

Title Ochratoxin A production by *Aspergillus westerdijkiae* in orange fruit and juice
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Abstract

To evaluate the incidence of fungi producing ochratoxin A in orange fruit and juice a survey was carried out by challenge test with ochratoxin A producing strains of *Aspergillus westerdijkiae* used as the model system. *A. westerdijkiae* grew into experimental lesions caused on orange surfaces, in orange natural medium and in orange juice and produced OTA in all environments. The higher temperature of 26 °C had a greater influence than temperatures of 20 °C and 4 °C on the growth of the mould, and OTA production. The environmental temperature of 20 °C, slows down but does not prevent toxin production. At the lowest temperature of 4 °C no growth was observed.