

Dept. of Food and Dairy Science.
National Research Center- Dokki-Cairo-Egypt.

ZEARALENONE: INCIDENCE TOXIGENIC FUNGI AND CHEMICAL DECONTAMINATION IN EGYPTIAN CEREALS

(With 3 Tables)

By
EL-SAYED A.M. ABD ALLA
(Received at 22/6/1996)

الزيرالينون ومدى انتشاره والفطريات المنتجة له وتكسيره كيميائيا
فى بعض الحبوب المصرية

السيد عبد الله

فى هذه الدراسة تم البحث عن مدى تواجد الزيرالينون Zearalenone والفطريات المنتجة له فى عدد ١٥٠ عينة من الحبوب المصرية (٥٠ ذرة شامية ٤٥ أرز ، ٤٠ قمح) ثبت وجود الزيرالينون فى ١٥ عينة من حبوب الذرة الشامية بمتوسط تركيز ٢٢.٣٢ جزء / بليون وفى ٤ عينات الأرز بمتوسط ١٥.٥ جزء / بليون ، وكذلك فى ٥ عينات من القمح بمتوسط ٨.٨ جزء / بليون. ٧٩ عينة من فطر الفيوزاريوم تنتمى الى ٩ أنواع تم عزلها من الحبوب المصرية وتم اختبارها لانتاج الزيرالينون فوجد منهم ٢٦ فقط منتجا له. تم دراسة تأثير H_2O_2 بنسب مختلفة (٣٪، ٥٪، ١٠٪) كمثبط للزيرالينون فى الحبوب المصرية الملوثة. أثبتت النتائج أن H_2O_2 يعتمد على تركيز درجة الحرارة كذلك مدة التعرض فوجد أن أعلى نسبة تثبط هى ٨٣.٩ ٪ بتركيز ١٠٪ H_2O_2 عند درجة حرارة ٨٠ °م لمدة ١٦ ساعة تليها نسبة تثبط هى ٧٥٪ لنفس الظروف عند ٨ ساعات ثم أقل نسبة كانت لتركيز ٣٪ H_2O_2 عند ٥٠°م لمدة ساعتين.

SUMMARY

An investigation for occurrence of Zearalenone (ZEN) and toxigenic fungi in cereals (Corn, 50 samples; rice 45 samples; and wheat, 40 samples) collected from Egypt. ZEN was detected in 15 of 50 corn samples with an average 22.32 ppb. The incidence value of ZEN in rice samples was of 8.9% (4 samples of 45), and the average was 15.5 ppb. Out of 40 wheat samples 5 samples were contaminated with ZEN (12.5%) with an average 8.8 ppb. Seventy-nine *Fusarium* strains belonged to 9 different species were isolated

from Egyptian cereals, and tested for ZEN production, only twenty-six isolated were Zearalenone producer. Efficiency of H_2O_2 for destruction of ZEN in contaminated corn was studied at different concentrations (3%, 5% and 10). The results revealed that percent of disappearance of ZEN was found to be dependent upon the concentration of H_2O_2 , temperature and period of exposure. whereas the highest percent of degradation was 83.9%, with 10% H_2O_2 at 80°C for 16 hr, followed by 75% at the same condition for 8 hr, while the lowest one obtained at 3% H_2O_2 , 50°C for 2 hr.

Key words: *Zearalenone-Toxigenic fungi-Survey-Decomposition-Cereals.*

INTRODUCTION

Zearalenone (ZEN) is a non-steroidal estrogenic mycotoxin produced by numerous species of *Fusarium*. Because of its relatively common occurrence in various cereal crops. ZEN has been implicated in numerous incidences of mycotoxicosis in farm animals (Bursian *et al.*, 1992).

ZEN has oestrogenic effects on humans (Schoental, 1983) reported precocious sexual development in puertorco associated with ZEN contaminated Food. Zearalenol, a metabolite of ZEN (Pathre and Mirocha, 1976). ZEN is found as its glucuronide adduct in the urine of cows, rats, rabbits, and swine (Mirocha *et al.*, 1979). A recent worldwide survey (Tanaka *et al.*, 1988) reports Zearalenone occuring in 58% (n=45) of the corn samples collected in 19 different countries. In Egypt (Abd-El-Hamid, 1990) reported 56.3% of several Egyptian foods and feeds.

Samples were Positive with a contamination average of 46.3 ± 5.2 ppb and range of 2-426 ppb, 83.3% of the positive samples were contaminated with 10 ppb or more.

Some straims of *fusarium* sp. in addition to ZEN, other related metabalites such as alpha-zearalenol and zearalenone sulfate. Mirocha *et al.*, 1979 and Plasencia & Mirocha, 1991). The objective of this research was to investigate the presence of Zearalenone in Egyptian cereals and to investigate potential toxin production of selected *Fusarium* isolated growing on rice, in addition the study concerning decontamination of zearalenone in cereals.

MATERIALS and METHODS

Cereal Samples:

Altogether 132 samples from corn, rice and wheat were Randomly collected from some Egyptian districts between January, 1993 and May, 1995.

Zearalenone Standard:

ZEN was obtained from Sigma Camp. USA.

Isolation of *Fusarium* isolates:

Fifty grains from each samples were surface sterilized for min in 2.5% of sodium hypochlorite. They were then washed several times with sterilized water dried between sterile paper according to the method of Lichtwardth *et al.*, (1958). The disinfected grains planted on specific medium containing PCNB, for *Fusarium* Count (Tsao, 1970). Five were placed in each of 10 plates and incubated at $28 \pm 2^\circ\text{C}$. Fungi growing out from the seeds of those plated during two weeks were picked and subcultured on PDA slants. Single spore or hyphal tip techniques were used for purification of different isolates which were identified to the species level according to Gilman (1957), Barnett and Hunter (1972) and Nelson *et al.*, 1983).

Production of Zearalenone by *Fusarium* spp:

Fusarium spp. originally isolated from collected samples (corn, rice and wheat) in Egypt were tested for their ability to produce ZEN. The isolates were grown on Commercial (oxide) potato dextrose agar (PDA) for seven days at $25 \pm 2^\circ\text{C}$. Cultures were then inoculated (1 Cm diameter of agar from a PDA plates of the *Fusarium* spp.) on autoclaved rice (100g) with 30% moisture content was placed in 1L Erlenmeyer flasks. The cultures were incubated for 4 weeks at 20°C .

Preparation of Contaminated Corn:

Each 200 g of corn of 30% moisture content was placed in 1 L. Erlenmeyer flasks. Then autoclaved for 20 min at 121°C . Each flask was inoculated with 1 cm diameter disks of agar from a PDA of *equiseti* (NRRL, 6470). All the flasks were kept at a temperature of $25 \pm 2^\circ\text{C}$ for 30 days, During the first three days, corn culture were shaken periodically to disperse inoculum uniformly. After the incubation the cultures were dried at 60°C . Then the corn were stored at -15°C unitle treatment and ZEN analysis.

Treatment of Contaminated Corn:

Each 500 g portions of contaminated corn were soaked in 750 ml of either 3%, 5% or 10% solution of H_2O_2 in 2-Liter flasks for 2, 4, 8 or 16 hr. at either 50°C or 80°C . Solutions were removed by passing through a coarse

filter. The soaked corn, which contained about 40% moisture was then dried in a forced oven at 80°C. The corn was ground and analyzed.

The ground cereal samples and the ground mouldy rice (50g) were placed into 500ml Erlenmeyer flasks. Then add 25ml H₂O₂, 25g. diat earth and 250ml CHCl₃. The flasks were shaken for 30 min on wrist action shaker. The extract was filtered through What. no. 4 filter paper, and evaporated to near dryness under stream of N₂. The residue was washed four times with 10ml hexane. Finally rinse with 10ml CH₃CN. The mixture was transferred to separatory funnel. Separate CH₃CN layer (lower). The hexane layer was reextracted with 5ml CH₃CN. Fractions of CH₃CN were combined, and evaporated to dryness under gentle stream of N₂. The residue was transferred to vial with CHCl₃ and evaporated under gentle stream of N₂. The quantitative and confirmation were performed according to the method described by (AOAC, 1990).

RESULTS and DISCUSSION

Natural occurrence of Zearalenone in Corn, Rice and wheat in Egypt:

The results of survey for Zearalenone (ZEN) in corn, rice and wheat in Egypt are summarized in table (1). ZEN Contamination was detected in 15 of the 50 corn samples analysed. The level of contamination ranging from 10.4 to 45.2 ppb. 4 out of 45 samples of rice were contaminated (8.9%) The main level of contamination was 15.5 ppb, with a range 5.1 to 21.9 ppb. And also detectable ZEN was found in wheat sample (12.5%) whereas 5 out of 40 samples were contaminated. The level of contamination ranging from 4.9 to 12.7 ppb, with an average 8.8 ppb. Lee *et al.* (1991) reported that 10.2% rice and 9.3% of soybean samples were contaminated with ZEN. The average levels of ZEN of rice and soybean samples were 11.78 µg/kg and 7.70 µg/kg, respectively. In Egypt, Abd El-Hamid (1990) reported that all of the maize samples tested were positive, but the hybrid maize was higher contaminated (up to 79 ppb) than the native (white) maize (up to 30 ppb). He also found that the wheat samples were negative, half of the wheat bran was positive with an average of contamination 55 ppb. Chulze *et al.* (1989) reported that 6% of corn from Argentina were contaminated with ZEN. Lee *et al.* (1987) reported that 21 of 28 samples of barley harvested in 1983. contained ZEN at concentration ranging from 1 to 202 ng/g. They also found that 29 of 31 samples harvested in 1984 contained the toxins from 3 to 83 ng/g. Wheat collected from chung-buk district of Korea in 1985 were contaminated by nivalenol, deoxynivalenol, and ZEN. Tanaka *et al.*, (1985)

reported that ZEN was detected in all 18 scabby wheat grains harvested in 1984 from eighteen farms in the Tokachi district of Hokkaido, a northern island Japan. The content averaged 189 ng/g. Lee *et al.* (1986) found that 56% of wheat samples were contaminated with ZEN ranging from 3 to 1254 ng/g. Whereas the average of positive samples was 141 ng/g. Zearalenone was coexist in 4 (13%) out of 31 wheat samples, and the average levels in positive samples was 1 µg/kg Tanaka *et al.* (1986).

Egyptian government established a new standard of aflatoxins for food in 1990. But there are no action levels for ZEN in foods and feeds in Egypt. Corn, rice and wheat are very important agricultural products in diets for Egyptians. They are the main source of carbohydrate in Egypt. The significance of this finding to health of Egyptians might be further debated by the government. On the other side good information could only be obtained by collecting big number of samples from a big number of regional distribution points over the period of several years.

Formation of Zearalenone by *Fusarium* species isolated from Egyptian Cereals:

Toxicogenic strains of *Fusarium* isolated from cereals (corn, rice and wheat) were presented in table (2). Show that sum of 79 isolates of *Fusarium* belonging to 9 species. *F. culmorum* was the highest in number of isolates followed by *F.graminearum*, *F.oxysporum*, *F.moniliforme*, *F.rosam*, *F. poae*, *F. solani* and *F.nivale* in a descending order. Many investigators indicated that *F.culmorum*, *F.equiseti*, *F.graminearum*, *F.sambcinum*, *F.solani*, *F.poeae*, *F.acuminatum*, *F.moniliforme*, *F.oxysporum* and *F.roseum* are the most common species associated with corn, rice and wheat (Abbas *et al.* 1984 and 1989; Chelkowski *et al.* 1984; Naguib *et al.* 1989 Sahab *et al.* 1989 and Logrieco *et al.*, 1990).

Regarding to ZEN production the data showed that 32.9% (26 out of 79) were ZEN producers. It can be also noticed from Table (2) that 52.04% of *F.culmorum* (11 out of 21 isolates) and 61.05% of *F.graminearum* (8 out of 13 isolates) were found to be ZEN-producers. These were the most commonly isolated strains followed by *F.oxysporum* but only 8.03% was ZEN producing. While *F.moniliforme* and *F.nivale* were not able to produce ZEN. The highest level of ZEN was obtained by *F.culmorum*; *F.graminearum* and *F.equiseti* with average 471,319.8 and 117.5 ppm respectively. But the lowest level was produced by *F.solani* (15 ppm as a mean). *F.culmorum* and *F.graminearum* were the most species of *Fusarium* most frequently occurring on cereals, as well as the strongest pathogen for them (Chelkowski *et al.*, 1984). On the other side, the strong

phytopathogenic isolates of *F.culmorum* were also able to produce a high concentration of ZEN and Trichothecenes of group "B" (DON and 3 AcDON) (Ueno, 1977). *F.moniliforme* (1/6, isolates) and *F.oxysporum* (2/2, isolates) were able to produce ZEN on rice medium (Jimenez *et al.*, 1991). ZEN and Zearalenone sulfate were isolated from a cultures of *F.graminearum*-30, *F.graminearum*. 1, *F.equiseti*. 2, *F.sambucinum* N45B and *F.roseum* (Plasencia and Mirocha, 1991). Bosch *et al.*, (1992) reported that *F.geaminearum* and *F.equiseti* originally obtained from corn and Corn-based feedstuff were highly ZEN and Trichothecence-Producing. ZEN production on ric reached 729-1943 $\mu\text{g/g}$.

Although mycotoxins were not generally detected at the time of analysis, the fungal flora might develop toxic metabolites if storage conditions favour fungal growth. Knowledge of contaminating food mycoflora is important because undetectability of a mycotoxin at the time of analysis does not mean that this metabolite could not be found later if the toxigenic species is present in the food, and if favourable conditions allow for fungal development and mycotoxin formation. Control of moisture and temperature levels of these commodities is necessary to prevent mould growth and mycotoxin production (Jimenez *et al.*, 1991).

Decontamination of Zearalenone from contaminated corn:

The effect of hydrogen peroxide (H_2O_2) on Zearalenone (ZEN) in contaminated corn was presented in Table (3). It was observed that the decomposition of ZEN was increased by increasing the following conditions time of exposure, concentration of H_2O_2 , and temperature of the treatment.

Treating contaminated corn with 10% H_2O_2 for 2, 4, 8, 16 hr at 50°C and 80°C destroyed ZEN from 67.5 up to 83.9% for 2 and 16 hr at 80°C respectively. While it was from 30.1 up to 49.2% at 50°C with the same conditions. At the lowest concentration of H_2O_2 (3%) the decomposition percent was decreased up to 28.4% and 45.6% at 50°C respectively.

The previous results indicated that the oxidizing agent can breakdown ZEN. Matsuura *et al.* (1979) confirm that it is possible to breakdown ZEN by oxidation, whereas the half life of the break down in an 0.5% aqueous solution of ammonium persulphate at 80-100°C amounted to only 5 min and at 60°C to about 30 min. at room temperature the breakdown rate in two solutions was 75 and 45% respectively after one day and after 7-10 days no more ZEN could be found. They also found that if the ammonium persulphate concentration was lower to 0.03% and H_2O_2 concentration to 0.01% about half of ZEN was still present after 9 days at room temperature. Laszity *et al.* (1977) found that reduction in the ZEN content of maize grain

and its toxicity to pigs was obtained by treatment with an aqueous solution of H_2O_2 and subsequent heating.

CONCLUSION

Food law in Egypt must be imposed to the tolerance level of ZEN in cereals. H_2O_2 treatment can be used for breakdown and removal of ZEN from contaminated corn before corn manufacture or animal feeding.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The author is grateful to Prof. Dr. A.F. Sahab, Dept. of plant pathology, NRC for his advice, encouragement and identification of *Fusarium* species in this work.

REFERENCES

- Abbas, H.K.; Mirocha, C.J.; Kommedahl; Vesonder, R.F. and Galinski, (1989): Production of trichothecene and non-trichothecene mycotoxins by *Fusarium* species isolated from maize in Minnesota. *Mycopathologia* (108): 55-58.
- Abbas, H.K.; Mirocha, G.J. and Shier, W.T. (1984): Mycotoxins produced from fungi Isolated from Foodstuffs and soil comparison to toxicity in fibroblasts and rat feeding tests. *Applied and Environ. Microbial.* Vol. 48(3): 654-661.
- Abd-El-Hamid, A.M. (1990): Occurrence of some mycotoxins (aflatoxin, ochratoxin A, citrinin, Zearalenone and vomitoxin) in various Egyptian feed. *Arch Anim. Nutr.*, Berlin 40 (7)pp. 647-664.
- Barnett, H.L. and Hunter, B.B. (1972): *Illustrated Genera of imperfect fungi.* th. Ed. Burgess pub. Company Minneapolis, Minnesota USA pp. 241.
- Bosch, U.; Mirocha, G.J. and Wen, y. (1992): Production of Zearalenone, moniliformin and Trichothecenes in intact Sugar beets under laboratory condition. *Mycopathologia* (119): 167-173.
- Bursian, S.J.; Aulerich, R.J.; Comeron, J.K.; Ames, N.K. and Steficek, B.A. (1992): Efficacy of Hydrated Sodium calcium Aluminosilicate in Reducing the toxicity of dietary Zearalenone to milk. *J. of Applied toxicology* Vol. 12(2), 85-90.

- Chelkowski, J.; Visconti, A.; Solfrizzo, M. and Bottalico, A. (1984):* Formation of mycotoxins by *Fusarium* species from cereals in Poland. *phyto-path. medit.* (23): 43-46.
- Chulze, S.; Bertinetti, C.; Dalcero, A.; Etcheverry, M.; Farnochi, C.; Torres, A.; Rizzo, I. and Varsovsky, E. (1989):* Incidence of Aflatoxin, Zearalenone, and Deoxynivalenol on corn in Argentina. *Mycotoxin Research.* 5 (1): pp. 9-12.
- Gilman, J.G. (1957):* A manual of soil Fungi. Iowa state College press, Ames. Low, USA., pp. 302.
- Jimenez, M. Mateo, M. Querol, A. Huerta, T. and Hernandez, E. (1991):* Mycotoxins and mycotoxigenic moulds in nuts and sunflower seeds for human consumption. *Mycopathologia* (115): 121-127.
- Lasztity, R.; Tamas, K. and Woller, L. (1977):* Occurrence of *Fusarium* mycotoxins in some Hungarian corn crops and the possibilities of detoxication. *Ann. Nutr. Aliment.* (13): 495-498.
- Lee, U.S.; Jang, H.S.; Tanaka, T.; Hasegawa, A.; Oh, Y.J.; Cho, C.M.; Sugiura, Y. and Ueno, Y. (1986):* Further Survey on the *Fusarium* mycotoxins in Korean cereals. *Food Add. and Cont.* 3 (3) pp. 253-261.
- Lee, U.S.; Jang, H.S.; Tanaka, T.; Oh, Y.J.; Cho, C.M. and Ueno, Y. (1987):* Effect of milling on decontamination of *Fusarium* mycotoxins, nivalenol, deoxynivalenol and Zearalenone in Korean wheat. *J. Agric. Food Chem.* (35): 126-129.
- Lee, Y.W.; Kim, J.G.; Chung, D.H.; Roh, P.U. and Pestka, J. (1991):* Natural occurrence of Zearalenone. *Mycotoxin Research* 7(2) pp. 69-72.
- Lichtwardt, R.W.; Basrn and Tiffany, L.H. (1958):* Mold flora associated with shelled corn in Iowa. *Iowa state college Journal of science* 33(1), 1.
- Logrieco, A.; Chelkowski, J.; Bottalico, A. and Visconti, A. (1990):* Further data on specific trichothecene production by *Fusarium* sect. *Sporotrichiella* strains. *Myco. Res.* 94 (5): 587-589.
- Matsuura, Y.; Yoshizawa, T.; Marooka, N. (1979):* Stability of Zearalenone in aqueous solutions of some food additives. *J. Food Hyg. Soc. Jap.* (20): 385-390.
- Mirocha, C.J.; Pathre, S.V. and Robison, T.S. (1979):* Comparative metabolism of Zearalenone and transmission into bovine milk. *Food Cosmet. Toxicol.* 19: 25-30.
- Mirocha, C.J.; Schauerhamer, B.; Chraistensen, C.M.; Niku-paavala, M.L. and Nummi, M.N. (1979):* Incidence of Zearalenol (*Fusarium* mycotoxin) in animal food. *Appl. Environ. Microbiol.* 38: 749-750.

- Naguib, Kh.; Sabah, A.F.; Metwally, M. and El-Sayed Abd Alla. (1989):* Fungal Flora Associated with corn grains with special references to vomitoxin production. African J. of Agric. Scie. 16 (1+2): 31-41.
- Nelson, P.E.; Toussoun, T.A. and Marasas, W.F.O. (1983):* Fusarium species. An illustrated manual for identification the Pennsylvania Univ. press. Univ., Park.
- Official Methods of Analysis of the Association of official Analytical Chemists (1990):* AOAC 15th edition, Washington DC. chapter 49. Natural Poisons. pp. 1184.
- Pathre, S.V. and Mirocha, C.J. (1976):* Zearalenone and related compounds. Adv. Chem. Ser. 149: 178-227.
- Plasencia, J. and Mirocha, C.J. (1991):* Isolation and characterization of Zearalenone sulfat produced by Fusarium pp. Appl. and Environ. Microbiol. 57 (1): 146-150.
- Sahab, A.F.; Metwally, M.; Naguib, K.H. and El-sayed Abd Alla. (1989):* Isolation and identification of associated fungi with wheat grains with special references to vomitoxin (DON). African J. of Agric. Scien. 16 (1+2): 53-65.
- Schoental, R. (1983):* Precocious sexual development in Puerto Rico and oestrogenic mycotoxins (Zearalenone) The Lancet 8323: 537.
- Tanaka, T.; Hasegawa, A.; Matsuki, Y.; Matsui, U.S.; and Ueno, Y. (1985):* Co contamination of the Fusarium mycotoxins, Nivalenol Deoxynivalenol, and Zearalenone, in Scabby wheat grains harvested in Hoxkaido, Japan. J. Food Hyg. Soc. Japan 26 (5) pp 519-522,
- Tanaka, T.; Hasegawa, A.; Matsuki, Y.; Lee, U.S. and Ueno, Y. (1986):* A limited survey of Fusarium mycotoxins, nivalenol, deoxynivalenol in 1984 UR harvested wheat and barley. Food Add and Cont. 3 (3) 247:252.
- Tanaka, T.; Hasegawa, A.; Yamamoto, S.; Lee, U.S.; Sugiura, Y. and Ueno, Y. (1988):* Worldwide contamination of cereals by the Fusarium mycotoxine nivalenol, deoxynivalenol and Zearalenone. 1. Survey of 19 countries. J. Agric. Food chem. 36: 979-983.
- Tsao, P.H. (1970):* Selection media for isolation of pathogenic fungi. Ann. Rev. phyto path. 8, 155.
- Ueno, Y. (1977):* Trichothecenes. Overview address. In Mycotoxins in human and animal health (J.V. Rodricks, C.W. Hesseltine and M.A. Mehlman, eds), Pathotox publisher Inv., Park forest, south Illinois, : 189-208.

Table 1:
Level of Zearalenone (ppb) in corn, rice and wheat collected from Egypt

Sample	Number of Samples analyzed	Number of Positive samples	Content of positive samples (ppb)		
			Minimum	Maximum	Mean ± SD
Corn	50	15 (30) ^a	10.4	45.2	22.3 ± 11.31
Rice	45	4 (8.9) ^a	5.1	21.9	15.5 ± 7.44
Wheat	40	5 (12.5) ^a	4.9	12.7	8.8 ± 3.62

Table 2:
Production of Zearalenone by Toxicogenic *Fusarium* species isolated from (corn, rice and wheat) grown in corn at 25 ± 2°C for 21 days

Fusarium species	Commodity and isolate number	No. of strains tested	No. of isolates producing ZEN	Percentage of toxic strains	ZEN yields (ppm)	
					Average*	Range*
<i>F. culmorum</i>	Corn Rice wheat (9) (5) (7)	21	11	52.4	471.0	325- 1300
<i>F. equiseti</i>	wheat (6)	6	2	33.3	117.5	35-200
<i>F. graminearum</i>	Corn, Rice, wheat (6) (4) (3)	13	8	61.5	319.8	24.1 - 822.0
<i>F. moniliforme</i>	corn, Rice (5) (3)	8	--	----	--	--
<i>F. nivale</i>	Rice (4)	4	--	----	--	--
<i>F. poae</i>	corn, Rice (2) (3)	5	2	40	49.0	3-95
<i>F. oxysporum</i>	Corn, Rice, wheat (4) (2) (6)	12	1	8.3	35.0	0-35
<i>F. rosum</i>	Corn (6)	6	1	16.7	21.6	0-21.6
<i>F. solani</i>	Corn, wheat (2) (2)	4	1	25.5	15	0-15
Total	corn rice wheat (34) (21) (24)	79	26	32.9	146.98	55.3 -355.5

* Average and Range for producer isolates

Table 3:
Destruction (%) of Zearalenone in contaminated corn treated with H₂O₂

Treatment	Temp.(C°)	Zearalenone (ppb)							
		2 hr		4 hr		8 hr		16 hr	
		level	Dest.%	level	Dest.%	level	Dest.%	level	Dest.%
Control	--	365.9	--	365.9	--	365.9	--	365.9	--
3%	50	307.7	15.9	303.7	17.0	292.4	20.1	262.0	28.4
	80	263.5	28.0	255.4	30.2	218.8	40.2	199.1	45.6
5%	50	285.0	222.1	278.1	24.0	268.2	26.7	227.2	37.9
	80	248.8	32.0	222.8	39.1	195.4	46.6	146.4	60.0
10%	50	255.8	30.1	219.9	39.9	218.8	40.2	185.9	49.2
	80	118.9	67.5	106.5	70.9	91.5	75.0	58.9	83.9

