

# Testing for Mycotoxins



STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

**Mycotoxins in animal feed and human food can cause liver and kidney damage, suppressed immune response, reduced weight gain, cancer, and death.**

**Toxins consumed by lactating animals are transferred to their milk.**

To help support safe crops and healthy animals, the Plant Laboratory of the New Jersey Department of Agriculture offers mycotoxin testing services to farmers and ranchers concerned about this potential problem.

Aflatoxin and Ochratoxin are mycotoxins produced by *Aspergillus* molds. Fumonisin, Vomitoxin, and Zearalenone are produced by *Fusarium* and *Gibberella* molds. These molds can grow on crops in the field under hot, dry conditions or harvested crops stored in warm, moist conditions.

Common crops affected by mycotoxin forming molds are corn, rice, tree nuts, wheat, rye, barley, oats, silages, beans, peas, dried fruit, and spices.

- Tests are performed for Aflatoxin and Ochratoxin using High Performance Liquid Chromatography at a cost of \$40 per sample. Testing for Fumonisin Vomitoxin, and Zearalenone use ELISA at a cost of \$20 per sample.
- Samples should be a minimum of 250g (0.55 lbs) and double bagged in reclosable bags.
- Mail samples to:  
State of New Jersey  
Department of Agriculture  
Division of Plant Industry  
PO Box 330  
Trenton, NJ 08625

Submission forms are available at:

<http://www.state.nj.us/agriculture/divisions/pi/pdf/mycotoxinsubmissionform.pdf>