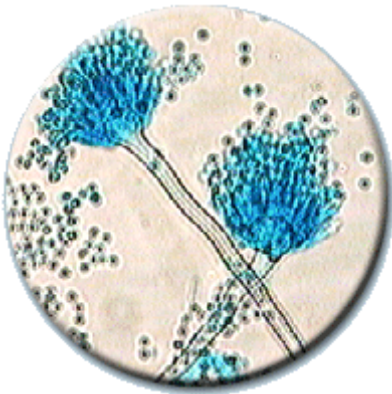


Aspergillus

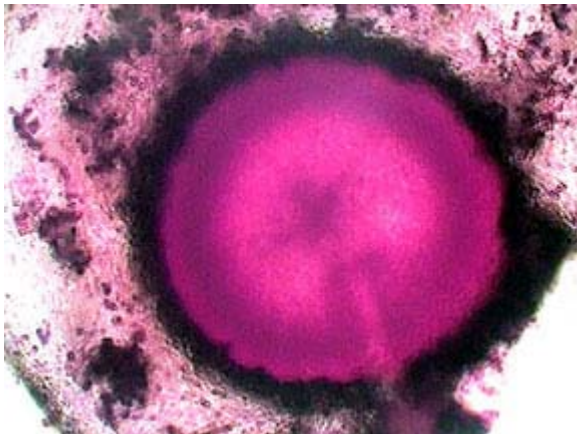
[[H & E Home](#)] [[Mold Harms Babies](#)] [[Mold's Harmful Effects](#)] [[Fungi and Indoor Air Quality](#)]
[[Toxic Effects of Molds](#)]

[[Aspergillus](#)] [[Chaetomium](#)] [[Cladosporium](#)] [[Fusarium](#)] [[Penicillium](#)] [[Stachybotrys](#)]
[[Diseases Linked to Molds](#)] [[Mold and Indoor Air Quality](#)]

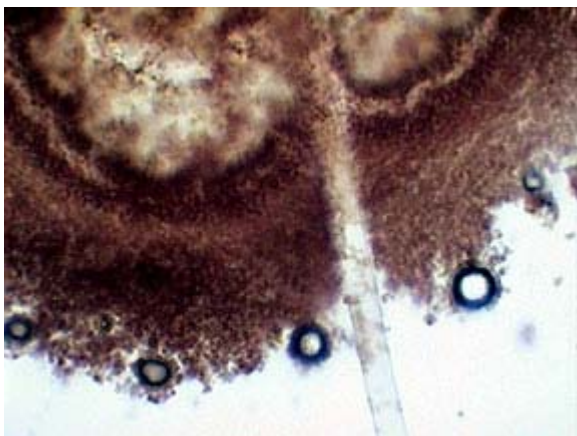


Aspergillus

A genus of mold which can be found within indoor environments. Certain species are pathogenic (harmful to human health) and cause [Aspergillosis](#) (an infection, a growth, or an allergic response due to the Aspergillus fungus).



Aspergillus molds are found everywhere worldwide, especially in the autumn and winter in the Northern hemisphere. The genus includes over 150 species but only a few of these molds can cause illness in humans and animals. Most people are naturally immune and do not develop disease caused by [Aspergillus](#). However, when disease does occur, it takes several forms. The type of diseases caused by Aspergillus are varied, ranging from an "allergy"-type illness to life-threatening generalized infections. Diseases caused by Aspergillus are called [aspergillosis](#). The severity of aspergillosis is determined by various factors but one of the most important is the state of the immune system of the person.



Aspergillus versicolor Conidia dimensions 2-3.5 microns. It is commonly found in soil, hay, cotton and dairy products. As the name of this fungus implies, the conidia *A. versicolor* may be of various colors. This species is very common and displays great variability in colony pattern and size.

Clinical Relevance:

A. versicolor can produce a mycotoxin sterigmatocystin and cyclopiaxonic acid. These toxins can cause diarrhea and upset stomach. It is reported to be a kidney and liver carcinogen. This species is only occasionally pathogenic.



Aspergillus versicolor

Clinical Information

- An important agent of opportunistic infections in debilitated patients.
- Can cause inflammatory diseases in lungs and other organs.
- Can cause fungus balls, known as mycetoma, to form in the lungs.
- Causes infection of the anterior and posterior chambers of the eye and can lead to blindness.
- Aspergillus can produce clinical infections in persons who have weak immune systems.
- Disseminated aspergillosis is a rare, acute and usually fatal infection that produces Septicemia, Thrombosis, and can affect virtually any organ, but especially the heart, lungs, brain, and kidneys.

Additional Source of Information:

- [Pulmonary Aspergillosis, Part 1: Allergic Disease and Mycetomas](#)

[H & E Home](#)

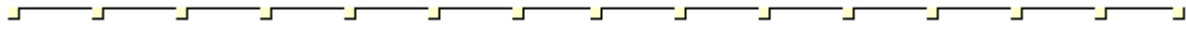
[Up](#)

Here are some simple actions you can take to reduce energy costs, improve comfort, and reduce air pollution in your home or other building:

1. Use a powered exhaust system on any device that burns fuel indoors.
2. Eliminate the need for air leakage through your home's building envelope by using [mechanical ventilation](#) to supply as much fresh filtered air as you want.
3. [Seal air leaks](#) in the building's envelope to block entry of microbes, allergens, toxins, irritants, insects, and cold drafts.
4. [Insulate the walls and attic](#) as much, or more than, recommended for your local climate.
5. [Control indoor air pressure](#) to:
 - a) Minimize entry of radon and water vapor from the soil.

b) Keep insulation effective and mold-free by minimizing leakage of moist air through walls and attics that have been cooled by winter weather..

These actions will make your home a [safer shelter](#) if an accident, or a terrorist, releases chemical, biological or radiological substances upwind of your home.



Will additional energy price increases be *serious, certain and soon?* To examine the evidence, go to:

- [Association for the Study of Peak Oil & Gas](#)
- [Association for the Study of Peak Oil & Gas - USA](#)



Wisdom is knowing what should be done. **Virtue** is doing it.

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Please send your suggestions, comments, and questions to Jon Traudt (jtraudt@tconl.com)