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Beratung, Probenahme, Gutachten

Untersuchung zu Holzschutz, Holz- und
Materialschädlingen, Schwammbefall,
Insekten, Schimmelpilzen, Feuchtigkeit,
Innenraumhygiene, und Schadstoffen

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Certificate of Validation of QuickTox Aspergillus/Penicillium lateral flow test strips

The QuickTox Aspergillus/Penicillium is designed as a broad-spectrum screen for mold contamination. The detection of mold with this test kit is based on the reaction of antibodies with specific components of mold.

In several tests we compared in our lab the detection of mold with classical microbiological methods in vitro. We also compared the detection of molds in cases of water damages in buildings with classical microbiological methods.

Positive reaction with molds in vitro:

The QuickTox Aspergillus/Penicillium Test strips detects a broad spectrum of Aspergillus and Penicillium species, such as

Aspergillus candidus, flavus, fumigatus, niger, oryzae, penicilloides, restrictus, tamarii, terreus, ustus, versicolor, species of A.glaucus-group (Eurotium spp.), Penicillium aurantiogriseum, brevicompactum, chrysogenum, citrinum, corylophilum, glabrum, roquefortii, and others mentioned in the instruction manual.

There are also some cross-reactions with other species such like

Chaetomium globosum, Wallemia sebi, Botrytis cinerea, Acremonium murorum, and *Paecilomyces* species.

The test does not distinguish between living and dead mold.

Validation.doc

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Positive reaction with mold in practice:

In cases of water damages the QuickTox Aspergillus/Penicillium Test strips can detect mold on surfaces or in material samples within a few minutes, before mold growth is visible to the naked eye. One can test surfaces in gaps or covered surfaces. The test is less sensitive than testing surfaces with contact Agar-slides.

The test is applicable for testing different materials used for packaging or in buildings like card board, gypsum board, wood and timber products, wallpaper, plaster and others. We found no cross reaction with these materials.

In most cases of mold growth in buildings there are several mold species present. Normally there are *Penicillium* and/or *Aspergillus* species present, which can be detected with QuickTox Aspergillus/Penicillium.

The test can be used for:

- early and fast detection of molds on suspect surfaces, so that infested materials can be removed before the molds become visible,
- narrow down the dimension of mold growth,
- distinction between mold growth and other discoloration on surfaces.

Limit of detection:

The QuickTox test strips are capable of detecting less than 10^6 spores or equivalent mycelium particles per ml extraction buffer. At a concentration of 10^6 spores/ml or higher a distinct test line will develop. A positive test line can develop at concentrations of 10^5 spores/ml or higher.

isa – Institut für Schädlingsanalyse Dr. Martin Strohmeyer
(Institute for Microbiology and Pest Control in Buildings)

Krefeld, April, 30. 2007

Dr. Martin Strohmeyer
President

