

Microbial Remediation

Mould growth can be a serious problem, producing allergens, irritants, and potentially toxic substances!

From moisture to materials, we break down everything you need to know to take care of this issue. Don't let mould take over—educate yourself today!

01 What makes mould grow?

Airborne mould spores need a proper "home" to reproduce. That location must provide food, water, a calm environment, preferably darkness (however mould can and does grow in lighted areas), and an acceptable temperature.

Of those factors, water (moisture content) is the one that we can best control to limit the risk of mould growth.

02 How wet is too wet?

The percentage of moisture content is defined as the amount of moisture in a material compared to its oven-dried weight. Thus, if a piece of wood weighs 100 kgs., and has a 10% MC (moisture content), then 10% of that weight, 10 kgs., is water weight.

Key threshold moisture content (MC) levels for wood are:

30% MC - Wet rot occurs.

20% MC - Mold growth accelerates. Certain moulds, such as *Stachybotrys chartarum*, require high water activity to grow, which then leads to wood destroying "dry rot" fungi, and decay.

16% MC - This is the lower limit of moisture that will support mould growth. Thus, if the MC can be brought below 16%, not enough moisture is available to support mould growth.

03 How fast does Mould grow?

The two moulds commonly found in remediation work are *Penicillium* and *Aspergillus*, both of which can form a colony (colonise) within 48 to 72 hours. Their spores are respirable, meaning the mould spores can be drawn into the lungs during normal breathing.

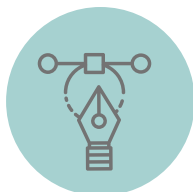
Both *Penicillium* and *Aspergillus* are xerophilic, which means they can grow in low moisture environments; however, both still require a moisture content (MC) of at least 16%.

04 What's the Best Way to Prevent Mold Growth?

To prevent the conditions that foster mould growth, it's critical to remove bulk water then dry materials and reduce humidity as quickly as possible with Dri-Eaz low-grain refrigerant dehumidifiers LGR 7000XLi and BD 2500 LGR and high velocity airmover Velo Pro.

05 Do you want to learn more?

Enrol in our upcoming Microbial Remediation course for an in-depth training program about this serious problem



MICROBIAL REMEDIATION

Four day on line course to prepare you for the worksite



INCLUSIONS

All course materials, and manuals for future reference including a certificate of completion



QUALIFICATIONS

All successful participants will receive ITI Certification and 12 months membership