



MycoTWIN

Worldwide Mycotoxin Management via
Co-Creation of Innovative Strategies

Newsletter 2

April 2022



WELCOME to the second release of MycoTWIN updates!

We now look back at the first period of the project and MycoTWIN activities continue at full speed.

We hope you enjoy reading the newsletter and invite you to check our website regularly, follow us on social media or contact us directly for more information.



Special award to MycoTWIN project



The Horizon Europe Program launch event was held in Istanbul on 21-22 March 2022 within the framework of the "Phase-II of Turkey in Horizon 2020" Technical Assistance Project, co-financed by the Republic of Turkey and the EU, the beneficiary institution is TÜBİTAK, the executive institution is the Ministry of Industry and Technology and supported under the Competitive Sectors Program.

The program was attended by Minister of Industry and Technology Mustafa Varank, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and President of the European Union (EU) Ambassador Faruk Kaymakçı, President of TÜBİTAK Prof. Dr. Hasan Mandal and Mariya Gabriel, European Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth. In the event, Dr. Hayrettin ÖZER as the coordinator of MycoTWIN was deemed worthy of the achievement award with the project MycoTWIN within the scope of 2020.



MycoTWIN-MycoKey International Conference was held in Bari

9-12 November 2021

The conference “Integrated and innovative key actions for mycotoxin management in the food and feed chain” was jointly organized by International Society of Mycotoxicology, Mycokey, and MycoTWIN projects in Bari, Italy on 9-12 November 2021. The meeting started with an overview of the main scientific achievements of the MycoKey project and therefore focused on the updates on toxigenic fungi and related mycotoxins by presentations of International Keynote Speakers. Moreover, MycoTWIN project was presented and workshops based on selected topics was carried out on behalf of the meeting. Finally, the conference hosted also the 2nd International Forum on Mycotoxins in Animal Production. Due to the COVID emergency, this international conference was organized as a hybrid conference, since both in situ and online presentations were allowed.



Organized & Coordinated by



2nd Info – Day - "Enhancing Aflatoxin Research Capacity in Hazelnut"



24 February 2022

2nd Info Day - "Enhancing Aflatoxin Research Capacity in Hazelnut" was organized recently in Giresun, Turkey on February 24, 2022. At the Info Day, organized in cooperation with Giresun University, MycoTWIN project coordinator Dr. Hayrettin Özer gave information about the solutions of the "aflatoxin problem in hazelnuts" while conveying the project activities and outputs.



Dr. Özer stated that the rate of aflatoxin-related returns in hazelnut exports in Turkey has decreased considerably, and drew attention to the fact that we, as the world's leading producer, should continue the fight against aflatoxin with the same seriousness, considering the climate changes.

Webinar on "Management of mycotoxins and trends in mycotoxin analysis" was held

14 March 2022

The METROFOOD-PP project webinar series started at 7th of February 2022, and lasted till the 28th of March. The webinar titled "Management of mycotoxins and trends in mycotoxin analysis" was given by MycoTWIN coordinator Dr. Hayrettin Özer. At the webinar, MycoTWIN project was also introduced and information was given about its activities.

For more information visit the website below:

<https://www.metrofood.eu/media-room/news-events/news/metrofood-pp-webinar-series-on-line-open-free-webinars.html>



Mycotoxin Platform of Turkey

The Platform aiming to increase scientific knowledge and experience in Turkey concerning mycotoxins and toxigenic fungi has still recruiting members. Up to now the platform gathered 25 members. Active participation of food chemists and technologists, plant pathologists, mycologists, nutritionists, food producers, retailers, associations and policy makers are very welcomed to the platform to create strategies and solutions regarding mycotoxins and toxigenic mold problems. For more information and getting involved in the platform, please visit the website below:



<https://www.mycotwin.eu/mycotoxin-platform-of-turkey>

MycoTWIN academy

Activities of MycoTWIN academy is on progress to obtain exchange of knowledge regarding mycotoxin management. To date, two info days and three workshops have already been held. Two summer schools and three short term on-site trainings has been planned for the following months. The latest news about the activities will be spread through the website of the project and the newsletters.



Summer Schools

11-22 July 2022

Two summer schools will be organized on multi-mycotoxin analyses by University of Valencia in Spain. The events are free of charge for five Turkish young researchers. Applications will be made through the MycoTWIN website and the deadline for applications is May 2, 2022.

Summer School-3:

Topic: LC-MS/MS multi-mycotoxins methods for the analysis of the nuts and dried fruits

Date: 11-15 July 2022

Summer School-4:

Topic: GC-MS/MS multi-mycotoxins methods for the analysis of cereals and derivate products

Date: 18-22 July 2022

For more info and application requirements, please visit the project website, <https://www.mycotwin.eu/>



13th World Mycotoxin Forum and 1st Round Table Meeting of MycoTWIN

16-18 May 2022

The World Mycotoxin Forum brings together a holistic conference program covering the latest issues in mycotoxin management and is targeted at everyone working in the mycotoxin space – researchers, food and feed industry, laboratories, policy makers, and enforcement agencies from around the world. It will offer an excellent way to network, share ideas, and formulate recommendations and conclusions on how to close knowledge gaps.

For more info, please see the website below:

<https://worldmycotoxinforum.org/>

MycoTWIN partners will also be present in the event. Within this event, the 1st round table activity of the MycoTWIN project will also be held. In the light of the information obtained from the forum, current situation, gaps and future needs among key domains of MycoTWIN will be discussed.

Short Term On-site Trainings for Early Stage Researchers

Specific advanced trainings will be organized by the Institute of Sciences of Food Production-National Research Council of Italy (CNR-ISPA) and University of Valencia (UV) to improve skills, know-how and awareness of researchers (3 of them are early stage researchers) from TÜBİTAK on mycotoxigenic fungi and mycotoxins in conjunction with international experts. One or two researchers from TÜBİTAK will attend to each of trainings. During the trainings, researchers will be integrated into existed projects related to trainings in hosting partner. After each training, the participant researcher from TÜBİTAK will present what he/she learned during the training to other advanced and early stage researchers in TÜBİTAK to increase the benefit of TÜBİTAK from training.



The planned short-term on-site trainings are as following:

Short-term on-site training I (in CNR-ISPA):

Topic: Pre and post-harvest management for mycotoxins and toxigenic fungi minimization in dried fruits, nuts, cereals and spices; Mycotoxin monitoring and toxigenic fungi identification

Date: 20 June 2022 – 27 July 2022



Short-term on-site training II (in CNR-ISPA):

Topic: Development of rapid test kits and reference materials for multi-mycotoxin analysis, model products: prototype of a rapid test kit and reference material for multi-mycotoxin analysis

Date: 27 June 2022 – 29 July 2022

Short-term on-site training III (in UV):

Topic: GC-MS/MS analysis of mycotoxins in cereals and derivate products and risk assessment through the deterministic approach (one early stage researcher)

Date: 2 May 2022 – 22 July 2022

Expert visits from leading partners

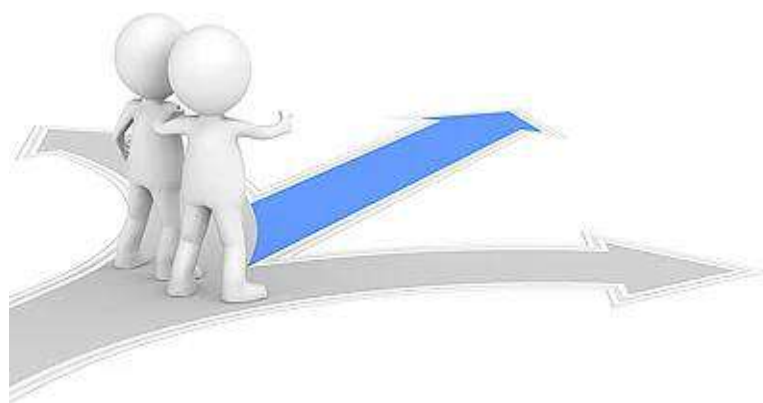
Experts from CNR-ISPA and UV will visit TÜBİTAK in order to exchange specific knowledge with on-site prospecting of TÜBİTAK's facilities. Expert visits to TUBİTAK will be a good chance not only to observe the facilities of TÜBİTAK but also to transfer experience on mycotoxigenic fungi and mycotoxins to the advanced and early stage researchers of TUBİTAK to improve the ability.

These visits will also allow partners to monitor the impact of MycoTWIN on coordinating partner, TÜBİTAK.



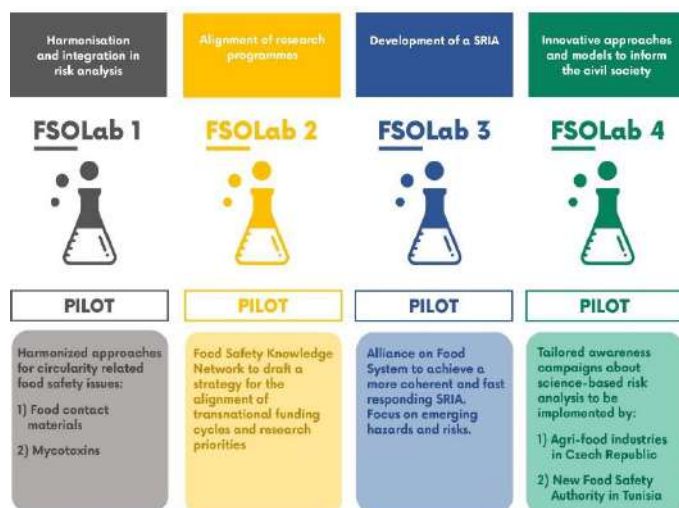
There will be 3 expert visits throughout the project and four experts from leading partners (two from CNR-ISPA, two from UV) will be visiting TÜBİTAK at each year of the project.

1st Expert visit is planned to be on 6-10 June 2022.



FoodSafety4EU Project

FoodSafety4EU is a collaborative action, coordinated by CNR-ISPA, a MycoTWIN partner, to support the European Commission (EC) in shaping the Food Safety System of the future. Built through a dynamic participatory process, the project will deliver solutions to support the EC in its endeavor in aligning research, policy and innovation with the societal needs and perspectives and improving food safety across Europe.



Four Food Safety Operation Labs (social labs) have been activated in the first project year to co-create input for the future European Food Safety strategies and policies. One of them is specifically focused on mycotoxins seen as a circularity related (re) emerging issue. The aim is to develop a new approach for risk assessment that incorporates the data needed for sustainability, for example climate change and consumption data. To know more about mycotoxins in FoodSafety4EU have a look here:

<https://foodsafety4.eu/fsolabs/fsolab-1-risk-analysis/>

Foodsafety4EU will launch the EU Food Safety Forum at the end of 2023. This will represent a permanent and open space for discussion and collaboration among stakeholders of the EU food sector, contributing to build long-term trusted science – policy – society cooperation. Pre-forum events are driving stakeholders in the Forum co-creation. To join the journey go here:

<https://foodsafety4.eu/pre-forum/>



In the framework of the FoodSafety4EU, CNR is running the work program RECIPE (Risk AssEssment/Risk Communication: understanding the context and addressing Priorities of the futurE – a learning-by-doing approach) granted by the EFSA EU-FORA program. Within this program a mid career researcher is contributing to the development of innovative approaches and models to inform civil society about the risk assessment process.

Biorangepack Project

This project is a Horizon 2020 project which is funded within the framework of the PRIMA SECTION 2 and aims to create knowledge on smart and innovative packaging, post-harvest rot management and shipping of organic citrus fruit.



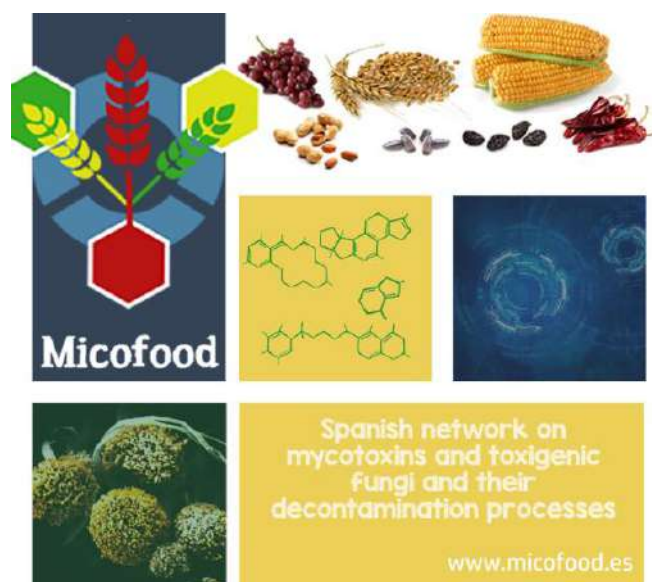
BiOrangePack

It is coordinated by the University of Catania and 14 universities and research centers from 6 Mediterranean countries participate to the project together with UV, a MycoTWIN partner, with the aim of increasing efficiency, sustainability and competitiveness in the citrus post-cultivation processing chain. The project has a 1.25 million Euros budget and will be in force until May 2023.

MICOFOOD - Spanish network on mycotoxins and toxigenic fungi and their decontamination processes

Adjusted to the objectives of the Framework Program for Research and Innovation "Horizon 2020", MICOFOOD aims to deepen the relationship between researchers, the food industry and the health administration in order to address and as far as possible minimize the problems caused by the presence of toxigenic fungi in food, as well as favoring the implementation and actions of quality management measures.

The network is formed by 15 research groups and this Spanish network of excellence focuses to delve into risk assessment, improve quality and food safety, and ultimately protect and promote the health of the population, focusing on the study of different aspects related to toxigenic fungi and their metabolites mycotoxins.



The MycoTWIN communication channels are open, join us!

If you like to learn more on objectives and activities of MycoTWIN project, go to <https://mycotwin.eu/> and also subscribe to our newsletter.

MycoTWIN is also on Twitter, LinkedIn, Facebook and Instagram.

FOLLOW US!



On behalf of all the project partners, we extend a sincere 'Thank You' for your interest in MycoTWIN, and we look forward to hearing from you either comments or contributions to our activities or on your own efforts in mycotoxin related science and technology.

Best wishes,

Dr. Hayrettin Özer and the MycoTWIN Communication Team

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