



## Press Release

### **COCERAL publishes Mycotoxins Survey: Synthesis Report 2011**

**Brussels, 22 October 2012**

COCERAL publishes its mycotoxins biannual survey. By associating agrosupply distributors (specialized operators advising farmers all along the production cycle), grain collectors and international traders, the report shows that in the 98% of case the distributors advise farmers on agricultural practices to prevent mycotoxin formation (40%), on specific fungicides treatment (94%) or by recommending specific fusarium-resistant seed varieties (93%).

Collectors and traders, at the other end of the field production stage, also contribute to mycotoxins prevention by sampling the traded lots in the 86% of cases and analysing the samples for several mycotoxins both internally (65%) and/or in external labs (80%).

Mycotoxins are potentially dangerous substances developed after the infection of cereals by fusarium fungi, which proliferate in certain conditions both during field production and after harvest. The development of fusarium-resistant seed varieties as well as specific fungicides treatments is essential to build an effective toolbox for the control of mycotoxins in the field.

COCERAL members have an active role in managing the risk of mycotoxins development: agrosupply distributors provide professional advises to farmers on good practices aimed at minimizing the risk of contamination in field, while collectors and international traders are responsible of controlling the hygienic quality of grain lots through sampling and analysis.

The engagement of COCERAL members in mycotoxins risk management comes to light in the data and charts collected in the COCERAL Mycotoxins Survey: Synthesis Report 2011, published on the COCERAL website at:

[http://www.coceral.com/infos.php?cle\\_menus=1187970145&cle\\_data=&langue=english](http://www.coceral.com/infos.php?cle_menus=1187970145&cle_data=&langue=english)

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**COCERAL** is the European association of cereals, rice, feedstuffs oilseeds, olive oil, oils and fats and agrosupply trade. It represents the interest of the European collectors, traders, importers, exporters and port silo storekeepers of the above mentioned agricultural products. COCERAL's full members are **31 national associations** in **19 countries** [Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Luxemburg, Poland, Romania, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the Netherlands and the UK] and **1** European association [Unistock] With about **2700 companies** as part of COCERAL national members, the sector trades agricultural raw materials destined to the supply of the food and feed chains, as well as for technical and energy uses. COCERAL has an associated member in Switzerland.

**CONTACTS:**

Teresa Babuscio  
Secretary General  
Tel: +32 (0)2 502 08 08  
[secretariat@coceral.com](mailto:secretariat@coceral.com)

Andreea Pricina  
Policy Advisor  
Tel: +32 (0)2 502 08 08  
[secretariat@coceral.com](mailto:secretariat@coceral.com)