

EFFECT OF AFLATOXINS ON SOME HORMONAL LEVELS IN BLOOD PLASMA OF MAMMALS.

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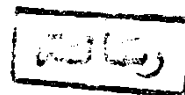
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ABBREVIATIONS

A.F.	Aflatoxin	ml	milliliter
b.w	body weight	Nacl	sodium chloride
Cl	carpora lutea	ng	nanogram
CHCl ₃	Chloroform	(NH ₄) ₂ S ₀₄	Ammonium sulfate
Cm	Centimeter	nm	nanometer
CRL	crown rump length	No	number of
E.D.T.A.	ethyl diamine titra acetic acid	P.C	post coitum
E.E.C.	European Economic Community	P.P.b	Part per billion
g of gm	gram	r.p.m.	revolution per minute
h	hour	K _f	Rate of flow
i.p.	intraperitoneal	TLC	thin layer chromatography
Kcal	Kilo calorie	ug	microgram
Kg	Kilogram	ul	microliter
LD ₅₀	the median lethal dose	U.V.	ultra violet
min	minutes	V.V.	volume/volume
mg	milligram		

INTRODUCTION

INTRODUCTION

Mycotoxin is a general term used to describe compounds and/or metabolites, which are toxic and produced by molds. It may have other biological effects on living organisms. The term is derived from Greek Words " mykes " meaning fungus and " toxicum " meaning poison or toxin. Attention are directed to those toxins which may be considered to cause the greatest potential hazards to human health as food contaminants. These toxins include aflatoxins.

Aflatoxins are secondary metabolites produced by certain species of Aspergillus flavus and A.parasticus strains that produce aflatoxin are widely distributed in nature and are capable to grow on a wide variety of natural substances including different food, feedstuff and kernels causing serious economic losses. The presence of aflatoxin in animal feeds is recognised as one of the most serious health hazards. From the available literature on the effect of aflatoxins in animal, it appeared that they are potent hepatoxins and carcinogens. It has been observed in experimental animals that chronic exposure to aflatoxin (sublethal dose for long time) results initial decrease in appetite, slow growth, kidney hemorrhage, bile duct proliferation, fibrosis and cirrhosis of the liver.