

Anna Szabo

Qualifications	MRes Molecular Plant and Microbial Sciences Imperial College London, UK BSc (Hons) in Biology Queen Mary University London, UK
Year of Birth	2001
Nationality	Hungarian
Languages	English, Hungarian
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Current Position at CWA

Anna Szabo joined CWA International as Food Scientist in 2025 after completing her master's degree in molecular biology at Imperial College London. Her postgraduate research focused on the molecular mechanisms driving fungal phenotypes, particularly in relation to pathogen-host interactions and microbial response.

Anna has a broad scientific background in microbiology, molecular biology, host-pathogen interactions and biochemistry. Her academic training also included valuable research experience on fungal pathogens and their genetic mechanisms, providing insight into assessing contamination risks and quality concerns in agricultural commodities. She also gained experience in research methods, data science and coding, equipping her with a multidisciplinary approach to food science investigations.

Specific Expertise and Experience

Anna has experience advising on a wide range of food and agricultural commodities including, grains, sugar, feedstuff and palletised cargo. She is familiar with internationally recognised sampling and testing protocols and has supported the assessment of quality, contamination and spoilage in bulk cargoes.

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Her expertise includes the microbiological safety of food and feed products, with a particular interest in issues such as mould growth, moisture, water ingress and mycotoxin development during storage and transport.

Field Attendances

Anna has undertaken both international and domestic attendances relating to a range of food commodities. These include:

- USA – Inspection and investigation of rye cargo
- Senegal – Warehouse and silo inspection of rice cargo; participation in joint survey and sampling activity
- Italy – Inspection of soyabean cargo affected by self-heating
- Liberia – Inspection of bagged rice cargo discharge and reconditioning
- United Kingdom – Inspection of palletised ice cream cargo
- Guinea – Inspection of bagged rice reconditioning
- Belgium – Inspection of palletised banana cargo
- Cardiff – Laboratory attendance, supporting the microbiological analysis and grading process, and ensuring sample integrity

These attendances have involved on-site investigation of contamination, wetting damage, pre-shipment issues and self-heating and have provided practical experience in commodity inspection and assessment.