

# Mycotoxin Interpretation



Mycotoxin interpretation is difficult for multiple reasons including:

- Mycotoxin sensitivities vary by livestock species, maturity, and physiological state
- Published research utilizing naturally contaminated feeds is very limited
- Mycotoxins rarely occur independent of mold and other mycotoxins
- The impact of a mycotoxin on livestock performance likely depends on the additional toxins that are present as well as other environmental stressors

The table below summarizes "Concern" and "Potentially Harmful" thresholds for mycotoxins in total ration dry matter, gathered from multiple sources. Thresholds for individual feeds depend on the proportion of the diet a feed represents and the mycotoxin contribution of the other feeds.

	Unit	*Concern Level	**Potentially Harmful		
		All species	Cattle	Swine	Equine
<b>Aflatoxin</b>	ppb	20	20	20	20
<b>Vomitoxin (DON)</b>	ppm	0.3	2.5	0.6	0.4
<b>Zearalenone</b>	ppb	250	3900	600	N/A
<b>T2/HT2</b>	ppb	100	700	700	N/A
<b>Fumonisin</b>	ppm	1	6.7	11.1	1
<b>Ochratoxin – A</b>	ppb	250	5000	700	N/A
<b>Roquefortine C</b>	ppb	1,000	N/A	N/A	N/A

\*Concern levels indicate enough mycotoxin that some types of livestock may experience performance decline.  
 \*\*Potentially harmful levels for specific types of livestock indicate probable performance decline and/or an FDA regulated level of mycotoxin.

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