



SEEML Reference Number:
190212078

Southeast Environmental Microbiology Laboratories

102 Edinburgh Court
Greenville, SC 29607
Phone: (864) 233-3770
FAX: (864) 233-6589

The information and data for **Environmental Testing Group/MIT** has been checked for thoroughness and accuracy. The following reports are contained within this document:

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Surface/Bulk Report | <input type="checkbox"/> | Andersen Fungal Report |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Spore Trap Report | <input type="checkbox"/> | Quantitative Fungal Report |

Lab Manager Review:

Rafael Berrios

Date: 02/12/19

Thank you for using SEEML laboratories. We strive to provide superior quality and service.

The data within this report is reliable to three significant figures. The third significant figure is technically unjustified. In this instance, the third figure is reported as an estimate to facilitate the interpretation by the customer.

Confidentiality Notice:

The document(s) contained herein are confidential and privileged information, intended for the exclusive use of the individual or entity named above. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, or the employee or agent responsible for delivering it to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of the document(s) is strictly prohibited. If you have received this document in error, please immediately notify us by telephone to arrange for its return. Thank you.

Guidelines for Interpretation:

No accepted quantitative regulatory standards currently exist by which to assess the health risks related to mold and bacterial exposure. Molds and bacteria have been associated with a variety of health effects and sensitivity varies from person to person.

Several organizations, including: the American Conference of Government Industrial Hygienists (ACGIH); the American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA); the Indoor Air Quality Association (IAQA); the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA); the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), as well as the California Department of Health Services (CADHS), have all published guidelines for assessment and interpretation of mold resulting from water intrusion in buildings.

Interpretation of the data and information within this document is left to the company, consultant, and/or persons who conducted the fieldwork.

Spore Trap Report

	Date Sampled: 02/11/19
Attn: Environmental Testing Group	Date Received: 02/12/19
DBA / Mold Inspection Testing	Date Analyzed: 02/12/19
650 W. Grand Ave, Suite 302	Date Reported: 02/12/19
Elmhurst, IL 60126	Date Revised:
	Project Name: Chris Hynton
	Project Address: 4302 Hidden Links Court
	Project City, State, ZIP: Humble, TX 77339
	SEEML Reference #: 190212078

TEST METHOD: DIRECT MICROSCOPY EXAMINATION AT 400X (100% OF TRACE ANALYZED) SEEML SOP 7

Client Sample ID	14717			1448			1447		
Location	Outdoor			Main Common Area			Study		
Lab Sample ID	190212078-278			190212078-279			190212078-280		
Detection Limit (spores/m ³)	40			40			40		
Hyphal Fragments									
Pollen									
Spore Trap Used	M5			M5			M5		
	raw ct.	spores/m ³	%	raw ct.	spores/m ³	%	raw ct.	spores/m ³	%
Alternaria									
Ascospores	33	1320	15	1	40	2			
Basidiospores	148	5920	65	19	760	35	15	600	41
Bipolaris/Drechslera									
Chaetomium							1	40	3
Cladosporium	12	480	5	10	400	18	3	120	8
Curvularia									
Epicoccum									
Cercospora									
Fusarium									
Memnoniella									
Nigrospora									
Penicillium/Aspergillus	34	1360	15	24	960	44	18	720	49
Polythrincium									
Rusts									
Smuts/Periconia/Myxomy				1	40	2			
Spegazzinia									
Stachybotrys									
Stemphylium									
Tetraploa									
Torula									
Ulocladium									
Colorless/Other Brown									
Oidium									
Zygomycetes									
Pithomyces									
Background debris (1-5)	3			4			4		
Sample Volume(liters)	25			25			25		
TOTAL SPORES/M³	227	9080		55	2200		37	1480	

Comments: Condition of the sample(s) upon receipt: Acceptable.

1=Total % may not equal 100 due to rounding.

2 = Colorless, other Brown are spores without a distinctive morphology on spore traps and non-viable surface samples.

3 = Background debris is the amount of particulate matter present on the slide and is graded from 1-5 with 1 = very light, 2 = Light, 3 = Medium, 4 = Heavy,

5 = Very Heavy. The higher the rating the more likelihood spores may be underestimated. A rating of 5 should be interpreted as minimal counts and may actually be higher than reported.

The reporting limit is 1 Spore/sample.

Disclaimer: This report relates only to the samples tested

Respectfully submitted, SEEML

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Greenville, SC 29607
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AIHA-LAP, LLC EMLAP # 173667

Rafael Berrios

Rafael Berrios, Approved Laboratory Signatory

Spore Trap Report

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Attn: Environmental Testing Group	Date Received: 02/12/19
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Project Name: Chris Hynton	
Project Address: 4302 Hidden Links Court	
Project City, State, ZIP: Humble, TX 77339	
SEEML Reference #: 190212078	

TEST METHOD: DIRECT MICROSCOPY EXAMINATION AT 400X (100% OF TRACE ANALYZED) SEEML SOP 7

Client Sample ID	1407			1437				
Location	Master Closet			Kitchen				
Lab Sample ID	190212078-281			190212078-282				
Detection Limit (spores/m ³)	40			40				
Hyphal Fragments								
Pollen								
Spore Trap Used	M5			M5				
	raw ct.	spores/m ³	%	raw ct.	spores/m ³	%		
Alternaria								
Ascospores				1	40	7		
Basidiospores	8	320	35	4	160	29		
Bipolaris/Drechslera								
Chaetomium								
Cladosporium	3	120	13	3	120	21		
Curvularia								
Epicoccum								
Cercospora								
Fusarium								
Memnoniella								
Nigrospora								
Penicillium/Aspergillus	12	480	52	6	240	43		
Polythrincium								
Rusts								
Smuts/Periconia/Myxomy								
Spegazzinia								
Stachybotrys								
Stemphylium								
Tetraploa								
Torula								
Ulocladium								
Colorless/Other Brown								
Oidium								
Zygomycetes								
Pithomyces								
Background debris (1-5)	5			4				
Sample Volume(liters)	25			25				
TOTAL SPORES/M³	23	920		14	560			

Comments: Condition of the sample(s) upon receipt: Acceptable.

1=Total % may not equal 100 due to rounding.

2 = Colorless, other Brown are spores without a distinctive morphology on spore traps and non-viable surface samples.

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5 = Very Heavy. The higher the rating the more likelihood spores may be underestimated. A rating of 5 should be interpreted as minimal counts and may actually be higher than reported.

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AIHA-LAP, LLC EMLAP # 173667

Fungal Descriptions

Alternaria sp.

Aw - 0.89. Conidia dimensions: 18-83 x 7-18 microns. A very common allergen with an IgE mediated response. It is often found in carpets, textiles and on horizontal surfaces in building interiors. Often found on window frames. Outdoors it may be isolated from samples of soil, seeds and plants. It is commonly found in outdoor samples. The large spore size, 20 - 200 microns in length and 7 - 18 microns in sizes, suggests that the spores from these fungi will be deposited in the nose, mouth and upper respiratory tract. It may be related to bakers' asthma. It has been associated with hypersensitivity pneumonitis. The species *Alternaria alternata* is capable of producing tenuazonic acid and other toxic metabolites that may be associated with disease in humans or animals. Common cause of extrinsic asthma (immediate-type hypersensitivity: type I). Acute symptoms include edema and bronchospasms; chronic cases may develop pulmonary emphysema.

Ascospore

A spore borne in a special cell called an ascus. Spores of this type are reported to be allergenic. All ascomycetes, members of a group of fungi called Ascomycotina, have this type of spore. The minute black dots on rotting wood and leaves or the little cups on lichens are examples of ascomycetes; another is the "truffle" mushroom.

Aspergillus/Penicillium

These are two of the most commonly found allergenic fungi in problem buildings. *Aspergillus* comes in many varieties (species). Many of the varieties produce toxic substances. It may be associated with symptoms such as sinusitis, allergic bronchiopulmonary aspergillosis, and other allergic symptoms. *Penicillium* is a variety of mold that is very common indoors and is found in increased numbers in problem buildings. It also has many varieties, some of which produce toxic substances. The symptoms are allergic reactions, mucous membrane irritation, headaches, vomiting, and diarrhea. Because the spores of *Aspergillus* and *Penicillium* are very similar, they are not differentiated by microscopic analysis and are reported together.

Aspergillus sp.

Aw 0.75 - 0.82. Reported to be allergenic. Members of this genus are reported to cause ear infections. Many species produce mycotoxins that may be associated with disease in humans and other animals. Toxin production is dependent on the species or a strain within a species and on the food source for the fungus. Some of these toxins have been found to be carcinogenic in animal species. Several toxins are considered potential human carcinogens. Common cause of extrinsic asthma (immediate-type hypersensitivity: type I). Acute symptoms include edema and bronchospasms; chronic cases may develop pulmonary emphysema; may also be associated with sinusitis, allergic bronchiopulmonary aspergillosis, and other allergic symptoms.

Basidiospore

Spore from basidiomycetes. Many varieties are reported to be allergenic.

Bipolaris sp.

A fungus with large spores that could be expected to be deposited in the upper respiratory tract. This fungus can produce the mycotoxin - sterigmatocystin, which has been shown to produce liver and kidney damage when ingested by laboratory animals.

Botrytis sp.

Aw 0.93. Conidia dimensions: 7-14 x 5-9 microns. It is parasitic on plants and soft fruits. Found in soil and on house plants and vegetables, it is also known as "gray mold". It causes leaf rot on grapes, strawberries, lettuce, etc. It is a well-known allergen, producing asthma symptoms in greenhouse workers and "wine grower's lung".

Cercaspora

Common outdoors in agricultural areas, especially during harvest. Parasite of higher plants, causing leaf spot. Commonly found as parasites on higher plants.

Chaetomium sp.

large ascomycetous fungus producing perithecia. It is found on a variety of substrates containing cellulose, including paper and plant compost. It has been found on paper in sheetrock. It can produce an *Acremonium*-like state on fungal media. Varieties are considered allergenic and have been associated with peritonitis, cutaneous lesions, and system mycosis.

Cladosporium sp.

Aw 0.88; Aw 0.84. Most commonly identified outdoor fungus. The outdoor numbers are reduced in the winter. The numbers are often high in the summer. Often found indoors in numbers less than outdoor numbers. It is a common allergen. Indoor *Cladosporium* sp. may be different than the species identified outdoors. It is commonly found on the surface of fiberglass duct liners in the interior of supply ducts. A wide variety of plants are food sources for this fungus. It is found on dead plants, woody plants, food, straw, soil, paint, and textiles. Produces greater than 10 antigens. Antigens in commercial extracts are of variable quality and may degrade within weeks of preparation. Common cause of extrinsic asthma (immediate-type hypersensitivity: type I). Acute symptoms include skin lesions, eye ulceration, mycosis (including onychomycosis, an infection of the nails of the feet or hands) edema and bronchospasms; chronic cases may develop pulmonary emphysema.

Curvularia sp.

Reported to be allergenic and has been associated with allergic fungal sinusitis. It may cause corneal infections, mycetoma, and infections in immune compromised hosts.

Dreschlera sp.

Conidia dimensions: 40-120 x 17-28 microns. Found on grasses, grains and decaying food. It can occasionally cause a corneal infection of the eye.

Epicoccum sp.

Conidia dimensions: 15-25 microns. A common allergen. It is found in plants, soil, grains, textiles and paper products.

Fusarium sp.

Aw 0.90. A common soil fungus. It is found on a wide range of plants. It is often found in humidifiers. Several species in this genus can produce potent trichothecene toxins. The trichothecene (scirpene) toxin targets the following systems: circulatory, alimentary, skin, and nervous. Produces vomitoxin on grains during unusually damp growing conditions. Symptoms may occur either through ingestion of contaminated grains or possibly inhalation of spores. The genera can produce hemorrhagic syndrome in humans (alimentary toxic aleukia). This is characterized by nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, dermatitis, and extensive internal bleeding. Reported to be allergenic. Frequently involved in eye, skin, and nail infections.

Myxomycetes

Members of a group of fungi that is included in the category of "slime molds". They're occasionally found indoors, but mainly reside in forested regions on decaying logs, stumps, and dead leaves. Myxomycetes display characteristics of fungi *and* protozoans. In favorable (wet) conditions they exhibit motile, amoeba-like cells, usually bounded only by a plasma membrane, that are variable in size and form. During dry spells, they form a resting body (sclerotium) with dry, airborne spores. These fungi are not known to produce toxins, but can cause hay fever and asthma.

Memnoniella

Contaminant, found most often with *Stachybotrys* on wet cellulose. Forms in chains, but it are very similar to *Stachybotrys* and sometimes is considered to be in the *Stachybotrys* family. Certain species do produce toxins very similar to the ones produced by *Stachybotrys chartarum* and many consider the IAQ importance of *Memnoniella* to be on par with *Stachybotrys*. Allergenic and infectious properties are not well studied.

Nigrospora sp.

Commonly found in warm climates, this mold may be responsible for allergic reactions such as hay fever and asthma. It is found on decaying plant material and in the soil. It is not often found indoors.

Oidium sp.

The asexual phase of *Erysiphe* sp. It is a plant pathogen causing powdery mildews. It is very common on the leaves stems, and flowers of plants. The health effects and allergenicity have not been studied. It does not grow on non-living surfaces such as wood or drywall.

Penicillium sp.

Aw 0.78 - 0.88. A wide number of organisms have been placed in this genus. Identification to species is difficult. Often found in aerosol samples. Commonly found in soil, food, cellulose and grains. It is also found in paint and compost piles. It may cause hypersensitivity pneumonitis, allergic alveolitis in susceptible individuals. It is reported to be allergenic (skin). It is commonly found in carpet, wallpaper, and in interior fiberglass duct insulation. Some species can produce mycotoxins. Common cause of extrinsic asthma (immediate-type hypersensitivity: type I). Acute symptoms include edema and bronchospasms; chronic cases may develop pulmonary emphysema. It may also cause headaches, vomiting, and diarrhea.

Periconia sp.

found in soil, blackened and dead herbaceous stems leaf spots, grasses, rushes, and sedges. Almost always associated with other fungi. Rarely found growing indoors. Reportedly associated with a rare case of mycotic keratitis.

Pithomyces sp.

A common mold found on dead leaves, plants, soil and especially grasses. Causes facial eczema in ruminants. It exhibits distinctive multi-celled brown conidia. It is not known to be a human allergen or pathogen. It is rarely found indoors, although it can grow on paper.

Rusts/Smuts

These fungi are associated with plant diseases. In the classification scheme of the fungi, the smuts have much in common with the rusts, and they are frequently discussed together. Both groups produce wind-borne, resistant teliospores that serve as the basis for their classification and their means of spread. Rusts usually attack vegetative regions (i.e., leaves and stems) of plants; smuts usually are associated with the reproductive structures (seeds). They can cause hay fever and asthma.

Spegazzinia

Spegazzinia species comprise a very small proportion of the fungal biota. This genus is somewhat related to other lobed or ornamented genera such as Candelabrum. No information is available regarding health effects or toxicity. Allergenicity has not been studied. Usually identified on spore trap samples where it is seen every few weeks. (Spores have very distinctive morphology.) May also be found in air by culturable (Andersen) samples if a long enough incubation period is provided so that sporulation occurs. Our laboratory has never found this organism growing on indoor environmental surfaces. Natural habitat includes soil and many kinds of trees and plants.

Stachybotrys sp.

Aw - 0.94 , optimum Aw \rightarrow 0.98. Several strains of this fungus (*S. atra*, *S. chartarum* and *S. alternans* are synonymous) may produce a trichothecene mycotoxin- Satratoxin H - which is poisonous by inhalation. The toxins are present on the fungal spores. This is a slow growing fungus on media. It does not compete well with other rapidly growing fungi. The dark colored fungus grows on building material with high cellulose content and low nitrogen content. Areas with a relative humidity above 55%, and are subject to temperature fluctuations, are ideal for toxin production.

Individuals with chronic exposure to the toxin produced by this fungus reported cold and flu symptoms, sore throats, diarrhea, headaches, fatigue, dermatitis, intermittent local hair loss and generalized malaise. Other symptoms include coughs, rhinitis, nosebleed, a burning sensation in the nasal passages, throat, and lungs, and fever. The toxins produced by this fungus will suppress the immune system affecting the lymphoid tissue and the bone marrow. Animals injected with the toxin from this fungus exhibited the following symptoms: necrosis and hemorrhage within the brain, thymus, spleen, intestine, lung, heart, lymph node, liver, and kidney. Affects by absorption of the toxin in the human lung are known as pneumomycosis.

This organism is rarely found in outdoor samples. It is usually difficult to find in indoor air samples unless it is physically disturbed (or possibly -this is speculation- a drop in the relative humidity). The spores are in a gelatinous mass. Appropriate media for the growth of this organism will have high cellulose content and low nitrogen content. The spores will die readily after release. The dead spores are still allergenic and toxic.

Percutaneous absorption has caused mild symptoms.

Stemphylium sp.

Reported to be allergenic. Isolated from dead plants and cellulose materials.

Torula sp.

Found outdoors in air, soil, on dead vegetation, wood, and grasses. Also found indoors on cellulose materials. Reported to be allergenic and may cause hay fever and asthma.

Tetraploa

Tetraploa species comprise a very small proportion of the fungal biota. This genus is somewhat related to Triposporium and Diplocladiella. The only reported human infections are two cases of keratitis (1970, 1980) and one case of subcutaneous infection of the knee (1990). No information is available regarding other health effects or toxicity. Allergenicity has not been studied. Usually identified on spore trap samples where it is seen every few weeks. (Spores have very distinctive morphology.) Our laboratory has never found this organism growing on indoor environmental surfaces. Natural habitat includes leaf bases and stems just above the soil on many kinds of plants and trees.

Ulocladium sp.

Aw 0.89. Isolated from dead plants and cellulose materials. Found on textiles.

Zygomycetes

Zygomycetes are one of the four major groups of fungi, the others being the Oomycetes, the Ascomycetes, and the Basidiomycetes. Zygomycetes are common, fast growing, and often overgrow and/or inhibit other fungi nearby. Rhizopus and Mucor are two of the most common Zygomycetes seen in the indoor environment. However, others are seen as well, including Syncephalastrum, Circinella, Mortierella, Mycotypha, Cunninghamella, and Choanephora. For further information, please see descriptions of these individual genera.

Home

Mold Inspection & Testing | MI&T

Mold Inspection & Testing



MIT

855-600-6653

The illustration shows a man in a dark suit and tie, smiling. He is holding a flashlight in his right hand, which is pointed towards the MIT logo. In his left hand, he carries a black briefcase. To his right is a black microphone on a stand, with some sound waves emanating from it.

Mold Inspection & Testing



A large rectangular area containing a YouTube play button icon in the center, indicating a video player.

Welcome to the home of MI&T | Mold Inspection & Testing; the biggest and most trusted mold inspection only company in the United States. When looking for an individual to evaluate your home or business for potential indoor mold growth it is important to use someone that is not involved in the remediation process. That is exactly what MI&T offers; unbiased mold testing without a conflict of interest.

Unless you have dealt with similar issues in the past, it is very common to be confused about the what to do and where to start. You might even be wondering why you need a mold inspection if you can actually see mold. We've tried to answer questions just like that throughout this website. Hopefully after your visit, you will have a better understanding about how everything works. If you'd rather speak with a live person to ask a question specific to your situation we will be happy to help, just give us a call.

When is a Mold Inspection Needed?



We are usually called into a home or business for one or more of the following reasons:

- Recent Water Damage
- Visible Growth
- Strange Smell
- Health Complications
- Looking For Peace of Mind
- Real Estate Transaction

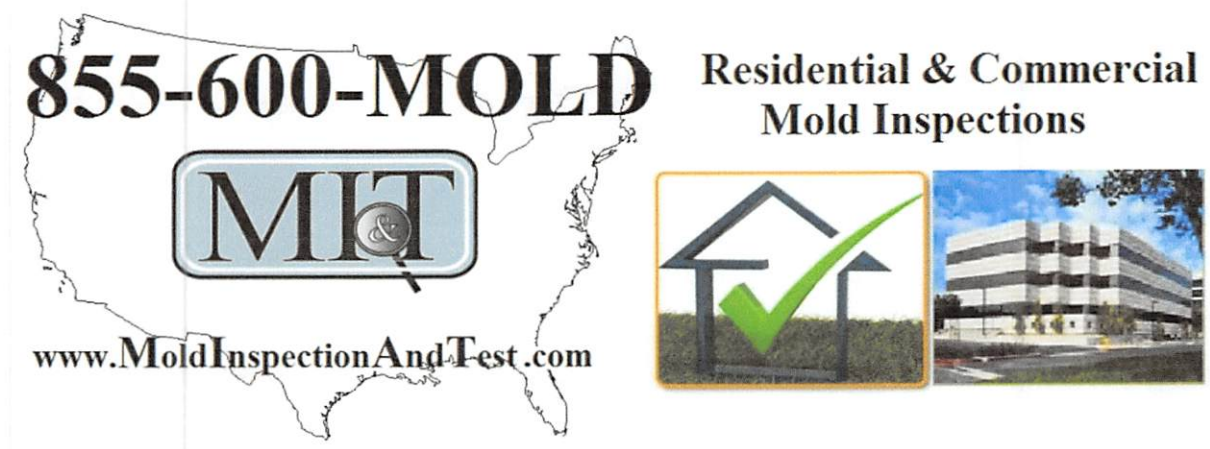
We help people in all of the above situations find out not only if they have a problem, but also where the source is. What most restoration companies don't want you to know is that not all mold is dangerous. Truth of the matter is mold is all around us and every indoor environment has acceptable levels. Any inspection that is done without testing is simply a guess at what is going on with your indoor air quality. Our service is so valuable because our air and surface samples offer hard evidence about what is going on in your home or business.

Any respectable mold remediation company who is suggesting a home or business needs professional intervention should support the idea of a third party company like MI&T coming in to do an inspection and mold testing. Even when it is known that a problem is present, customers still benefit from involving us in the process. Our samples collection lets you know exactly what is going on gives a clear picture of PRECISELY what needs work. Determining how far a problem has spread is crucial in determining the size of a work area. If we can contain the work area, you can be sure you'll save on your restoration cost.

We have no problem letting our clients know that elevated conditions do not exist and no further action is required. However, when a problem is present we offer a detailed report with a step-by-step protocol for removal. In the long run, it is very likely that you are going to save money by spending some on getting an inspection first. Either you get peace of mind with our test results showing there is no problem or a mold is non-toxic. Or you save money going into the remediation process with our detailed protocol to ensure only necessary work is done and the job is done right the first time.

Everyone has a different reasons that brought you here is, the experts at MI&T are here to help you get answers to the questions you have. If you think that your home or business may have this type of problem, it is important to act quick and get it taken care of. We say this not because you are in imminent danger, but because the sooner you find these types of problems the easier they are to get rid of. Take some time to look around our site to get answers to frequently asked questions. Give us a call at 855-600-MOLD to speak to a customer representative.

UNBIASED MOLD TESTING



855-600-MOLD

MIT

www.MoldInspectionAndTest.com

**Residential & Commercial
Mold Inspections**

The advertisement features a map of the United States with the phone number 855-600-MOLD overlaid. Below the phone number is the MIT logo, which consists of the letters 'MIT' in a blue box with a magnifying glass icon. Underneath the logo is the website address www.MoldInspectionAndTest.com. To the right of the map, there is a section titled 'Residential & Commercial Mold Inspections' with two images: a house with a green checkmark and a commercial building.

When looking for someone to handle work inside your home or business, we understand that customers want to work with a company they can trust. MI&T operates under a strict code of ethics. With an independent inspector, you truly never know what you are going to get. Mold Inspection & Testing has operating procedures that employees must abide by so customers can expect excellence regardless of their location or what types of problems they are

experiencing. If you are having indoor air quality issues, the choice should be clear; use MI&T, the most trusted mold testing company in the nation. Many people initially are unsure about dealing with a nationwide company, but there is a reason we a wide range of returning customers and such positive feedback. When you hire a local inspector who is basically running a one man show, you are putting yourself at risk for getting bad inspector. While there are plenty of great technicians out there, there are also many who have complaints or do bad work. If those unhappy customers complain to the inspector nothing is really done and they continue going on about their business. At MI&T, we have a much better system of checks and balances. All customers complaints/concerns are taken very seriously and we are not afraid to replace an inspector if we feel he/she is not the best person for the job.

"I know I have mold, I can see it. Why do I need a mold inspection?" This is something that many people wonder and a question we get quite a bit, especially when trying to explain to other people about our business. Well you don't NEED a mold inspection, but here is how clients do benefit from getting one and how our service is valuable. The most important thing that we offer is an evaluation of your indoor air quality. When indoor growth problems exist, they release thousands of spores into the air that have the potential to cause health problems. Without taking air samples, there is no way to determine how far this problem has spread. Most of the time when situations like the picture above exist, we see elevated levels throughout the entire floor of a home or business. In order to fix these air problems, extensive air cleaning needs to take place. You should also understand that the visible growth that you see is often only the tip of the iceberg. Chances are once you see something on walls, furniture or above a professional mold remediation will need to take place. Bringing us in first will allow you to go into that process informed and our report will lay out every step that needs to be taken. Knowing the scope of work will not only help keep costs low, but also make sure your indoor environment gets fixed correctly the first time. On the other side of things, if you do not see anything, but are experiencing other symptoms of a mold problem you may be right. Our expert inspectors have seen just about every situation that you could imagine. If what you are experiencing in your home or business is due to mold, we WILL find it and provide you with the information necessary to get rid of the problem.

The Mold Removal Process





If you do decide to go directly into the mold removal process, we highly recommend that you hire an inspector separate from the restoration company hired to complete post remediation clearance testing. Whenever a professional is brought in to clean an area, they use a containment as the work they are doing is actually releasing a significant amount of mold spores into the air. At the same time they run air scrubbers to filter out these spores and return the area to normal. Clearance testing is done by taking an air sample from within a containment area to make sure the air has returned to normal. This should be done before the rebuild process so the company hired can do additional work if necessary.

Here is a quick recap for how our process works:

1. Call or Email us to Schedule an Appointment
2. Visual Assessment of Property
3. Air and Surface Sample Collection
4. Tests Sent into Independent Lab for Analysis
5. Client and Inspector Receive Lab Results
6. Inspector Provides Client with Detailed Protocol for Mold Remediation (If Necessary)
7. Clearance Testing (If Necessary)
8. Full Customer Support Throughout

Some people seem to be skeptical about choosing a nationwide company rather than a local company. We actually take pride in the fact that we are nationwide and have no problem letting our client know that. We can assure you that even though our company services multiple major metro areas, we have just as much local presence and do just as much if not more business in your area as any other inspector you would choose. On top of that, dealing with a larger company brings something to the table that simply isn't there with an independent inspector. Having the inspector be an employee creates a nice system of checks and balances. Not only do our experts in the office look over reports and go to each other for advice when they are unsure of a problem, but it also protects the customer. If you are unhappy with your independent inspector, you will complain to them and that will be it; they don't have to worry about any sort of discipline. With MI&T, we take any complaints we get from a customer seriously. If we feel the problem is serious enough or complaints are reoccurring, we have no problem letting the inspector go in hopes of finding a better one to take their place. This ensures that each of our customers is getting the most out of their money and a qualified, hardworking inspector to evaluate their property.



We appreciate you taking the time to visit our website and hope that you have learned everything you need to know about this subject. If you have other inquiries, want to ask something specific about your home or business, or would like to schedule an appointment please give us a call at 855-600-6653 and we will be happy to assist you.

MI&T has certified mold inspectors in all of the following areas:

Albuquerque NM | Alexandria VA | Atlanta GA | Austin TX | Baltimore MD | Birmingham AL | Boston MA | Charlotte NC | Chicago IL | Cincinnati OH | Cleveland OH | Columbus OH | Daytona Beach FL | Denver CO | Detroit MI | Fort Myers FL | Greenville SC | Hartford CT | Houston TX | Indianapolis IN | Jackson MS | Jacksonville FL | Kansas City MO | Las Vegas NV | Little Rock AR | Louisville KY | Los Angeles CA | Memphis TN | Miami FL | Minneapolis MN | Nashville TN | New Jersey | New Orleans LA | New York City | Omaha NE | Orlando FL | Palm Beach FL | Phoenix AZ | Pittsburgh PA | Philadelphia PA | Portland OR | Providence RI | Rochester NY | Sacramento CA | Salt Lake City UT | San Antonio TX | San Diego CA | San Francisco CA | San Jose CA | Seattle WA | Shreveport LA | St. Louis MO | Tallahassee FL | Tampa FL | Toronto ON | Virginia Beach VA | Washington DC

Last updated: October 11, 2015 at 14:11 pm

by Eric R.

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Fax: (281) 358-6142
www.northhoustonhomes.com

Each Office Independently Owned and Operated

Mold

Molds are a group of organisms that belong to the Kingdom of Fungi (see Fungi). Even though the terms mold and fungi had been commonly referred to interchangeably, all molds are fungi, but not all fungi are molds.

Mycotoxin

Mycotoxins are compounds produced by some fungi that are toxic to humans or animals. By convention, the term? Mycotoxin? Excludes mushroom toxins. Fungi that produce mycotoxins are called "toxigenic fungi.

Spore

General Term for a reproductive structure in fungi, bacteria and some plants. In fungi, the spore is the structure which may be used for dissemination and may be resistant to adverse environmental conditions.

Toxic mold

The term? Toxic mold" has no scientific meaning since the mold itself is not toxic. The metabolic byproducts of some molds may be toxic (see mycotoxin).

Hypha (plural, hyphae)

An individual fungal thread or filament of connected cells; the thread that represents the individual parts of the fungal body.

General terms

Allergen

An allergen is a substance that elicits an IgE antibody response and is responsible for producing allergic reactions. Chemicals are released when IgE on certain cells come into contact with an allergen. These chemicals can cause injury to surrounding tissue - the visible signs of an allergy. Only a few fungal allergens have been characterized but all fungi are thought to be potentially allergenic. Fungal allergens are proteins found in either the mycelium or spores

"Black mold"

The poorly defined term? Black mold? Or? Toxic black mold? Has usually been associated with the mold *Stachybotrys chartarum*. While there are only a few molds that are truly black, there are many that can appear black. Not all molds that appear to be black are *Stachybotrys*.

Fungi

Fungi are neither animals nor plants and are classified in a kingdom of their own? The Kingdom of Fungi. Fungi include a very large group of organisms, including molds, yeasts, mushrooms and puffballs. There are >100,000 accepted fungal species but current estimates range to 1.5 million species. Mycologists (people who study fungi) have grouped fungi into four large groups according to their method of reproduction.

Hidden mold

This refers to visible mold growth on building structures that is not easily seen, including the areas above drop ceilings, within a wall cavity (the space between the inner and outer structure of a wall), inside air handlers, or within the ducting of a heating/ventilation system.

Microbial Volatile Organic Compounds (MVOCs)

Fungi produce chemicals as a result of their metabolism. Some of these chemicals, MVOCs, are responsible for the characteristic moldy, musty, or earthy smell of fungi, whether mushrooms or molds. Some MVOCs are considered offensive or annoying. Specific MVOCs are thought to be characteristic of wood rot and mold growth on building materials. The human nose is very sensitive to mold odors and sometimes more so than current analytical instruments.

Penicillium citrinum	Citrinin
Penicillium commune	Cyclopiazonic acid
Penicillium crustosum	Roquefortine C
Penicillium chrysogenum	Roquefortine C
Penicillium discolor	Chaetoglobosin C
Penicillium expansum	Citrinin, Roquefortine C
Penicillium griseofulvum	Roquefortine C, cyclopiazonic acid, griseofulvin
Penicillium hirsutum	Roquefortine C
Penicillium hordei	Roquefortine C
Penicillium nordicum	Ochratoxin A
Penicillium paneum	Roquefortine C
Penicillium palitans	Cyclopiazonic acid
Penicillium polonicum	Penicillic acid
Penicillium roqueforti	Roquefortine C, Mycophenolic acid
Penicillium veridicatum	Penicillic acid
Penicillium verrucosum	Citrinin, ochratoxin A
Penicillium/ Aspergillus	Patulin
Penicillium/ Aspergillus/Alternaria	Glitoxin
Phomopsis	Macrocyclic trichothecenes
Phoma	Brefeldin, cytochalasin, secalonic acid, tenuazonic acid
Pithomyces	Sporidesmin
Rhizoctonia	Slaframine
Rhizopus	Rhizonin
Sclerotinia	Furanocoumarins
Stachybotrys chartarum	Iso-satratoxin F, roridin E, L-2, satratoxin G & H, trichodermin, trichodermol, trichothecene
Torula	Cytotoxins
Trichoderma	Trichodermin, trichodermol, gliotoxin
Trichothecium	Trichothecene
Wallemia	Walleminol
Zygosporium	Cytochalasin

The following table lists mycotoxins that are produced by certain types of fungi:

Fungi	Mycotoxin
Acremonium crocinigenum	Crocin
Aspergillus favus	Alfatoxin B, cyclopiazonic acid
Aspergillus fumigatus	Fumagilin, gliotoxin
Aspergillus carneus	Citrinin
Aspergillus clavatus	Cytochalasin, patulin
Aspergillus Parasiticus	Alfatoxin B
Aspergillus nomius	Alfatoxin B
Aspergillus niger	Ochratoxin A, malformin, oxalic acid
Acremonium crocinigenum	Crocin
Aspergillus nidulans	Sterigmatocystin
Aspergillus ochraceus	Ochratoxin A, penicillic acid
Aspergillus versicolor	Sterigmatocystin, 5 ethoxysterigmatocystin
Aspergillus ustus	Ausdiol, austamide, austocystin, brevianamide
Aspergillus terreus	Citreoviridin
Alternaria	Alternariol, altertoxin, altenuene, altenusin, tenuazonic acid
Arthrinium	Nitropropionic acid
Bioploaris	Cytochalasin, sporidesmin, sterigmatocystin
Chaetomium	Chaetoglobosin A,B,C. Sterigmatocystin
Cladosporium	Cladosporic acid
Clavipes purpurea	Ergotism
Cylindrocarpum	Trichothecene
Diplodia	Diplodiatoxin
Fusarium	Trichothecene, zearalenone
Fusarium moniliforme	Fumonisin
Emericella nidulans	Sterigmatocystin
Gliocladium	Gliotoxin
Memnoniella	Griseofulvin, dechlorogriseofulvin, epidechlorogriseofulvin, trichodermin, trichodermol
Myrothecium	Trichothecene
Paecilomyces	Patulin, viriditoxin
Penicillium aurantiocandidum	Penicillic acid
Penicillium aurantiogriseum	Penicillic acid
Penicillium brasilianum	Penicillic acid
Penicillium brevicompactum	Mycophenolic acid
Penicillium camemberti	Cyclopiazonic acid
Penicillium carneum	Mycophenolic acid, Roquefortine C
Penicillium crateriforme	Rubratoxin