

Toxigenic Mould Species Infestation in Coffee Beans Taken from Different Levels of Production and Trading in Lampung-Indonesia

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SUMMARY

Indonesian coffee is mainly produced by small scale farming system using a simple dry process procedure. The coffee product is dispatched to middlemen traders before being accepted by exporters. Some treatments are applied to the raw coffee beans before it is ready for export. An evaluation of mould species contamination of coffee beans taken from various levels of coffee chains was conducted. Its moisture content and physical quality were also observed. Mould species had contaminated the beans from early stage of production at the farmer level, and still existed at the last chain. The dominant species observed were *A. niger*, followed by *P. citrinum*, and *A. flavus*. *A. ochraceus* was present in a few samples. Mould contamination status was likely correlated with the handling procedure of each coffee sample. Coffee beans with a better quality had less contamination rate. Mould contamination status and moisture content of coffee beans samples taken from each level are presented. The handling procedure which gave less or no contamination of *A. ochraceus* needs to be resolved.