

Biochemical studies of some insecticidal effects on environmental pollution

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SUMMARY The present investigation was carried out to study the physicochemical behaviour of the insecticide profenofos in different Egyptian soils (clay, sandy clay and calcareous soils) for reducing their pollution to soil and ground water. The following points are considered the course of the present investigation: 1- The effect of soil type and insecticide concentration on down-ward movement and leaching behaviour of profenofos. The results showed that the majority of insecticides were located in the upper layer of different soils under investigation (0-5 cm). The insecticide amount recovered were 47.0%, 46.1% and 39.9% for clay, sandy clay and calcareous soil, respectively. By increasing the concentration of profenofos (500-1000 µg) its amount adsorbed on soil surface increased while their residue in the leachate were decreased. The present results revealed that there was an inverse relationship between the rate of profenofos leachability and the tested concentration. The higher leachability occurred with the lowest concentration. 2- The persistence and degradation of profenofos in soils: The results showed that soil type was an influential factor in determining profenofos persistence. According to the mean values of the amounts recovered from the three soils under investigation, as an average of exposure time, the rate of profenofos degradation was higher in sandy clay than clay or calcareous soils. Although high persistence of profenofos was noticed at high application rate (54 mg/50 gm soil) which is mean soil and environmental pollution. 3- The microbiological degradation of profenofos: The degradation rate of profenofos in sterilized and non-sterilized soils was studied. The percentage amount of recovered profenofos after 60 days were (15.67-zero), 11.1-zero and 20.4-17.3) in sterilized and non-sterilized clay, sandy clay and calcareous soils, respectively. Therefore, sterilizing the soil was more pronounced effect on the degradation of profenofos. It could be concluded that degradation of profenofos in soils under investigation is a physicochemical and microbial processes. On the other hand, a toxicological and biochemical study was carried on the insecticide profenofos and the biological control Biofly. 4. Toxicological and biological effects of insecticides. The acute toxicity of Biofly which were carried on mice showed that their minimum lethal dose (MLD) were 3333.3 mg/kg b.wt. while its LD₅₀ were 5833.3 mg/kg b.wt. The symptoms of toxicity were characterized by shallow and rapid respiration, abdominal cramps and difficulty in movements. The high dose of LD₅₀ of Biofly which is equal to 58.33 mg/kg b.wt. give an improve for the safety of Biofly comparing with any other chemical insecticides. 106- On the other hand, oral administration of Biofly and profenofos in dose equal to 1/10 LD₅₀ or 1/100 LD₅₀ of Biofly or profenofos was used to study their cytogenic, teratology, fertility and some biochemical parameters in rats after 90 days. The cytogenic results showed an increase in the percentage of micronucleated polychromatic erythrocytes (MPCE). Also an increase in the ratios of polychromatic erythrocytes to normal chromatic erythrocytes (PCE/NCE) at different doses of Biofly or Profenofos. The PCE/NCE ratio used as a measure for red blood cell proliferation which gave a sign of toxicity or damage of some organs of the body. The teratogenic effect of different doses (1/10 or 1/100 of LD₅₀) of Biofly or Profenofos on fetal rats showed that low dose of Biofly (1/100 LD₅₀) have a slight effect on the number of corpus luteum while its high dose (1/10 LD₅₀) affected both the number of corpus luteum and number of implantation sites. On the other side, both low or high dose of profenofos showed less pinning in both doses than the control. The effect of Biofly and Profenofos in

different doses on the fertility of male rats was studied. Oral administration of 1/10 or 1/100 LD₅₀ of Biofly or Profenofos to male rats caused significant decrease in weight of testes than the control except at high dose of Profenofos (3.60 mg/kg) which caused an increase in testis weight. Although accessory glands (seminal vesicles, prostate and epididymis) showed variation in weights than the control. The sperm concentration and percentage of motility were decreased, although sperm abnormalities were increased which were characterized by coiled tail and headless. Oral administration of Biofly and Profenofos in doses 1/10 and 1/100 LD₅₀, respectively to rats for 90 days. The blood serum showed significant decrease in AS T, total protein, creatinine, bilirubin, cholesterol in Biofly, while significantly increased AL T, AP in profenofos in both doses. S. Residues in some organs: The residues of profenofos were detected in liver and kidney at low and high doses but undetected in spleen and testes in both doses. It is clear that the liver contained the highest amount of residues of the tested insecticide followed by kidney. 6. Histopathological examination: The treated rats with Biofly and Profenofos showed congestion, haemorrhage, focal area of necrosis and lymphocytic mononuclear cell infiltration in liver and kidney. The spleen was hyperplastic with degeneration of the wall of some blood vessels. Congestion and focal myocardial in heart. Severe degeneration and necrosis of the spermatogenic cells of the seminiferous tubules in testis. Histopathological changes in different organs appeared to be dose dependent, with damage increase in the high doses.