

Studies on The Toxicity Effect of Mercuric Chloride on The Gonads (Ovary) in Gambusia Affinis

Shriti Somvanshi

D.P. VIPRA COLLEGE BILASPUR

I. Introduction

Mercury is a naturally occurring metal with a long history of human uses. It has been found in Egyptian tombs dating back to 1500 B.C. more recently, scientists have said that the substance can behave as a neurotoxin in certain form and harm unborn children if ingested by pregnant women. Mercury and its compounds have found usage in a very wide range of activities through the ages.

Mercury forms few organic compound and it was believed that the Mercury although poisonous would not get into food chain but Microbial action converted inorganic mercury into Methyl Mercury. Fish absorb methyl mercury from water 100 times faster than they absorb including the amount and route of intake, the duration of exposure, and the species affected.

II. Material & Methods

For the present study the fresh water fish *Gambusia affinis* female was selected. The sexual dimorphism are present in the females and recognizable by swollen belly. The collection of fishes was made for one complete reproductive cycle. Fresh fishes were collected. Prepared the lethal and sub-lethal doses in different ppm. or concentration of mercury chloride and gonad were dissected out and fixed in aqueous Bouin's fluid for the study of toxic effect in gonads. The paraffin block of the gonads were prepared & sections of gonads were obtained at 6 μ thickness and stained in Heidenhain's (1870) iron-haematoxylin method. We measure their total body weight & gonad weight also.

III. Observations

The stained slides were examined for histological details. These observations have been done in between a normal & controlled fish.

In the histological slides on ovary the following changes have been observed in polluted mercury chloride in *G. affinis*. Shrinkage in the size of ovary the treated ovary shows slower rate of oogenesis, lesser number of oocytes & ovarian follicles, pyknosis & presence of atretic follicles showing deformities in oocytes, damage the developing stage of oocytes, Hyposecretion of ovarian hormones.

IV. Result & Discussion

In present investigation on *Gambusia affinis* treated in different doses 3.5 ppm caused sudden death. Dose of 3.0 ppm resulted 1/2 hour survival. Then we treated in different reducing doses 2.5, 2.0, 1.5, 1.0 ppm. Finally in dose of 0.5 ppm the fish survived for long time we came to conclusion that the *G. affinis* survives for long time in sub-lethal dose (0.5). The normal condition treated fish exhibit almost all the developing stage gonad whereas fishes treated for long time showing deformities in ovary, slower rate of oogenesis, lesser number of different stage of oocytes, all these changes lead to the decreased rate of metabolism of the body which might probably be due to the toxic effect of Mercuric chloride. Therefore it can be said that gonads are severely affected by the pollutants.

References

- [1]. Avasthi : Maruthi, Y. and Subba Rao, M.V. 2000. Effect of distillery effluent biochemical parameters of fish *Channa punctatus*. *J. Environ. and Poll.*, 7(2): 111-113.
- [2]. Ambulkar : K.R. 2007. Studies on the toxicity of mercury on reproductive system in a fresh water teleost *Danio rerio*.
- [3]. Bakire, T., O. Keles, S. Karatas, M. Ozcan, G. Turkmen and A. Candan : Effect of linear alkyl benzene sulphonate (LAS) on non-specific defence mechanisms in rainbow trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*). *Aquat. Toxicol.* 71, 175-181 (2005)
- [4]. Budzinski, H. (2006) Analysis of hormonal steroids in fish plasma and bile by coupling solid-phase extraction to GC/MS. *Analytical and Bioanalytical Chemistry*.

- [5]. Christoffersen, K., B.W. Hansen, S. Liselotte, Johansson and K. Elisabeth : Influence of LAS on marine calanoid copepod population dynamics and potential reproduction. *Aquat. Toxicol.* 63, 405-416(2003).
- [6]. Chukwu, L.O. and C.C. Odunzeh : Relative toxicity of spent lubricant oil and detergent against benthic macroinvertebrates of a west African estuarine lagoon. *J. Environ. Biol.*, 27, 479-484 (2006)