

Preventing Aflatoxin

Aflatoxin is Poisonous



- Causes cancer
- Suppresses the body's ability to fight diseases (immunosuppression)
- Associated with stunting in children
- Can be passed through milk of animals and humans

Source of Aflatoxin

- Produced by fungus
- Fungus survives in soil
- Commonly found in maize and groundnuts

Maize Ear Rot

- Occurs during seasons with drought and high overnight temperatures
- Fungus moves from the ground to the maize ear
- Fungal rot is often visible as dusty green on the maize kernels
- The aflatoxin is inside the maize kernel



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Reduce Aflatoxin Risks

Preharvest

- Plant drought resistant maize varieties
- Apply the biocontrol product Aflasafe



After Harvest

- Separate diseased ears from healthy ears
- Prevent maize ear and kernal from touching the ground
- Use tarp
- Dry the maize as soon as possible
- Drying will stop fungal growth and stop aflatoxin production



Storage

- Use hermetic storage bags
- Prevent grain from getting wet



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