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Harmful Pathogens Find Home in Dishwashers

June 23, 2011 — A new study published in the British journal *Fungal Biology* reports that potentially pathogenic fungi, including a type of "black yeast," are now able to live in extreme conditions such as in dishwashers, according to a Sustainability Dashboard Tools press release.

Researchers indicate that the same pathogens may also be found in other home appliances such as washing machines and coffee makers, as these devices can all provide a moist environment in which the pathogens can grow.

The study, which involved private homes located in 101 cities on six continents, also reported:

- The fungi were present on the rubber seal that lines the inside of the door on 62 percent of dishwashers
- In 56 percent of those dishwashers, black yeast that can harm the central nervous system were found
- The fungi appeared to be tolerant of heat, cleaning detergents, and both acid and alkaline water.

About Sustainability Dashboard Tools

Sustainability Dashboard Tools has created new software technology designed specifically for cleaning professionals. Sustainability Dashboard Tools' software allows users to measure the natural resources their businesses use and the greenhouse gas emissions they generate. For more information, visit www.green2sustainable.com.

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