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## Cylindrospermopsis in Water Supply Reservoirs in Brazil Determined by Immunochemical and Molecular Methods

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### ABSTRACT

It is reported for the first time in Brazil and South America the presence of cylindrospermopsis (CYN) in water supply reservoirs. CYN is a powerful hepatotoxic alkaloid implicated in outbreaks of human sicknesses. We detected CYN in different sources of water in Northeastern Brazil using molecular and immunological techniques. The highest concentrations of toxin occurred in the Jucazinho reservoir with the phytoplankton containing the potentially CYN-producing *C. raciborskii* and *Sphaerospermopsis aphanizomenoides* (previously known as *Aphanizomenon aphanizomenoides*). The polyketide synthase (PKS) and peptide synthetase (PS), which are directly related to the ability to produce CYN, were found in all the analyzed samples. The result of the present study emphasizes the need to improve monitoring of CYN in water bodies used for drinking and recreation, in order to avoid exposure of human populations to this toxin.

### KEYWORDS

Aphanizomenon, Cyanobacteria, Cylindrospermopsis Raciborskii, CYN, Sphaerospermopsis Aphanizomenoides, Toxin

### Cite this paper

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