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## Mycotoxin contamination of cereals and food safety considerations for cereal products

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Humans have been concerned about food safety since ancient times. Cereals and cereal products have great importance for human and animal nutrition worldwide. Many factors influence the contamination of cereals and cereal-based products by microorganisms that cause illnesses in humans and animals. The major factors are water activity, temperature and climate conditions. Cereal grains are subject to microbiological contamination while growing in the field, accumulating a large and varied microflora. Effect on the microbiological and technological quality of cereals and cereal products has pre and post harvest period including harvesting and storage practices, as well as processing, milling and baking of finished products. A substantial safety challenge can present a variety of new product categories. For the safety of cereal finished products, application of techniques for effective control and prevention for microbial contamination is of great significance.

### Biography

Mirjana Menkovska is full Professor at Department of Food Technology and Biotechnology at the Institute of Animal Science, Ss. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje, Macedonia. She was graduated from the Faculty of Technology and Metallurgy in Skopje, completed MS degree in Instrumental Analysis in Chemistry and Technology at the same university and PhD degree in Food Technology at the University of Belgrade, Serbia. She was a Visiting Scientist for Cereal Research at GMRC in Manhattan, Kansas during the academic 1985-1986 at Cereal Research Institute in Detmold, Germany in 1997 and at other known research centers in Europe. She has published more than 150 papers in domestic and foreign scientific journals and participated in 90 scientific meetings in the country and abroad. She has also translated three scientific books and reviewed three scientific books from English into Macedonian language.

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