patches") = Detected^{t1-t4}
 Muscle (close to the myomeres) =
 Detected^{t1-t2}
 Spinal cord = Detected^{t1-t3}
 Fins = Detected^{t1-t4}
 Skin = Detected^{t1-t4}
 Muscles = Detected^{t1-t2}

Shrimp studies

| | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|---|---|--------------|-----|------|--|
| Supamattaya et al. 2005 | Black tiger shrimp black (<i>Penaeus monodon</i> <i>Fabricius</i>) | 100; 200 and 1,000 µg kg ⁻¹ | Not detected | n/a | HPLC | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initial weight: 2 g; 8 week study No differences on THC or Ca²⁺ levels No differences in tissues: G, AG, HP, HT, * LOD given in the manuscript (44,000 µg kg⁻¹) seems to be very high; there is a chance of an error in the units |
|--------------------------------|---|---|--------------|-----|------|--|

Reference entries are alphabetically ordered by species common name. Superscript letters give extra information; they are only valid for the same row. Regarding mycotoxin contamination, when not mentioned, it is assumed that a purified form of the respective mycotoxin was used.

General abbreviations: HPLC = High-performance liquid chromatography; LC = liquid chromatography; n/a = not applicable; n.s. not sampled

Tissue abbreviations: M = Muscle; L = Liver; K = Kidney; SK = skin.

1141

1142

Table 4: Documented deoxynivalenol and/or fumonisin carry-over in aquaculture species.

| Reference | Species | Tested dosage | Mycotoxin detection level (µg kg ⁻¹) | Transfer factor | Method of analysis | Observations |
|-----------------------------|--|--|---|---|--------------------|--|
| Fish studies | | | | | | |
| Bernhoft et al. 2017 | Atlantic salmon (<i>Salmo salar</i>) | 0; 2000 ¹ and 6000 ² µg kg ⁻¹ DON | L/M/K/SK (µg kg ⁻¹) ^{1,t1} = 12.2/5.6/n.s./n.s. ^{1,t2} = 12.8/8.5/n.s./n.s. ^{1,t3} = 18.1/6.0/12.3/n.s. ^{2,t1} = 9.6/10.3/n.s./n.s. ^{2,t2} = 20.2/17.3/n.s./n.s. ^{2,t3} = 28.6/18.6/16.8/20.8 | L/M/K/SK ^{1,t1} = 0.0061/0.0028/n.s./n.s. ^{1,t2} = 0.0064/0.0042/n.s./n.s. ^{1,t3} = 0.0091/0.003/0.0061/n.s. ^{2,t1} = 0.0016/0.0017/n.s./n.s. ^{2,t2} = 0.0034/0.0029/n.s./n.s. ^{2,t3} = 0.0048/0.0031/0.0028/0.0035 | HPLC | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initial weight: 58 g, 8 week study; Sampling at 3^{t1}, 6^{t2} and 8^{t3} weeks |

| | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|---|--|--|---|--------------|---|
| Nácher-Mestre <i>et al.</i> 2015 | Atlantic salmon (<i>Salmo salar</i>) | Diet 1 = 22.4 DON + 148 FUM Diet 2 = 19.4 DON + 754 FUM Diet 3 = 23.1 DON + 112 FUM | Not detected | n/a | LC–ESI–MS/MS | <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ 6 month trial▪ Initial body weight of 228±5 g▪ Minor amounts of T-2 found and 15-AcDON and OTA detected |
| Pietsch <i>et al.</i> 2014 | Common carp (<i>Cyprinus carpio</i>) | 352 ¹ , 619 ² and 953 ³ µg kg ⁻¹ DON | Muscle samples (µg kg ⁻¹) ¹ = 0.6; ^{1,RP} = 1.4 ² = 1.3; ^{2,RP} = 0.7 ³ = 1.2; ^{3,RP} = 0.0 | Muscle samples ¹ = 0.0017; ^{1,RP} = 0.0040 ² = 0.0021; ^{1,RP} = 0.0011 ³ = 0.0013; ^{1,RP} = 0 | HPLC | <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Raised from eggs (average initial weight 36 g), 4 week study▪ Additional 2 weeks of feeding uncontaminated diet – recovery period^{RP} |
| Nácher-Mestre <i>et al.</i> 2015 | Gilthead sea bream (<i>Sparus aurata</i>) | Diet 1 = 79.2 DON + 8.1 15-AcDON Diet 2 = 53.5 DON + 13.6 15-AcDON +6.4 FUM | Not detected | n/a | LC–ESI–MS/MS | <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ 8 month trial▪ Initial body weight of 15 g up to 296 – 320 g |
| Huang <i>et al.</i> 2018 | Grass carp (<i>Ctenopharyngodon idella</i>) | 27; 318 ¹ ; 636 ² ; 922 ³ ; 1,243 ⁴ and 1,515 ⁵ µg kg ⁻¹ DON | PI= 16.46 ⁴ ; 17.64 ⁵ µg kg ⁻¹ tissue MI= 15.90 ³ ; 18.54 ⁴ ; 20.34 ⁵ µg kg ⁻¹ tissue DI= 18.91 ³ ; 24.40 ⁴ ; 28.82 ⁵ µg kg ⁻¹ tissue | PI= 0.013 ⁴ ; 0.012 ⁵ MI= 0.017 ³ ; 0.015 ⁴ ; 0.013 ⁵ DI= 0.021 ³ ; 0.020 ⁴ ; 0.019 ⁵ | HPLC | <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Initial weight: 12.17 ± 0.01 g; 60 days trial● Malformations: missing of pelvic fin²; caudal fin deformity³; operculum● “the safe dose of DON for grass carp were all estimated to be 318 µg/kg diet”; Huang <i>et al.</i> 2018 |
| Shrimp studies | | | | | | |
| Supamattaya <i>et al.</i> 2005 | Black tiger shrimp black (<i>Penaeus monodon Fabricius</i>) | 500; 1,000 and 2,000 µg kg ⁻¹ DON | Not detected | n/a | HPLC | <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Initial weight: 2 g; 8 week study▪ No differences on THC or Ca²⁺ levels▪ No differences in tissues: G, AG, HP, HT, * LOD given in the manuscript (50,000 µg kg⁻¹) seems to be very high; there is a chance of an error in the units |
| Trigo-Stockli <i>et al.</i> 2000 | Pacific white shrimp (<i>Litopenaeus vannamei</i>) | 0, 200, 500 and 1,000 µg kg ⁻¹ DON | Not detected | n/a | HPLC | <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Initial weight: 1.7±0.05 g, 16 week study (sampling at 4, 8, 12 and 16 weeks)▪ Naturally contaminated hard red winter wheat |
| Deng <i>et al.</i> 2017 | Pacific white shrimp (<i>Litopenaeus vannamei</i>) | 0; 500 ¹ ; 1,200 ² ; 2,400 ³ ; 4,800 ⁴ ; 12,200 ⁵ µg kg ⁻¹ T-2 | ^{HP} m= 17.52±2.87 ⁴ ng g ⁻¹ ^{HP} m= 48.61±3.13 ⁵ ng g ⁻¹ | n/a | TSQ | <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Initial weight: 8.5±0.5 g; 20 days study● Dietary concentrations correspond to ¹/₅₀, ¹/₂₀, ¹/₁₀, ¹/₅ and ¹/₂ (Wang <i>et al.</i> 2015). |

Reference entries are alphabetically ordered by species common name. Superscript letters give extra information; they are only valid for the same row. Regarding mycotoxin contamination, when not mentioned, it is assumed that a purified form of the respective mycotoxin was used.

General abbreviations: HPLC = High-performance liquid chromatography; LC–ESI–MS/MS = liquid chromatography-electrospray ionization-tandem mass spectrometry; TSQ= Quantum Access tandem mass spectrometer n/a = not applicable; n.s. not sampled

Tissue abbreviations: M = Muscle; L = Liver; K = Kidney; SK = skin.

1143

Table 5: Documented zearalenone carry-over in aquaculture species.

| Reference | Species | Tested dosage | Mycotoxin detection level ($\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$) | Transfer factor | Method of analysis | Observations |
|----------------------------|--|---|--|---|--------------------|---|
| Fish studies | | | | | | |
| Pietsch et al. 2015 | Common Carp (<i>Cyprinus carpio</i> L.) | 0; 332 ¹ ; 621 ² and 797 ³ $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ | Muscle ZEN ¹ = 0.13±0.03 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ ZEN ² = 0.22±0.18 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ ZEN ³ = 0.15±0.07 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ α -ZEN ¹ = 0.11±0.03 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ α -ZEN ² = 0.16±0.011 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ α -ZEN ³ = 0.05±0.07 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ ZEN ^{1,RP} = 0.03±0.03 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ ZEN ^{2,RP} = 0.03±0.02 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ ZEN ^{3,RP} = 0.03±0.03 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ | Muscle ZEN ¹ ~ 0 ZEN ² ~ 0 ZEN ³ ~ 0 α -ZEN ¹ ~ 0 α -ZEN ² ~ 0 α -ZEN ³ ~ 0 ZEN ^{1,RP} ~ 0 ZEN ^{2,RP} ~ 0 ZEN ^{3,RP} ~ 0 | HPLC | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raised from egg with 12-16 cm in length • 4 week study • α-ZEN were not detectable after recovery period (2 weeks) and ZEN was detected at 0.03 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ dry weight for all treatments |
| Woźny et al. 2015 | Rainbow trout (<i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i>) | 1,810 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ | Intestines ZEN = 732.2 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ α -ZEN = 10.7 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ L = residual ZEN and α -ZEN in all sampled fish | Intestines ZEN = 0.40 α -ZEN = 0.0059 | HPLC | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial weight: 250 g, all females; 71 day study • Some animals were identified as males • ZEN was detected (<5.0 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$) in all female ovaries |
| Woźny et al. 2017 | Rainbow trout (<i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i>) | 1 mg kg^{-1} of body mass | ZEN/ α -ZEN/ β -ZEN ($\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$) I ^{48h} = ~1500/~600/- I ^{96h} = ~1500/~900/- L ^{48h} = ~700/~100/~500 L ^{96h} = <200/<20/~0 O ^{48h} = 321/~100/- O ^{96h} = <100/<100/- Oo ^{48h} = ~25/~10/- Oo ^{96h} = <5/<5/- P ^{48h} = ~10/~5/- P ^{96h} = ~0/~0/- M ^{48h} = ~5/~5/- M ^{96h} = ~3/~3/- | ZEN/ α -ZEN/ β -ZEN ($\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$) I ^{48h} = 1.5/ 0.6/- I ^{96h} = 1.5/ 0.9/- L ^{48h} = 0.7/ 0.1/ 0.5 L ^{96h} = <0.2/<0.02/~0 O ^{48h} = 0.321/ 0.1/- O ^{96h} = <0.1/<0.1/- Oo ^{48h} = ~0.025/~0.01/- Oo ^{96h} = <0.005/<0.005/- P ^{48h} = ~0.01/~0.005/- P ^{96h} = ~0/~0/- M ^{48h} = ~0.005/~0.005/- M ^{96h} = ~0.003/~0.003/- | HPLC-FLD | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial weight: 1274±162 g, all mature females • Objective was to study the ZEN carry-over to eggs • Administration on ZEN – oral (bolus) • Sampling periods: 2, 6, 12, 24, 48, 72, 96h • Verified the presence of ZEN and α-ZEN in commercial fish roe • “Contamination of fish roe with zearalenone residuals is unlikely to pose a health risk to consumers, but their potential to transfer to somatic cells in fish ovaries may be of concern for aquaculture”, Woźny et al. 2017 |

Shrimp - no studies

Reference entries are alphabetically ordered by species common name. Superscript letters give extra information; they are only valid for the same row. Regarding mycotoxin contamination, when not mentioned, it is assumed that a purified form of the respective mycotoxin was used.

General abbreviations: HPLC = High-performance liquid chromatography; HPLC-FLD = High-performance liquid chromatography with fluorescence detection

Tissue abbreviations: I = Intestines; O = Ovaries; Oo = Oocytes; P = Plasma, M = Muscle

1144

For Review Only

Table 6: Documented mycotoxin occurrence in commercial aquaculture foods.

| Reference | Sampling Country (region) | # samples / Species | Sample origin | Target mycotoxin analysed in tissue | Tissue sampled | Mycotoxin detection level ($\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$) | Method of analysis | Observations |
|---------------------------|---|--|---|-------------------------------------|--|--|--------------------|--|
| Tolosa <i>et al.</i> 2013 | Spain (Valencia) | N _t = 19 n = 9 ^{SB} Seabass ^{AQ} n = 5 ^{GSB} Seabream ^{AQ} n = 3 (mackerel, hake, cod) ^{WF} n = 1 ^T Tilapia ^{AQ} n = 1 ^P Panga ^{AQ} | Aquaculture ^{AQ} ▪ Seabass Spain (Cartagena, Murcia) Greece (Argolis) ▪ Seabream Spain and Greece (Argolis); ▪ Tilapia China ▪ Pangasius Vietnam <u>Wild fisheries</u> ^{WF} ▪ Hake Southeast Atlantic ▪ Cod and Mackerel Northwest Atlantic | BEA ENA ENA1 ENB ENB1 | Muscle | ENA1 ^{SB} = 1.70±0.07 to 6.91±0.12; 4/9 n.d. ENA1 ^{GSB} = 2.48±0.07 to 7.45±0.12; 2/5 n.d. ENA1 = 1.51±0.07 ^T ; n.d. ^P ENB ^{SB} = 3.60±0.08 to 44.65±0.12; 1/9 n.d. ENB ^{GSB} = 1.30±0.08 to 21.63±0.11; 1/5 n.d. ENB = 5.35±0.07 ^T ; 1.26±0.06 ^P ENB1 ^{SB} = 1.44±0.09 to 31.51±0.11; 2/9 n.d. ENB1 ^{GSB} = 7.13±0.1 to 18.95±0.12; 2/5 n.d. ENB1 = 2.20±0.07 ^T ; n.d. ^P ENA1 / ENB / ENB1 ^{WF} = nd | LC–MS/MS | ▪ ENA and BEA were not detected in samples analysed ▪ Seabass (<i>Dicentrarchus labrax</i>) ▪ Seabream (<i>Sparus aurata</i>) ▪ Aquaculture ^{AQ} ▪ Wild fisheries ^{WF} |
| Woźny <i>et al.</i> 2013 | Poland (North-eastern region) | N _t = 9 3 samples from 3 different farms ^(F1 to F3) | Poland (North-eastern region) | ZEN | Intestine Liver Ovary Muscle | Intestine = n.d. ^{F1} ; <2.0 ^{F2} ; <2.0 ^{F3} Liver = n.d. ^{F1} ; <2.0 ^{F2} ; nd ^{F3} Ovary = <2.0 ^{F1} ; =7.1±3.2 ^{F2} ; <2.0 ^{F3} Muscle = n.d. ^{F1 to F3} Water = n.d. ^{F1 to F3} | HPLC | |
| Woźny <i>et al.</i> 2017 | Poland 2013 ^{T1} , 2014 ^{T2} , 2015 ^{T3} | n = 35 (acquired from hatcheries) ^{AQH} n = 6 (from supermarket) ^S | Norway Poland | ZEN, α -ZEL, β -ZEL | Ovary ^{Ov} Oocytes ^{Oo} Salted roe ^{Sr} | ZEN, α -ZEL, β -ZEL ^{Ov} = Detected in 4/4 samples ^{T2; Om, Sf} and in 1/6 samples ^{T3; Om, Ss} ZEN, α -ZEL, β -ZEL ^{Oo} = Detected in 5/13 samples ^{T2; Ao, Cl, Cl, Hm, Om, Sf, Sg} ; in 5/6 samples ^{T2; Cl, Ok, Om, Sf} and in 2/6 samples ^{T3; Ok, Om, Ss} ZEN, α -ZEL, β -ZEL ^{Sr} = Detected in 0/1 ^{T1} ; in 2/3 samples ^{T3; Ok, Om} and in 2/2 samples ^{T3} #1 α -ZEL ^{Ov} = 14.5 ^{T2; Om} #1 α -ZEL ^{Ov} = 12.6 ^{T2; Sf} All mycotoxin levels detected below LOD (ZEN, α -ZEL, and β -ZEL were 5.0, 3.0, and 12.0 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$) except ^{#1} | HPLC-FLD | Species sampled: <i>Acipenser oxyrinchus</i> ^{Ao} <i>Coregon lavaretus</i> ^{Cl} <i>Ctenopharyngodon idella</i> ^{Cl} <i>Hypophthalmichthys molitrix</i> ^{Hm} <i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i> ^{Om} <i>Salvelinus fontinalis</i> ^{Sf} <i>Silurus glanis</i> ^{Sg} <i>Oncorhynchus keta</i> ^{Ok} <i>Salmo salar</i> ^{Ss} |

Reference entries are alphabetically ordered by publication first author. Superscript letters give extra information; they are only valid for the same row.

General abbreviations: HPLC = High-performance liquid chromatography; HPCL-FLD = high-performance liquid chromatography: fluorescence detection; LC–MS/MS = Liquid chromatography-tandem mass spectrometry; n.d. = not detected

Mycotoxins: BEA = beauvericin; ENA = enniatins; ENA1 = enniatin A1; ENA2 = enniatin A2; ENB = enniatin B; ENB1 = enniatin B1; ZEN = zeralenone; α -ZEL = alpha-Zearalenol; β -ZEL = beta-Zearalenol.

1145

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