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Improving microbiological safety and quality characteristics of wheat and barley by high voltage atmospheric cold plasma closed processing



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CCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

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**Abstract** 

Contamination of cereal grains as a key global food resource with insects or microorganisms

is a persistent concern for the grain industry due to irreversible damage to quality and safety

characteristics and economic losses. Atmospheric cold plasma presents an alternative to

conventional grain decontamination methods owing to the high antimicrobial potential of

reactive species generated during the treatment, but effects against product specific

microflora are required to understand how to optimally develop this approach for grains.

This work investigated the influence of ACP processing parameters for both cereal grain

decontamination and grain quality as important criteria for grain or seed use. A high voltage

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