Growth, Growth condition botulinum produces spores and they exist widely in the environment including soil, river and sea water. The growth of the bacteria and the formation of toxin occur in products with low oxygen content and certain combinations of storage temperature and preservative parameters C. botulinum spores are often found on the surfaces of fruits and vegetables and in seafood. The toxin is most commonly formed when food is improperly processed (canned) at home. The organism grows best under low-oxygen conditions and produces spores and toxins.