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DETERMINATION OF AFLATOXIN M1 LEVELS IN BOVINE, OVINE AND GOAT MILK MADE CHEESE BY HPLC

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Aflatoxin M1 (AFM1) levels were determined in 46 Kahramanmaraş semi hard cheese samples (Twenty two bovine milk made, 18 goat milk made and 6 ovine milk made) by HPLC (High pressure liquid chromatography). None of the ovine milk made cheese samples was found to contain AFM1. Except for 2 samples, the other bovine milk made and goat milk made cheese samples were found to contain AFM1, with levels of 0.069-1.2 ng g⁻¹ and 0.06-0.22 ng g⁻¹, respectively. Except for 2 bovine milk made cheese samples (one is found to contain 1.2 ng g⁻¹, the other is found to contain 0.25 ng g⁻¹), almost 96% samples were under the permitted limit of 0.25 ppb AFM1 accepted for cheese by the Turkish Alimentarius Codex .

Key words: Aflatoxin M1, bovine cheese, goat cheese, ovine cheese, HPLC