

# Farmers: Increase Animal Performance by Reducing Aflatoxin Contamination

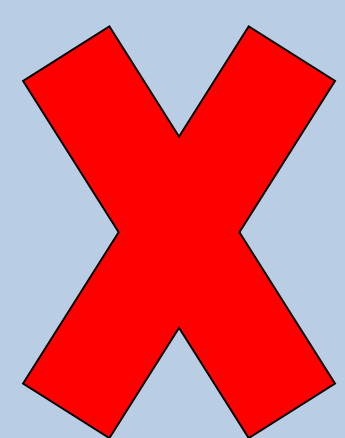
## WHAT ARE AFLATOXINS ?

- Aflatoxins are toxic compounds produced by some fungi that contaminate crops (maize, groundnuts) and animal feeds under hot and humid climates, and high product moisture content.
- When animal feeds are contaminated with aflatoxins, they harm health and productivity.
  - They can reduce milk and egg production; at very high levels, they can cause death.
  - They can transfer into milk, eggs, and meat, further exposing humans.
- Aflatoxins have significant negative effects on human health.
  - They cause liver cancer, jaundice and growth stunting.
  - Pregnant women and nursing mothers who eat aflatoxin-contaminated food are exposing their child to aflatoxin.



Maize contaminated with molds  
Credit: USAID

## HOW TO PREVENT AFLATOXINS ?



**Dry and store your maize and animal feeds under good, dry conditions.**

**Do not allow your family to eat moldy maize or groundnuts, or products made from them.**

**Do not feed your cows, pigs or chickens moldy maize or groundnuts, or spoiled feeds.**

**For further information, contact your nearest veterinary service.**

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