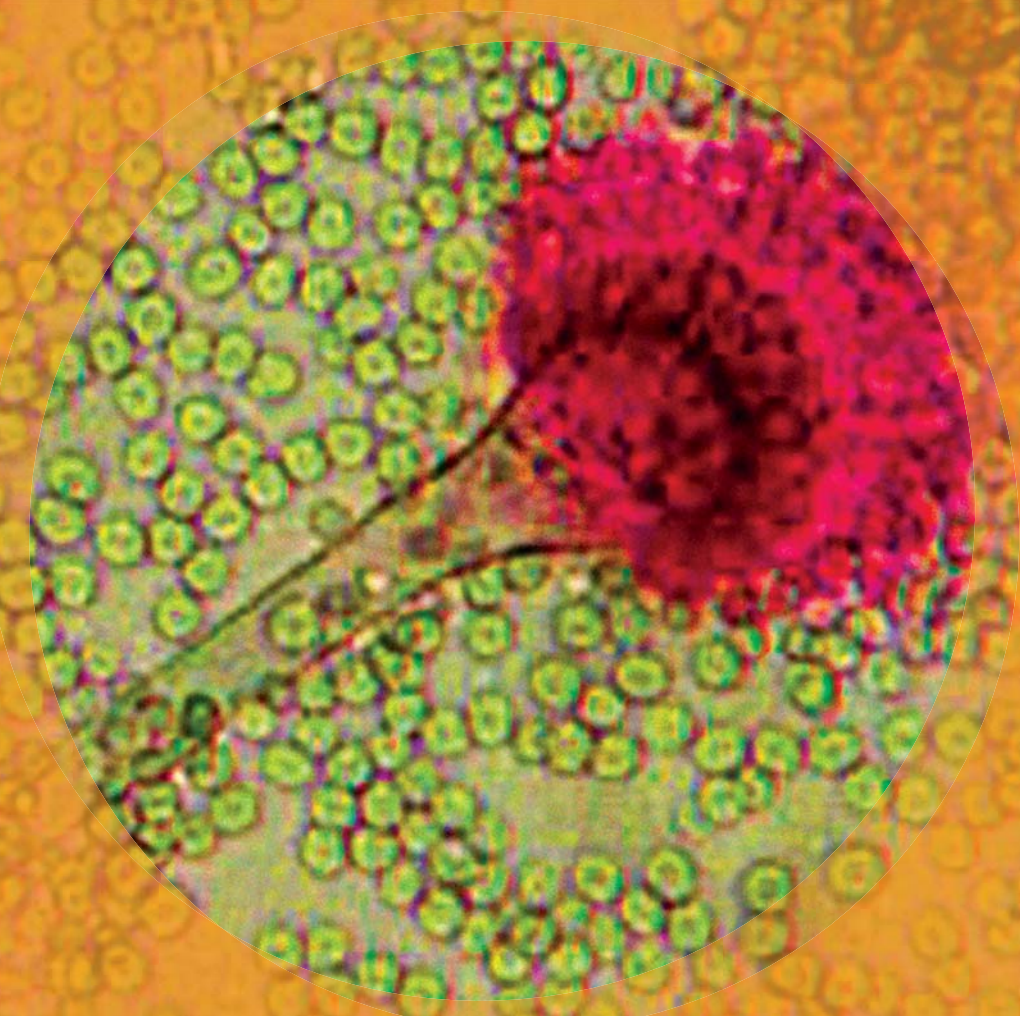


# Aspergillus



**Natural Habitats** Soil • Plant debris • Indoor air environment

**Suitable Substrates in the Indoor Environment:** • Grows on a wide range of substrates indoors • Prevalent in water damaged buildings

**Water Activity**  $A_w=0.75-0.82$ .

**Mode of Dissemination** Wind

**Allergenic Potential** Allergic bronchopulmonary aspergillosis (ABPA) which is common in asthmatic and cystic fibrosis patients • Aspergillus sinusitis • Invasive aspergillosis in immunocompromised patients

**Potential Opportunist or Pathogen** Aspergilloma and chronic pulmonary aspergillosis in people with lung disease

**Industrial Uses** *A. oryzae* is used in soy sauce production • *A. terreus* produces mevinnin which is able to reduce blood cholesterol • *A. niger* produces enzymes used to make some breads and beers and is also used in plastic decomposition. • *A. niger* and *A. ochraceus* are used in cortisone production.

**Potential Toxins Produced** Secalonic acid D • Aflatoxin B • Aflatoxin G • Aflatoxin M1 • Aflatrem (alkaloid) • Aflatrem (indole alkaloid) • Aspertoxin • Brevianamide A • Citreoviridin, • Citrinin • Cyclopiazonic acid • Fumagillin • Fumigaclavine • Fumitremorgin A • Gliotoxin • Helvolic acid • 3-Nitropropionic acid • Ochratoxin A • Ochratoxin B • Ochratoxin C • Penicillic acid • Phthioic acid • Patulin • Sphingofungins • Sterigmatocystin • Terrein • Terreic acid • Terretinin • Territrem A • Versicolorin A • Verruculogen • Viomellein

**Other Comments** It is the second most common opportunistic pathogen following *Candida*.



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