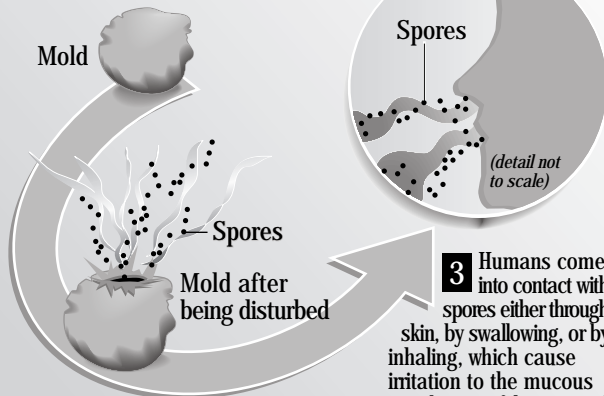


Suffering increases as mold counts rise

No one knows how many species of mold exist but estimates range from tens of thousands to hundreds of thousands. Mold growth is encouraged by warm, humid conditions and can be found in shady, damp areas or places where leaves or other vegetation are decomposing.

1 Mold lives on plants and animals and contains spores.

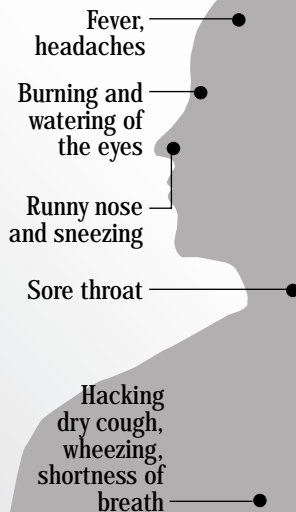


2 Spores are released into the air when mold growth is disturbed.

3 Humans come into contact with spores either through skin, by swallowing, or by inhaling, which cause irritation to the mucous membranes of the eyes and respiratory system.

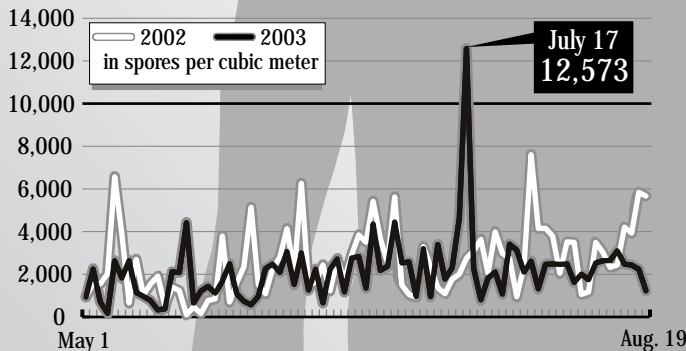
Within the human body

Some molds produce mycotoxins, which can cause reactions and illness in sensitized people. Areas of the body affected and symptoms include:



Greater Cincinnati total mold count

Mold counts are up 15 percent this year. Mold counts over 10,000 adversely affect sensitive people and can hospitalize extremely sensitive people.



Sources: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Hamilton County Department of Environmental Services