



ACUTE TOXICITY OF CYPERMETHRIN TO FRESHWATER FISH CHANNA PUNCTATUS (BLOCH)

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ABSTRACT The lethal concentration of the synthetic pesticides affect the metabolism of an organism and could alter the population size as well as the habitat of the aquatic organism like fishes. Thus, the aim of the present study was to determine the acute toxicity of cypermethrin insecticide to the freshwater fish *Channa punctatus* (Bloch). Experimental fish were exposed to different concentrations of cypermethrin between range 0.1, 0.08, 0.06, 0.04 and 0.02mg/l for 96hrs in test container. The 96h LC₅₀ value of cypermethrin on the fish was found to be 0.40mg/l. The variation in the lethal concentration values was due to its dependence upon various factors viz., sensitivity to the toxicant, its concentration and duration of exposure.

KEYWORDS :

Introduction

Synthetic pyrethroid insecticides are an extensively used in place of organochlorine, organophosphorus insecticides and carbamates to control various types of pests and increase agricultural production. These chemicals are potentially more toxic to fish and other aquatic organisms, and are least toxic to mammals (1,2). The lipophilicity of pyrethroids indicates that these chemicals will be absorbed by fish even from very low concentrations in water (3). However, they are neither fully metabolized nor quickly detoxicated and therefore create serious problems of residue accumulation (4). It was also reported that the acute toxicity tests of pesticides on fish to acquire rapid estimates of the concentrations that caused direct, irreversible harm to test organism (5). Hence, the use of pesticides has increased with the growing awareness of their utility in agriculture production, animal husbandry, post-harvest technology, and in the public health and welfare of mankind.

Since some members of the population of fishes may prove to be excessively susceptible and others may prove to be very resistant to the dose or the concentration of the toxicant that affects 50% of the population (6) exposed in the contaminated water body and they reflect the health of the aquatic ecosystem. Significant changes in the behaviour and external appearance of the fishes habituated in the pesticide-contaminated water body. It has been carried to the catchment areas by rains and floods where this species habituated (7). Such a phenomenon was extensively observed in the catchment areas of Manipur due to increasing use of pesticides in the agricultural field (8). It was also reported that the *C.punctatus* had high nutritive value (9) and the people of the region preferred this species for consumption by the lactating mother and malnourished children. But due to the increased use of these pesticides could affect the health of the dependent person. However, the study about the toxicity level of the *C.punctatus* found in the habitat of the region is still lacking. Thus, In the present study, an attempt has been made to analyze the toxicity of the cypermethrin 10 EC on the freshwater fish *C.punctatus* (Bloch).

Material and methods

The freshwater fish *C.punctatus* size 12-13 cm and weight 18-20 g were brought from ema market of Manipur. The fish were acclimatized to the laboratory conditions at 28 ± 2°C for 15 days. The water used for acclimatization and conducting experiments was chlorinated tap water.

Acute Toxicity Tests

The containers of the test media are of 20 L capacity, wherein each test five containers were used and each container consisted of 10 fish. The mortality rate was taken into consideration and while taking the data, dead fish was removed immediately. Pilot experiments were conducted to choose the mortality range between 10% and 100%. Based on the pilot experiments, the experiments were conducted to determine the toxicity indifferent concentrations (0.10, 0.08, 0.06, 0.04 and 0.02mg/l) for 96hrs. The data of each concentration was pooled up to calculate the LC₅₀ values. The un-weighted regression method of

probit analysis and SPSS v20.0 was used to calculate the LC₅₀ values [10]. The following results are in mg/L-1.

Results and Discussion

In the present investigation the test species, *C.punctatus* has shown differential toxicity level with the function of period. This shows that the more is the duration period the less is the concentration required. The observed percentage of mortality of *C.punctatus* for cypermethrin in static tests continuous for different hours and different concentrations were shown in Table 1, 2, 3 and 4. The observed LC values and 95% confidence limits in static tests were shown in Table 4.

Table 1: Parameter Estimates of the probit analyses for *C.punctatus*

	Parameter	Estimate	Std. Error	Z	Sig.	95% Confidence Interval	
						Lower Bound	Upper Bound
PROBIT	dose	3.900	.978	3.990	.000	1.984	5.816
	Intercept	5.455	1.297	4.207	.000	4.158	6.752

a. PROBIT model: PROBIT(p) = Intercept + BX (Covariates X are transformed using the base 10.000 logarithm.)

Table 2: Chi-Square Tests for 96 h LC₅₀ value of *C.punctatus*

		Chi-Square	dfb	Sig.
PROBIT	Pearson Goodness-of-Fit Test	1.845	3	.605a

a. Since the significance level is greater than .500, no heterogeneity factor is used in the calculation of confidence limits. b. Statistics based on individual cases differ from statistics based on aggregated cases.

Table 3: Cell Counts and Residuals

	Number	concentration	Number of experimental fish	Observed Responses	Expected Responses	Residual
PROBIT	1	-1.699	10	1	1.207	-.207
	2	-1.398	10	6	5.011	-.989
	3	-1.222	10	7	7.548	-.548
	4	-1.097	10	8	8.804	-.804
	5	-1.000	10	10	9.400	.600

Table 4. Confidence Limits for fish *C.punctatus* at different concentrations

Probability	95% Confidence Limits for dose		95% Confidence Limits for log(dose)			
	Estimate	Lower Bound	Upper Bound	Estimate	Lower Bound	Upper Bound
LC ₁	.010	.002	.018	-1.995	-2.675	-1.752

LC ₂	.012	.003	.020	-1.925	-2.540	-1.703
LC ₃	.013	.004	.021	-1.881	-2.454	-1.672
LC ₄	.014	.004	.022	-1.848	-2.389	-1.649
LC ₅	.015	.005	.023	-1.820	-2.337	-1.629
LC ₆	.016	.005	.024	-1.797	-2.293	-1.613
LC ₇	.017	.006	.025	-1.777	-2.254	-1.598
LC ₈	.017	.006	.026	-1.759	-2.219	-1.585
LC ₉	.018	.006	.027	-1.742	-2.188	-1.573
LC ₁₀	.019	.007	.027	-1.727	-2.159	-1.562
LC ₁₅	.022	.009	.030	-1.664	-2.039	-1.516
LC ₂₀	.024	.011	.033	-1.614	-1.945	-1.478
LC ₂₅	.027	.014	.036	-1.572	-1.866	-1.445
LC ₃₀	.029	.016	.039	-1.533	-1.795	-1.414
LC ₃₅	.032	.019	.041	-1.497	-1.731	-1.384
LC ₄₀	.034	.021	.044	-1.464	-1.672	-1.354
LC ₄₅	.037	.024	.048	-1.431	-1.617	-1.323
LC ₅₀	.040	.027	.051	-1.399	-1.564	-1.291
LC ₅₅	.043	.031	.055	-1.366	-1.514	-1.256
LC ₆₀	.046	.034	.061	-1.334	-1.466	-1.217
LC ₆₅	.050	.038	.067	-1.300	-1.421	-1.174
LC ₇₀	.054	.042	.075	-1.264	-1.377	-1.124
LC ₇₅	.059	.046	.086	-1.226	-1.334	-1.065
LC ₈₀	.066	.051	.101	-1.183	-1.291	-.995
LC ₈₅	.074	.057	.123	-1.133	-1.245	-.910
LC ₉₀	.085	.064	.160	-1.070	-1.192	-.797
LC ₉₁	.088	.066	.170	-1.055	-1.180	-.769
LC ₉₂	.092	.068	.183	-1.038	-1.166	-.739
LC ₉₃	.095	.070	.197	-1.020	-1.152	-.705
LC ₉₄	.100	.073	.215	-1.000	-1.137	-.667
LC ₉₅	.105	.076	.238	-.977	-1.119	-.624
LC ₉₆	.112	.080	.267	-.950	-1.099	-.573
LC ₉₇	.121	.084	.309	-.916	-1.074	-.510
LC ₉₈	.134	.091	.376	-.872	-1.041	-.425
LC ₉₉	.158	.102	.512	-.802	-.991	-.291

a. Logarithm base = 10.

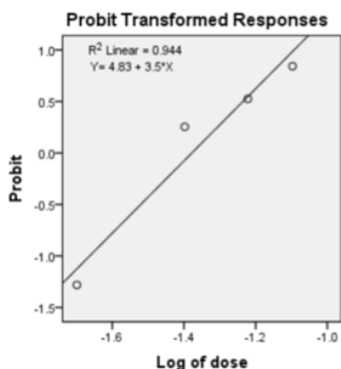


Figure 1: Probit linear relationship of acute toxicity of Cypermethrin to *C.punctatus* (Bloch)

The hyperactivity of the selected species to the pesticide cypermethrin showed the maximum at the LC₅₀ (Table 3). This shows that the behavioural characteristics of the species to the cypermethrin exposure is obviously sensitive to the toxicant effect and it is dependent on the exposure time. There observe changes in the behaviour and mortality of the species with the increase of exposure time which is consistent with the study reported by several workers(11,12). This might due to the accumulation of acetylcholine in synaptic and neuromuscular junctions(11,13).

In the present investigation, the 96 hr LC₅₀ of Cypermethrin on the freshwater fish *C.punctatus* is estimated as 0.040 (Table 4) however, the probit transformed plot showed strong variation as shown in Figure.1. This showed that the differential tolerance of the selected species to cypermethrin exposure. This indicates that the sensitivity of the experimental species to the various factors like the concentration and the duration of exposure to the pesticide, cypermethrin. It was also reported that the toxicity of the pesticides to the different animals varied due to differential tolerance and exposure rate(14,15).

Conclusion

From the above acute toxicity investigation, it is concluded that the

pesticide cypermethrin is highly toxic to freshwater fish *C.punctatus* at LC₅₀ values and resulted in significant behavioural changes and increase mortality rate. The lethal concentration of the pesticides to the species indicate the impact of the pesticides on the behaviour and respiratory responses. Thus this study helps in the further study of the toxic effect of the pesticide on the other aquatic species and its impact on the habitat pollution.

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