superficial disinfection. Mucorales were recovered from 25% but some remained very weak for several weeks. The disease was extremely rapid, with death occurring 24 h after feeding. When feeding of the affected maize was discontinued the disease disappeared. Some of the diseased horses were still alive after 2 weeks. The clinical signs shown by surviving horses became less severe, but they did not recover completely. None of the horses was able to return to work. A stallion that had been fed for 2 weeks from a fresh, locally grown maize and the onset of disease coincided with the feeding of a new batch of this maize. Forty-five horses were fed on a ration containing a high proportion of locally grown maize and the onset of disease coincided with the feeding of a new batch of this maize. No infection was observed in 22 horses fed on maize that had been stored under ideal conditions for 4 months. A necropsy was performed on one of these horses. The liver was severely congested. A softened, oedematous area approximately 5 cm in diameter and surrounded by a haemorrhagic zone was present in the left cerebral hemisphere. On histological examination the lesion appeared as an area of oedema rather than necrosis. Foci of hepatocyte necrosis, with moderate inflammatory reactions, were present in the liver. Chemical analyses did not reveal the presence of toxins. The first diagnosed outbreak of the disease in New Caledonia occurred in a Noumea riding club in 1981. The horses were fed on a ration containing a high proportion of locally grown maize and the onset of disease coincided with the feeding of a new batch of this maize. Forty-five horses were exposed to the affected maize.

The ingestion of seeds contaminated with the fungus Fusarium moniliforme, which is distributed widely throughout the world, may cause an accumulation of spores on the surface of the seed. The ingestion of seeds contaminated with the fungus Fusarium moniliforme, which is distributed widely throughout the world, may cause an accumulation of spores on the surface of the seed. The ingestion of seeds contaminated with the fungus Fusarium moniliforme, which is distributed widely throughout the world, may cause an accumulation of spores on the surface of the seed. The ingestion of seeds contaminated with the fungus Fusarium moniliforme, which is distributed widely throughout the world, may cause an accumulation of spores on the surface of the seed.
References


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