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MYCOTOXINS –

OCHRATOXIN A

IN ROASTED

BUCKWHEAT GROATS

FROM POLAND

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Within the framework of the RASFF System in Poland, the National Contact Point has received an **ALERT NOTIFICATION** from the national network on Ochratoxin A in roasted buckwheat groats from Poland.

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- The questioned product was produced in the polish establishment.
- The National Contact Point send the received alert notification with test results to the NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF HYGIENE, where is stated a RISK ASSESSMENT TEAM COMPRISING SCIENTIFIC EXPERTS THAT ANALYSES THE RISK within 24 hours from the moment of receive a notification.

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In accordance to received risk assessment from the National Institute of Hygiene it was stated that Ochratoxin A is a nephrotoxic mycotoxin which is carcinogenic to rodents and possesses teratogenic, immunotoxic and possibly neurotoxic properties.

Further, it may be implicated as a factor in the human disease Balkan Endemic Nephropathy and the development of urinary tract tumours in humans

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The level of contamination of Ochratoxin A should be as lowest as possible.

In the tested samples was stated the level of Ochratoxin A:

- 10,9 $\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}$ (ELISA method) and
- 11,62 $\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}$ (HPLC method).

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Taking into consideration the above,
the Chief Sanitary Inspectorate – the
manager of the National Contact
Point in Poland handed over the alert
notification to the Voivodship
Sanitary Inspector responsible for
the supervision of the producer, to
take an appreciate and proper actions

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From the investigation carried out at the producer it was stated that:

- ✓ Producer obliged himself to withdraw the questioned good from the market;
- ✓ The raw material was not tested on presence of mycotoxins.

In that case as a final result was:

- ✓ The questioned good which was withdrawn from the market has been destroyed;
- ✓ Within the corrective actions the establishment put into effective make a laboratory tests on presence of Ochratoxin A in every batch of buckwheat groats designated for grinding.

