

MILK CONTAMINATION WITH HEAVY METALS AS A RESULT OF ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION

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Abstract

Milk and dairy products are consumed by more than six billion people worldwide. The safety and quality issues regarding milk are constantly monitored, especially because milk can be exogenously or endogenously contaminated with many substances or polluting compounds during its production.

In order to highlight the importance of studying the impact of pollutants on animal production, the aim of this review was to focus on the literature and on the systematic analysis of over 40 researches consulted in various international profile databases regarding metal contamination of milk as a result of environmental pollution.

The overall assessment of the subject showed that heavy metal pollution is one of the modern forms of pollution that can affect the entire ecosystem. The results of the study showed that the assessment of heavy metal contamination of milk as a result of environmental pollution requires the integration of the entire production cycle and the assessment of the potential transfer of metallic pollutants during it, each component of the environment prone to be polluted having its contribution on animal production and finally on the human body.

Key words: *environment, pollution, heavy metals, milk*