

**A SURVEY ON THE OCCURRENCE AND SIGNIFICANCE OF FUNGI
IN POTABLE WATERS**

**M. ARVANITIDOU, K. KANELLOU, T.C. CONSTADINIDES and V.
KATSOUYANNOPOULOS**

*Laboratory of Hygiene, Medical School, Aristotelian University of Thessaloniki,
54006 Thessaloniki, Greece*

ABSTRACT

The prevalence of fungi was investigated in 126 potable water samples in parallel with the standard pollution indicator micro-organisms. Filamentous fungi were isolated from 104 out of 126 (82.5%) samples and yeasts from 14 (11.1%), whereas their mean counts were 36.6 and 4.4 respectively. Prevailing genera were *Penicillium* spp. isolated from sixty four, *Aspergillus* spp. from fifty three and *Candida* spp. from nine out of the examined samples. Colony forming units of yeasts were significantly correlated with those of total and faecal coliforms, whereas the counts of filamentous fungi were significantly correlated with total heterotrophic bacteria counts.