

IDENTIFICATION OF COMMON MOLD SPORES

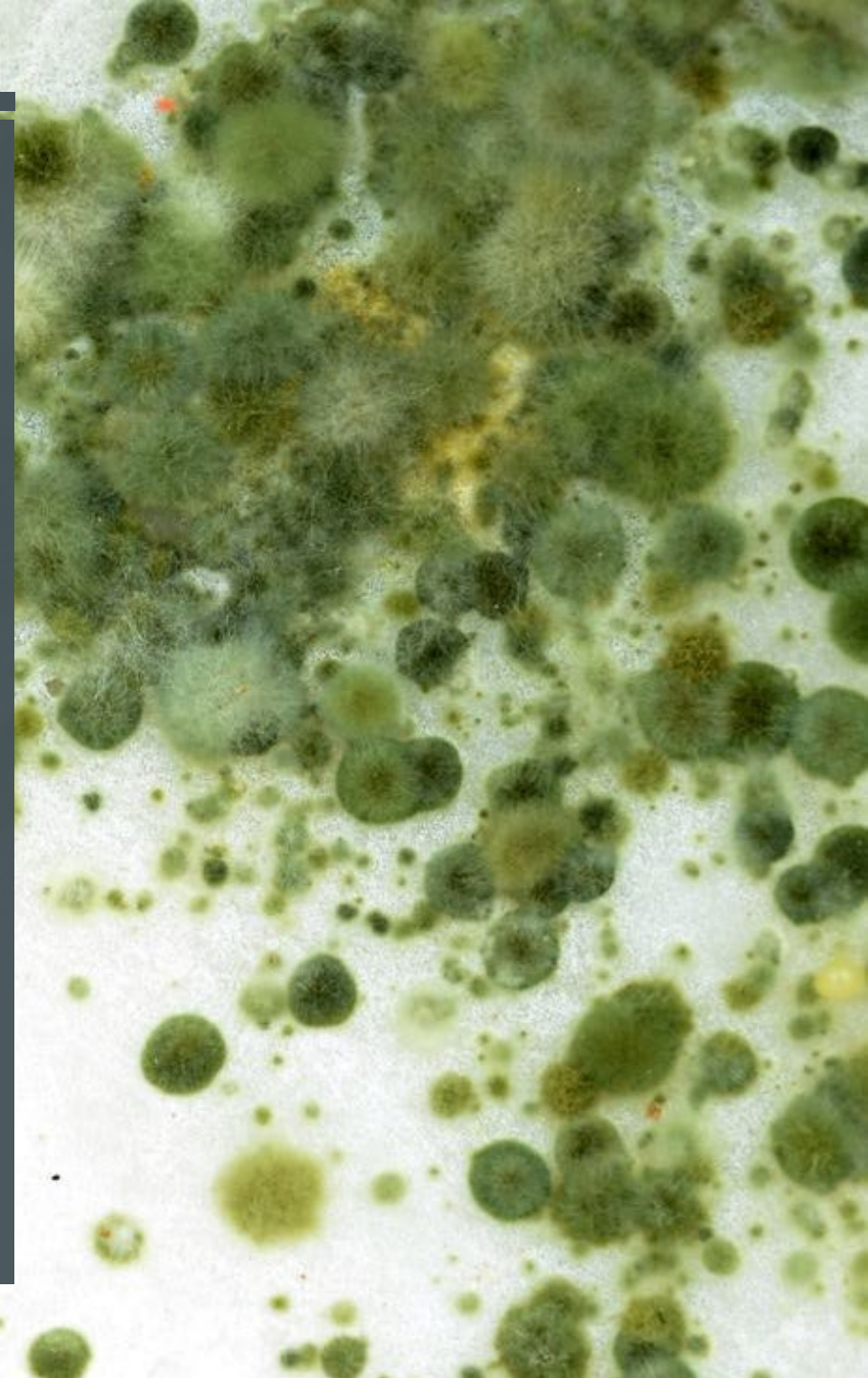
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CCSD/UNLV POLLEN MONITORING
PROGRAM



WHAT IS MOLD?

- A sub-group of the Fungi Kingdom- neither plants nor animals
- Also called fungi or mildew
- Molds, mushrooms, yeasts, smuts, rusts, and mildew are all examples of fungi
- Microscopic fungi that live on plant or animal matter
- Indoors and outdoors and are part of our natural environment
- Produce spores that are extremely small and can be airborne
- Due to their light weight can be carried to great distances
- Comes in many colors including white



WHAT DO I DO?

A sampler is used to collect mold spores from air



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graph TD; A[A sampler is used to collect mold spores from air] --> B[Collection is on a greased slide]; B --> C[Stain it]; C --> D[Count it]; D --> E[Report it];
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The diagram is a vertical flowchart with five steps, each in a colored box. The boxes are arranged in a descending staircase pattern from top-left to bottom-right. The steps are: 1. A sampler is used to collect mold spores from air (orange box), 2. Collection is on a greased slide (tan box), 3. Stain it (olive box), 4. Count it (teal box), and 5. Report it (grey box). Arrows point from the bottom of one box to the top of the next box below it.

Collection is on a greased slide

Stain it

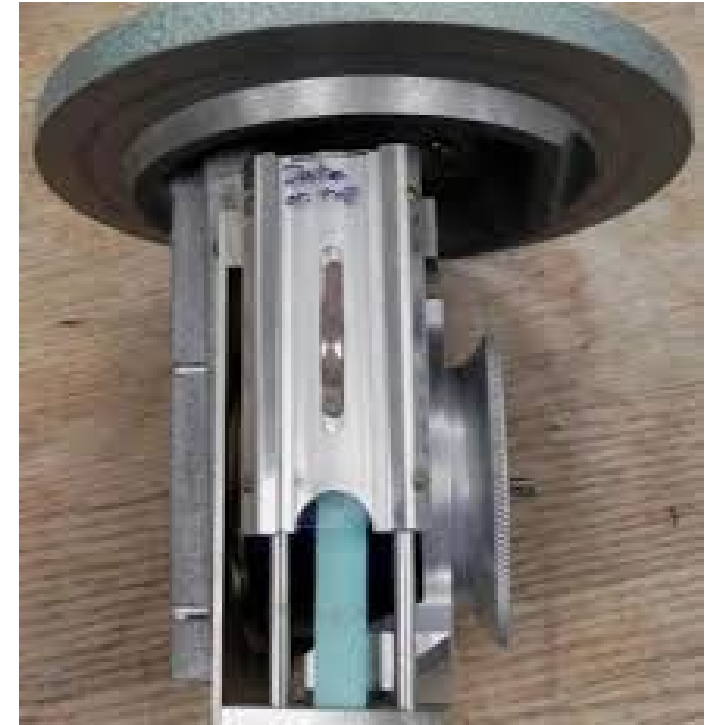
Count it

Report it

MOLD COUNTS DEFINITION

- A pollen count or a mold count is based on the measurement of the number of grains of pollen or mold spores in a cubic meter of the air. The higher the count, the greater the chance that people suffering from hay fever will experience symptoms when they are outdoors or exposed to outdoor air.
- Outdoor mold levels tend to be higher in the late spring through early fall when the weather is warm and moist.

NAB SCALE							
MOLD		GRASS		TREE		WEED	
0	Absent	0	Absent	0	Absent	0	Absent
1 - 8499	Low	1 - 4	Low	1 - 14	Low	1 - 9	Low
8500 - 12999	Moderate	5 - 19	Moderate	15 - 89	Moderate	10 - 49	Moderate
13000 - 49999	High	20 - 199	High	90 - 1499	High	50 - 499	High
>50000	Very High	>200	Very High	>1500	Very High	>500	Very High



BURKARD SAMPLER; HOW IT WORKS?

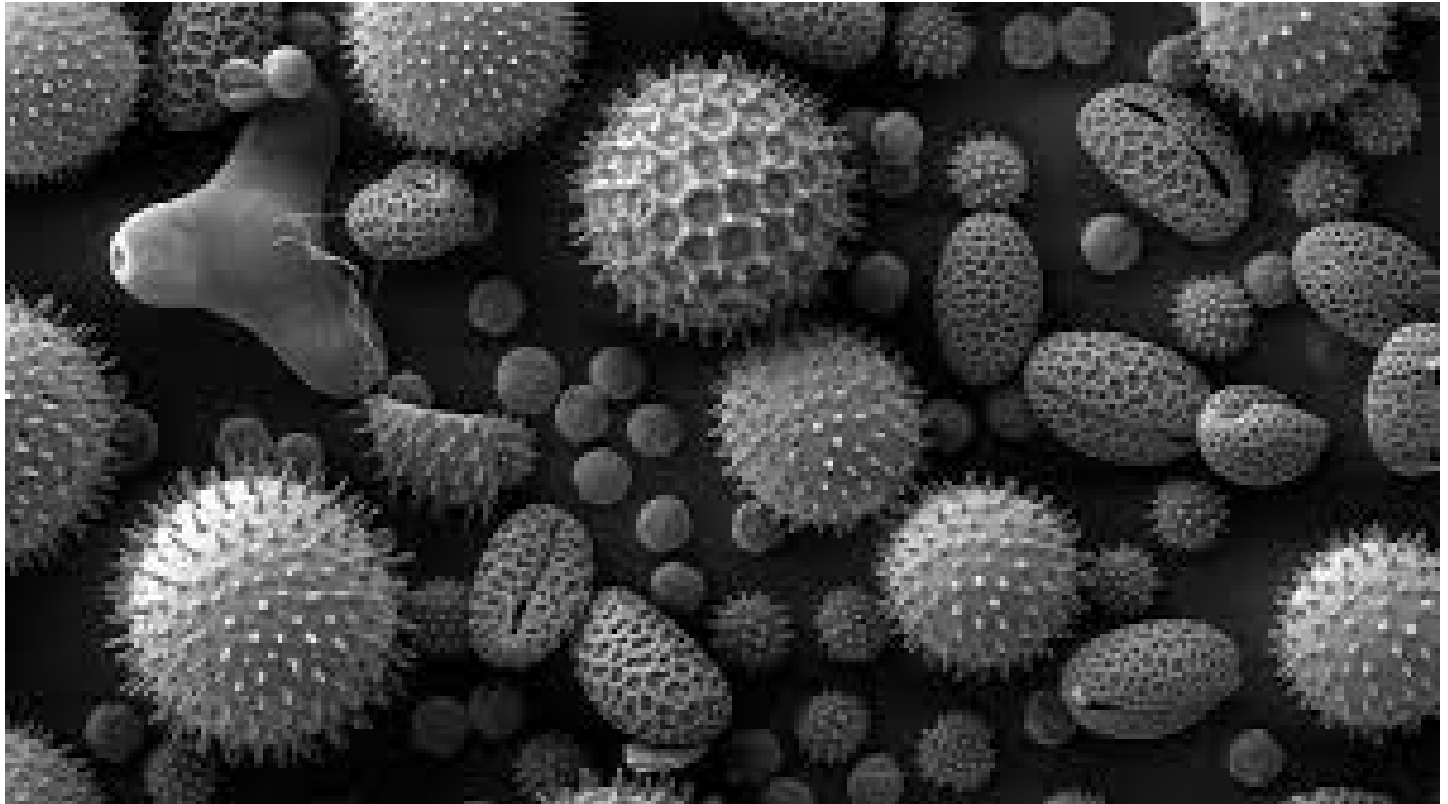
CURRENT SITES

- Total of 6 stations around the valley
- UNLV, Jean, 1 High School, 2 Middle Schools, and 1 Elementary School.
- Future sites in Henderson, Boulder City, and Southwest



MOLD BASICS

- Mold are part of the natural environment
- Breaks down organic matter
- Mold reproduce by spores
- Mold should be avoided indoors
- Mold can grow on almost any surface
- Water or excessive moisture speeds up mold growth





HEALTH EFFECTS OF MOLD

- Molds produce **allergens** (substances that can cause allergic reactions).
- Inhaling or touching mold or mold spores may cause allergic reactions in sensitive individuals.
- Allergic responses include hay fever-type symptoms, such as sneezing, runny nose, stuffy nose, red eyes, and skin rash (dermatitis).
- Can also cause asthma attacks in people with asthma.
- People allergic to mold may have difficulty in breathing and shortness of breath.
- People with weakened immune systems may develop mold infections in their lungs.

MOLDS ON FOOD

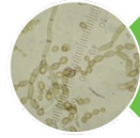


CAN YOU EAT FOODS WITH MOLD?

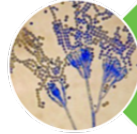
- In some cases, toxins may have spread throughout the food.
 - Mycotoxins
- Molds can grow in refrigerated jams and jelly and on cured, salty meats — ham, bacon, salami, and bologna.
- Aflatoxin is a cancer-causing poison produced by certain fungi in or on foods and feeds, especially in field corn and peanuts



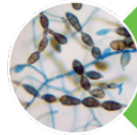
COMMON INDOOR MOLDS



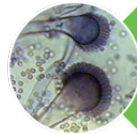
Cladosporium



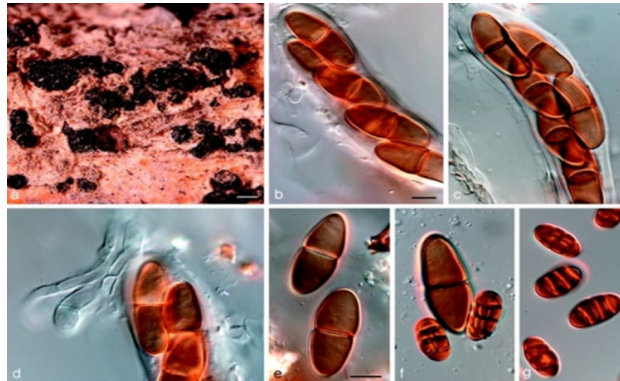
Penicillium



Alternaria



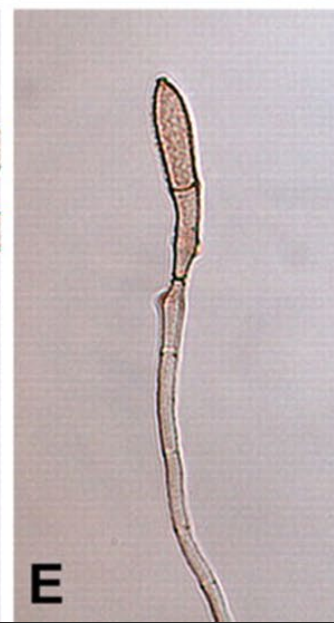
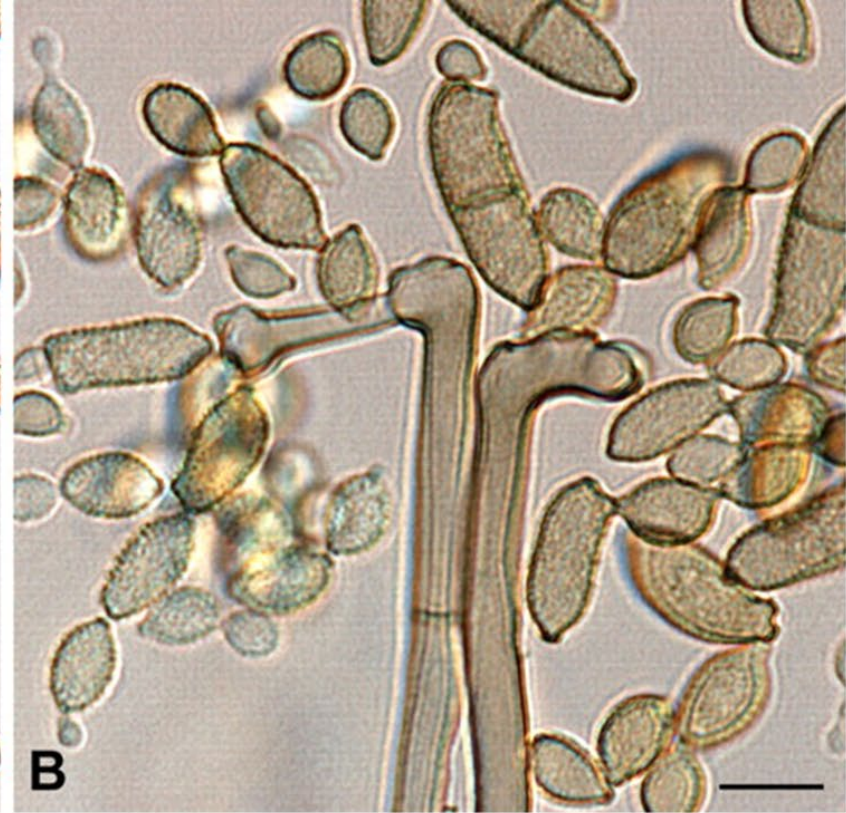
Aspergillus



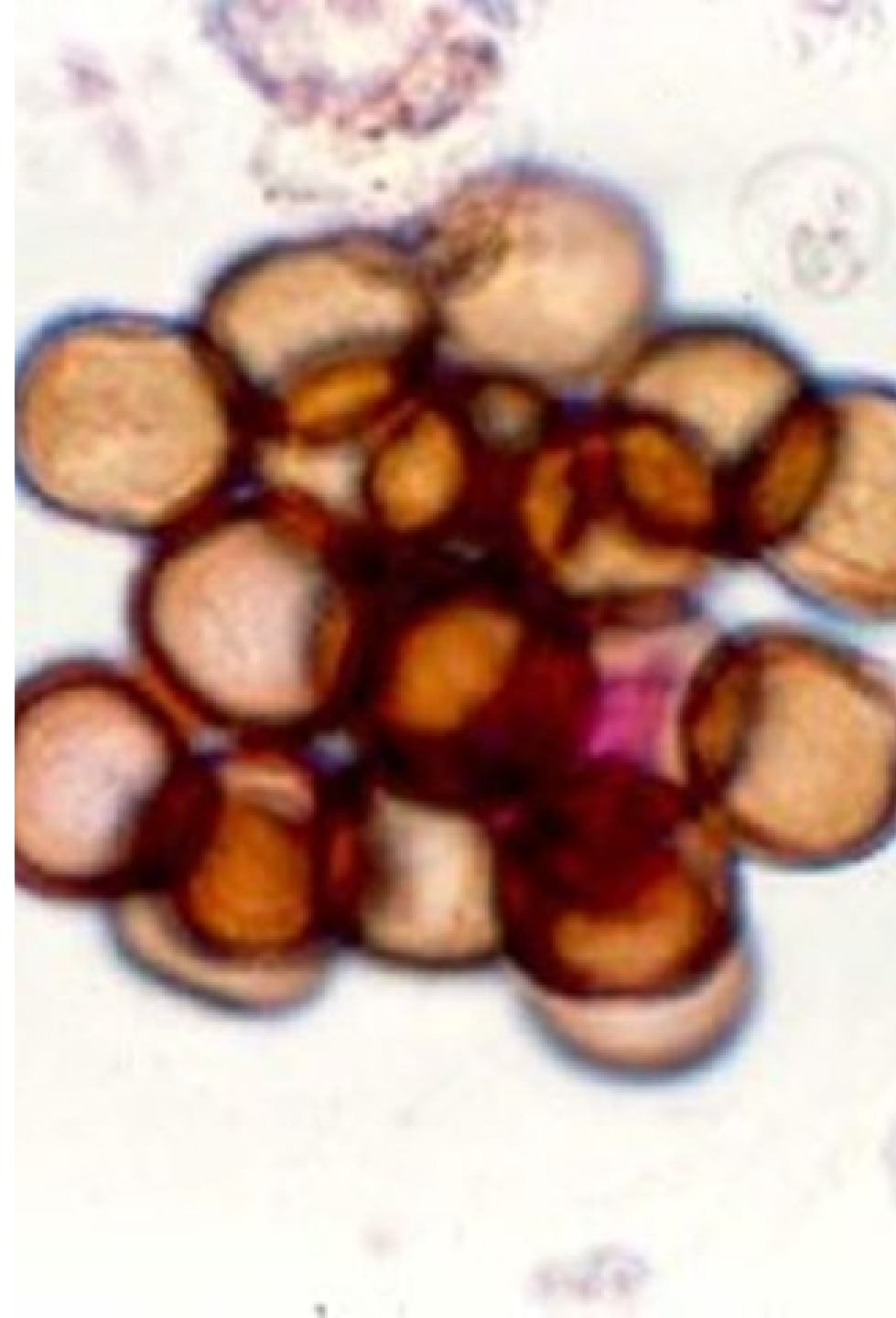
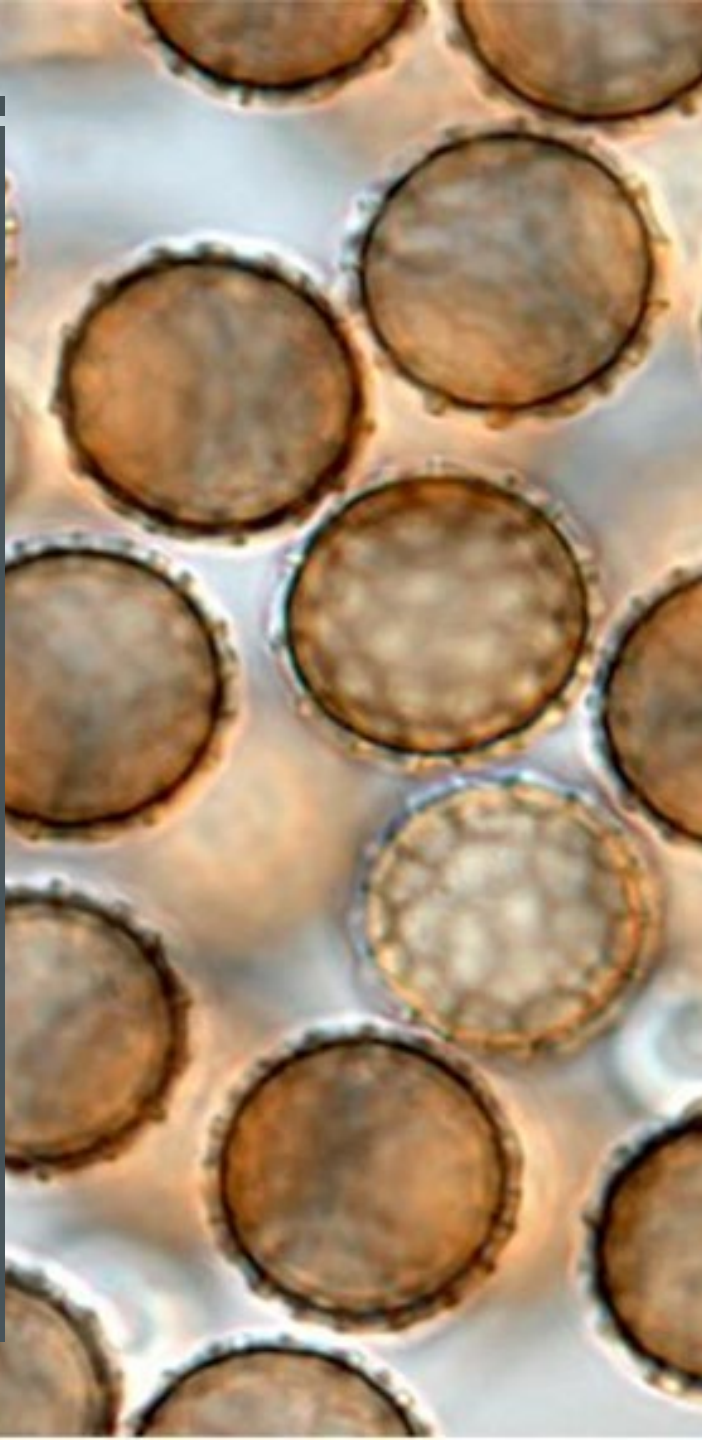
**MOLD WE
IDENTIFY;
ALTERNARIA**



MOLD WE IDENTIFY; CLADOSPORIUM



**MOLD WE
IDENTIFY;
SMUTS**



**JUST ADD
WATER AND
THEY GROW**





MOLD IN HOMES



MOLD AFTER FLOODS AND HURRICANES

MOLD AFTER FLOODS AND HURRICANES



MOLD AFTER FLOODS AND HURRICANES



MOLD AND SENIOR HOUSING & NURSING FACILITIES

Residents depend on caregivers to keep their rooms and bathrooms clean

Residents will have diminished immune systems and will be at greater risk for harmful airborne substances.

If you've noticed that your family member has exhibited symptoms of mold sickness you should insist that the building be inspected for mold.



MOLD CLEANUP GUIDELINES

- Avoid breathing in mold or mold spores
- Wear gloves.
- Wear goggles
- If you choose to hire a contractor to do the cleanup, make sure the contractor has experience cleaning up mold.
- If you have health concerns, consult a health professional before starting cleanup.



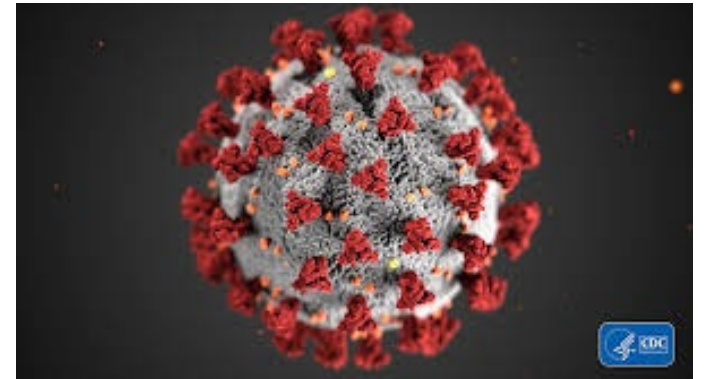
MOISTURE AND MOLD PREVENTION AND CONTROL TIPS

- When water leaks or spills occur indoors - act quickly.
- Vent appliances that produce moisture, such as clothes dryers, stoves.
- Run the bathroom fan or open the window when showering,
- Use exhaust fans or open windows whenever cooking, running the dishwasher or dishwashing, etc.
- Increase ventilation or air movement by opening doors and/or windows, when practical. Use fans as needed.
- If you believe that you may have a hidden mold problem, consider hiring an experienced professional.



COVID-19 AND MOLD

- After a prolonged shutdown and before occupants return, buildings should be assessed for mold and excess moisture.
- Patients with COVID-19 may be more at risk of lung infections caused by breathing in mold.
- Homes that have been unoccupied for months have a high likelihood of having water-intrusion issues and subsequent mold issues.



OH NO!



ALL THINGS FUZZY AND BLACK ARE NOT MOLD!



QUESTIONS/COMMENTS?

