

EFFECT OF SOME INSECTICIDES (METHOMY AND IMIDACLOPRID) ON EXPERIMENTAL RATS

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B.Sc Agric. Sci. (Biochemistry), Fac. Agric., Cairo Univ., Egypt, ١٩٩٨

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ABSTRACT

The effect of daily oral administration of Carbamate (Methomyl) ,at ٠,٢ , ٢ and ٥ mg/kg b.w and neonicotinoid (Imidacloprid), at ٠,٥ , ١ and ٥ mg/kg b.w insecticides on male albino rats for ٢٨ successive days, followed by ١٥ days recovery were studied . The most important histopathology and biochemical parameters of the serum ; alanine aminotranseferase (ALT) , aspartate aminotranseferase (AST) ,alkaline phosphatase activities (ALP) , total protein , protein profile (albumin and globulin) , urea , creatinine , cholesterol , triglycerides , cholinesterase activity were investigated.

The activities of AST, ALT were significantly increased at all tested times in cumulatively dose related manner .No significant changes were observed in alkaline phosphatase enzyme activity compared with the control. On the other hand serum total protein , Protein Profile (albumin and globulin) recorded highly significant decrease in all treatments with methomyl and imidacloprid . A highly significant increase in the blood urea and creatinine with two tested insecticides in the following order, methomyl and imidacloprid after treatments ١٤ days were observed.

The levels were decreased during the ٢١, ٢٨ and ٤٥ days. methomyl significantly increased the rat serum triglycerides and cholesterol at different used concentrations for ١٤ , ٢١ , ٢٨ and ٤٥ days but imidacloprid significantly decreased the rat serum triglycerides and cholesterol at different used concentrations for ١٤ , ٢١ , ٢٨ and ٤٥ days .compared with the control .

Methomyl and imidacloprid treatments significantly reduced the rat cholinesterase activity at different used concentrations. The highest residues of methomyl and imidacloprid in organs after treatments for ٣٠ days were detected in the liver, kidney, brain and testes. At the end of experiment period recovery (٤٥ days) residues were reduced in different organs.

Key word : Methomyl , imidacloprid , Histopathology , Biochemical , rats , animals

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INTRODUCTION

Pesticides have been useful in agriculture pest control, there is considerable risk for human health and damage to ecosystems (Moreno *et al.*, 2007). Carbamates inhibit the enzyme acetyl cholinesterase (ACHE) which is present in erythrocyte and plasma in man (Rama and Jaga, 1991 and Padilla *et al.*, 2007). Carbamates affect on the human central nervous system (Hoogduijn *et al.*, 2006), also cause significant changes in total serum lipids glucose, protein levels AST, ALT, acid phosphatase and alkaline phosphatase activities in mammals (Sadek *et al.*, 1989; Fayez and Kilgore, 1992 and Chevalier *et al.*, 1993). They affect liver glucose 6-phosphatase and liver succinic acid dehydrogenase (Fayez and Kilgore, 1992) Kidney and liver AST and ALT activities (Kiran *et al.*, 1988 and Saleh, 1990a). Carbamates have toxic symptoms and physiological changes in different animals. Toxic effects of carbamates were noticed in frogs and birds (Mullie *et al.*, 1991) and suspected cause of death in ducks (Yuningshi and Dan, 1980). Methomyl cause high significant increase in the blood urea, uric acid and creatinine in rats (Zidan *et al.*, 1998).

Imidacloprid is a neonicotinoid insecticide which produces neurotoxicity through binding or partial binding to specific areas of the nicotinic acetylcholine receptor (Anatra-Cordone and Durkin, 2000). Imidacloprid is an agonist at the nicotinic acetylcholine receptor, and as

such it is highly effective against many sucking insects (Worthing, 1994; Elbert *et al.*, 1998). This investigation was undertaken to study the effect of methomyl (carbamate) and imidacloprid (neonicotinoid) insecticides on liver function (ALT, AST and alkaline phosphatase (ALP) activities, total protein, albumin and globulin, kidney function (urea and creatinine), lipid profile (cholesterol and triglycerides), cholinesterase activity and histopathological in male albino rats.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

١. Imidacloprid

a. Effect of imidacloprid on body weight

Block (١٩٨٧) examined the subchronic toxicity of imidacloprid (٩٢,٨ %) in Beagle dogs by administrating it through the diet for a period of ٤ weeks which included four group of dogs, each containing two males and two females. The doses were ٠, ٢٠٠, ١٠٠٠ and ٥٠٠٠ ppm, which corresponded to ٠, ٧,٣, ٣١ and ٤٩ mg/kg /day . All animals in the ٥٠٠٠ ppm dose group died or were sacrificed prior to the completion of the study. The first dog died after only ٢ days of the treatment; the other three dogs died on day ١٨ or day ٢٤. The clinical signs for the dying animals included marked reduction in food intake, weight loss (up to ٤٢ %) .The lower tested dose of imidacloprid ١٠٠٠ ppm in the body weights of these dogs was not affect by the treatment.

Eiben (١٩٨٨a) evaluated the toxicity of imidacloprid (٩٢,٨ %) in mice (١٠ / sex / dose) for period of ١٠٧ days . The dietary levels were ١٢٠, ٦٠٠ and ٣٠٠٠ ppm , which reportedly corresponded to ٧٧ , ٣٩٧ and

2323 mg/kg /day (males) and 91, 453 and 3075 mg/kg /day (females). The animals in the 3000 ppm dose group were in poor general condition, had rough coats and markedly lower body weights. The average body weight of the males and females in this group was 15 % and 27 % ($P \leq 0.01$) respectively, lower than the control. The food consumption at this dose was distinctly higher (11 % males and 51 females) compared to the control, thus indicating that the reduction in body weight was caused by the treatment. Lower body weight (5 %, $P \leq 0.01$) was also reported for the males at the 600 ppm dose group.

In two chronic toxicity /oncogenicity studies, imidacloprid (95,3 % a.i) was administered to mice (50/sex /dose) for a period of 24 months. The dietary levels were 0,100, 330 and 1000 ppm (Watta –Gebert ,1991a) and 0 and 200 ppm (Watta –Gebert ,1991b). Ten more mice /sex /dose were used for interim examinations after 12 months of treatment. The two studies had similar protocols and therefore, were evaluated together. The reported average daily doses were 0,20, 66, 208 or 414 mg/kg/day for males and 0, 30, 104, 274 and 424 mg/kg /day for females . The doses were based on the mean daily food consumption ranging from 6,2 to 6,5 g/male /day and from 7,4 to 8,5 g/female day. This food intake represented about 22 – 28 % of the body weight of an adult mouse.

Pauluhn (1989) assessed imidacloprid (95.2 %) for subchronic inhalation toxicity in Wistar rats. Ten rats /sex /dose were exposed by head /nose only to imidacloprid in the form of dust. The exposure time was 6 hours /day, 6 days /week over a period of 12 weeks. The concentrations of imidacloprid were 0, 0.05, 0.5 and 5.0 mg/m³ /day. The control groups received air alone. The principal toxicological findings were the reduction in body weight gains (6-9 P≤0.05) of the male rats from the 5.0 mg /m³ /day group and the concentration-dependent increase of 7- 14 in the absolute and relative (to body weight) liver weights of females treated with 0.5 and 5.0 mg /m³ /day imidacloprid .

Ruf (1990) administered imidacloprid to Beagle dogs (Bor: Beagle strain; 4 dogs /sex /dietary level) as food mash at doses of 0, 200, 600 or 1800 ppm for 13 weeks. The 1800 ppm produced a drastic reduction in body weight (8- 20 % less than control) within the first 4 weeks .This effect was, at least in part, due to the 30 - 54 % decrease in the food intake .Because of the low food consumption, the concentration of imidacloprid was thereafter reduced from 1800 to 600 ppm until the completion of the study. Nevertheless, the average body weight in the high-dose animals remained lower than the control by 6 % (females) and 9 % (males)at the completion of the study at week 13.

Eiben (1991) found that chronic exposure of Wistar rats to 100 ppm imidacloprid resulted in substantial reduction in body weights in both sexes at all times. The weight decline reached maximum of 11 - 12 %, ($P \leq 0.01$) at week 10. About 0 to 8 % ($P \leq 0.01$) decrease in body weight was observed in males and females at the 100 ppm dietary level. The reduction in the body weight was clearly treatment-related.

Becker and Biedermann (1992) examined the developmental toxicity of imidacloprid in the rabbit. Mated Chinchilla rabbits (16/dose level) were treated by gavage from Gestation day (GD) 6 through 18 with daily dosage of 0, 25 and 50 (mg/kg/day). The mean body weight was decreased by 5 % on day 7 of treatment (GD 8). The weight loss became significantly lower than the controls within 0 days of treatment (8 - 11 %, $P \leq 0.01$). The fetuses from these dams had a reduced body weight (10 % , $P \leq 0.01$) and delayed ossification. The next lower dose (25 mg/kg/day) caused a decrease in food consumption (16 % $P \leq 0.01$) and a reduction in body weight gain of the dams (22 % , not statistically significant), compared to control animals.

Sheets (1994) administered imidacloprid (98.8 %) to Fischer-344 rats (12/sex/dose) at dietary levels of 0, 100, 1000 and 3000 for a period of 13 weeks. During most of the exposure period, imidacloprid caused a reduction in body weights in both sexes at 1000 (up to 0 %

,females ; 8 % , males ; $P \leq 0.05$) and 3000 ppm (up to 9 % , females ; 17 % males ; $P \leq 0.05$) . This effect was due, at least in part , to a decreased in food consumption (up to 13 % and 29 %)for the animals at 1000 ppm and 3000 ppm , respectively .

b. Effect of imidacloprid on liver functions

Eiben (1988b) found higher serum AP activity (up to, 47 % $P \leq 0.01$) in mice males and females treated with 3000 ppm imidacloprid.

Allen *et al* .(1989) administered imidacloprid through the diet for period of 52 weeks to Beagle dogs (4/ sex/dietary level) at 200, 500, 1250 ppm. The 1250 ppm dose was increased to 2500 ppm from week 17 to the end of the treatment. Effects at 1250 /2500 ppm included an increase in the metabolic activity in the liver and liver cytochrome P-450 enzymes for both sexes (51 -93 % $P \leq 0.01$).

Pauluhn (1989) studied the effects of imidacloprid on Wistar rats after 4- weeks of inhalation .Head /nose-only were exposed to imidacloprid clearly induced hepatocellular damage and impairment of the liver function in females. The activities of the serum ALT, AP and bilirubin were measured by 20 % , 70 and 20 % $P \leq 0.01$), respectively. Finally, marked induction of the hepatic mixed function oxidases (MFO) of 34- 83 % ($P \leq 0.01$) was observed in the animals treated with 30,5 and 191,2 mg/m³ /day imidacloprid.

Suter *et al.* (1990) examined the effects of imidacloprid (90.3 %) on reproduction and development in two generation, two-litter study in Wistar rats. The dietary doses were 100, 200 and 400 ppm. Liver enzymes participating in the biotransformation were of xenobiotics (cytochrome P-450, O-demethylase and N-demethylase were also induced in the maternal animals (up to 37 % , $P \leq 0.01$) at 24 months .

Eiben (1991) observed no changes in liver morphology in Wister rats exposed to imidacloprid. While there were some indications of liver toxicity for both sexes at 1800 ppm based on alteration in serum chemistry. These included elevated activities of serum AP (up to 37 % , $P \leq 0.01$) at 6, 12 and 18 months and aspartate aminotransferase (AST, 43% $P \leq 0.01$).

Haschek and Rousseaux (1998) concluded that the following changes in the serum chemistry of the rats exposed to 2400 ppm imidacloprid were indicative of hepatotoxicity . Elevated activities in the serum of alkaline phosphatase (AP, 10 % $P \leq 0.01$) and alanine aminotransferase (ALT , 20 % $P \leq 0.01$). Decreased levels of protein (8 % $P \leq 0.05$), albumin (6 % $P \leq 0.05$).

El-Kashoury (1999) found that imidacloprid caused a significant decrease in ALT and ALP activates in rats .