

A photograph of four white mushrooms with gills, growing in a grassy field. The mushrooms are of varying sizes, with the largest one in the center. The background is a dense field of green grass and some dry, brownish stalks.

**ACCUMULATION OF TOXICOLOGICAL  
IMPORTANT COMPONENTS  
IN MUSHROOMS FROM MACEDONIA**



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**Mushrooms collecting and its cultivation are very popular in Republic of Macedonia, particularly due to its substantial contribution to food intake.**

**The fact that mushrooms can accumulate toxic components induced the elemental content and pesticide investigation in the four mushroom species gathered in arable and agriculture land in Macedonia.**



### Experimental

Toxic heavy metals (Cd, Pb) were analyzed by ETAAS, and other elements were analyzed by FIMS (Hg) and FIAS (As) methods, respectively.

Pesticides were analyzed by GC-RCD (organochlorine) or GC-NPD (organophosphorus) methods.

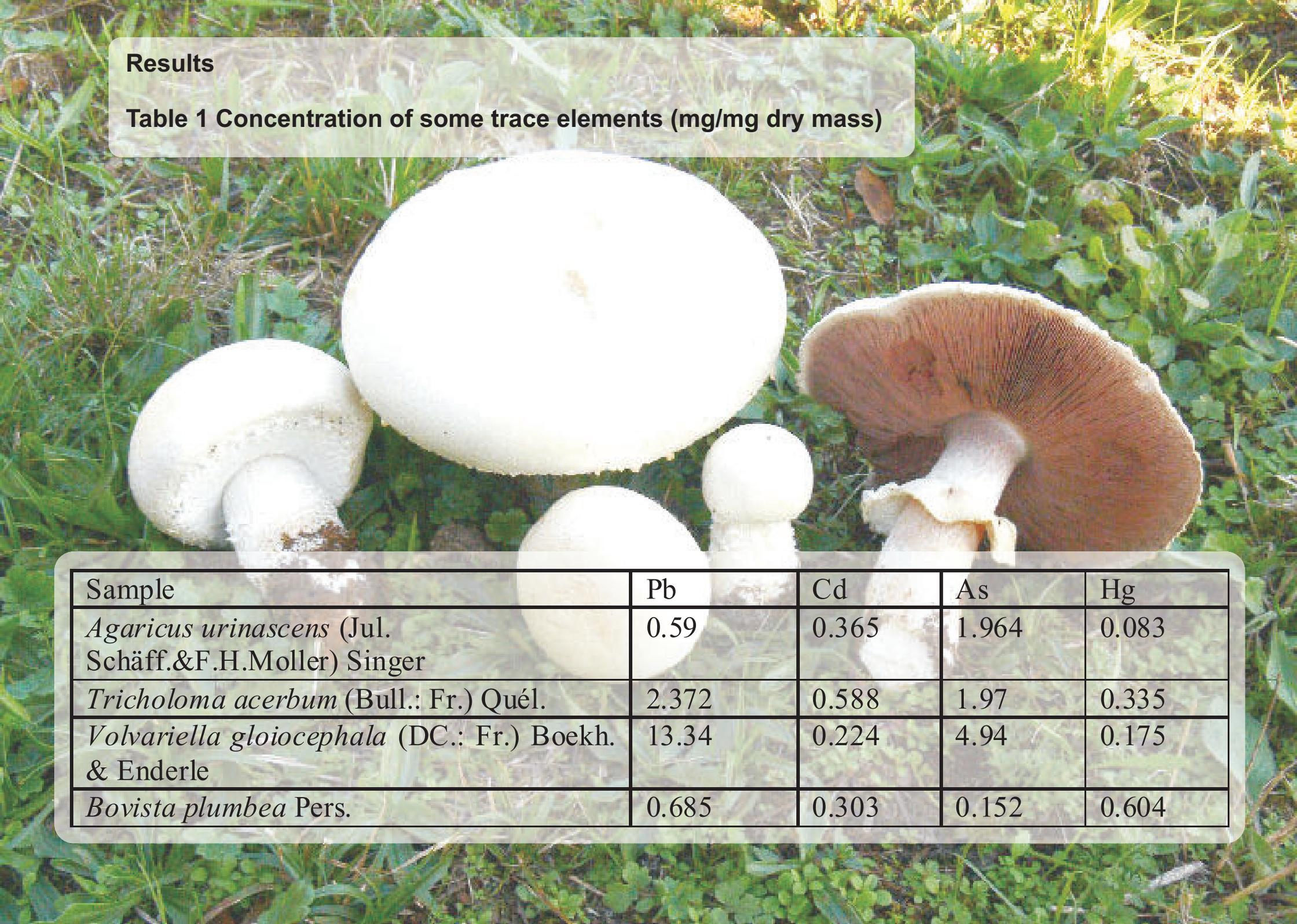
The investigated species were as follows:

Sample	Location
<i>Agaricus urinascens</i> (Jul. Schäff.&F.H.Moller) Singer	arable land Ohrid-Struga road
<i>Tricholoma acerbum</i> (Bull.: Fr.) Quéf.	arable land Bistra Mountain, Sretkovo village
<i>Volvariella gloiocephala</i> (DC.: Fr.) Boekh. & Enderle	in agriculture land, Negotino- Molotenov Lak by river Vardar
<i>Bovista plumbea</i> Pers.	at roadsides, near arable land Prespa Pretor, 850 m

The samples were collected from different habitats of the Republic of Macedonia in 2006-2010 year

## Results

Table 1 Concentration of some trace elements (mg/mg dry mass)



Sample	Pb	Cd	As	Hg
<i>Agaricus urinascens</i> (Jul. Schäff.&F.H.Moller) Singer	0.59	0.365	1.964	0.083
<i>Tricholoma acerbum</i> (Bull.: Fr.) Quéf.	2.372	0.588	1.97	0.335
<i>Volvariella gloiocephala</i> (DC.: Fr.) Boekh. & Enderle	13.34	0.224	4.94	0.175
<i>Bovista plumbea</i> Pers.	0.685	0.303	0.152	0.604

**Table 2 Concentration of some pesticides (mg/mg dry mass)**

Sample	HCB	$\gamma$ HCH	2,4'DDT	4,4'DDD
<i>Agaricus urinascens</i> (Jul. Schäff.&F.H.Moller) Singer	0,001	0,003	<0,001	<0,001
<i>Tricholoma acerbum</i> (Bull.: Fr.) Quéf.	< 0,001	0,007	-	-
<i>Volvariella gloiocephala</i> (DC.: Fr.) Boekh. & Enderle	0,001	0,005	-	<0,001
<i>Bovista plumbea</i> Pers.	-	0,01	<0,001	-

- not detected

< 0.001 detected in very low concentration





## **Discussion**

**Results expressed on dry mass basis indicated on the presence of toxicological important components. The average values for heavy metals were higher than the maximum concentrations imposed by Macedonian regulation<sup>1</sup> in 25 % for Cd and 50 % for Pb of the investigated samples, but below the European Union tolerance limit value.**

**Hg concentration ranged from 0.083 to 0.604  $\mu\text{g/g}$  dry mass is far below the provisionally tolerable weekly intake (0.004 mg/kg body weight), reevaluated recently by WHO.**

***Volvariella gloiocephala* has the highest arsenic level of 4.94  $\mu\text{g/g}$  while the other species' concentrations fell within the range of 0.152 to 1.97  $\mu\text{g/g}$  dry mass.**

**Organophosphorus pesticides were not detected and not all tested organochlorine pesticides were present. Where organochlorine pesticides were found quantities were less than 0.001  $\mu\text{g/g}$  dry mass. Higher concentrations were estimated for  $\gamma\text{HCH}$  but lower than our permission.**

## **Conclusion**

**Elemental analyses from a point of toxicological importance showed that the mineral composition of four species of Macedonian mushrooms varied greatly by the species and place of growing. Obtained average values of Pb, Cd, As and Cu were lower than the maximum concentration imposed by European Union and WHO.**

**In most of the pesticides were not detected; where were detected the average values were lower than the maximum concentration imposed by our food regulation.**

## **References**

**<sup>1</sup>Pravilnik za opshti baranja za bezbednost na hrana, Sl. Vesnik RM 118/05.**

