Toxicity testing of two pesticides against the Carthusian snail *in vitro*.

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Abstract

In this work, the land snail, *Monacha cartusiana*, was studied to assess the deadly toxic activity of two pesticides (lambda and methomyl) on this snail in *vitro*, utilizing contact and dipping techniques. The results revealed that methomyl was more effective against snails compared with lambda in both methods of treatment. However, the contact application strategy resulted in greater death rates than the poison dipping studies. Accordingly, the mortality rate was increased by increasing concentration, with contact technique which recorded 96.3% and 69.99±15.1% deaths by dipping way on concentration 3%. For this reason, the percent Lethal Concentration fifty (LC_{50}) was 1.30% for one day and 1.67% for seven days for methomyl by contact and dipping techniques, respectively. On the other hand, the LC_{50} for lambda pesticide was achieved at 1.45% by contact method but was 7.51% by using the dipping application within ten days. As a result, mortality was greater after contact application than after dipping, and methomyl was disclosed to be more poisonous than lambda as a molluscicide.

Keywords: *Monacha cartusiana*, methomyl, lambda, mortality, LC_{50}

Introduction

Terrestrial snails are one of the most serious threats to sustainable agriculture in many parts of the world (Barker, 2002). In Egypt, land snails are considered major pests of farms (Kassab and Daoud, 1964; El-Okda, 1979). Snail damage is usually caused by feeding and contaminating their bodies, feces, or slime, resulting in worse quality goods and diminished earnings. They may transmit illnesses or act as intermediary hosts for human and animal pathogens (Glesias *et al*., 2003; Heiba, *et al*., 2018). *Monacha* species are considered a major agricultural pest, they cause a lot of harm to vegetable crops in various areas of Egypt (Wafaa, *et al*., 2018).

Insecticides are used to control land snails that contaminate various crops. Thus, chemical pesticides are now the most efficient means of combating terrestrial Mollusca control. (El- Wakil

and Radwan, 1991; Hanafy, *et al*., 1998; Hussein, *et al*., 1999; El- Khodary, *et al*., 2001; Heiba, *et al*., 2002; Genena, 2003; Abd El-All, 2004; Ismail, *et al*., 2005 and Zedan, *et al*. 2006). However, because some of these pesticides are ecologically highly stable, the danger of accumulation is quite significant, and as a result, their usage as insecticides has been limited (Ohayo, *et al*., 1997). As a result, new and safe insecticides or molluscicides with distinct modes of action are required. The goal of this study is to evaluate the molluscicidal activity of two pesticides, Lambada and Methomyl, on the adult land snail, *Monacha cartusiana*, *in vitro*.

Materials and Methods

Pesticides that have been tested include:

1) Lambada 5 % – Cyhalothrin E.C.

2) Methomyl (Lannate 90 % W.P) insecticide.

Land snail feeding and care:

Adult *Monacha cartusiana* were obtained from polluted fields in the Kerdasa district of Giza Governorate, Egypt, during the spring of 2022. Snails were sent in sealed bags to the Malacology laboratory at the Dept. of Agric. Zoo. and Nema., Fac. of Agriculture, Al-Azhar University. Healthy individuals were placed in separate terrariums (30 x 20 x 15 cm) filled with moist soil and covered with muslin tied with a rubber band to prevent snails from escaping. Every day for two weeks, the animals were fed fresh lettuce leaves (*Lactuca sativa*). They were kept at a temperature of 20±2°C with the humidity level of the soil was 75% according to Mobarak 2003.

Valuation of sensitivity to adult Carthusian snails for two pesticides:

Insecticides potential of methomyl (S-methyl-N-[(methylcarbamoyl) oxy] thioacetimide) compared with Lambda-Cyhalothrin as Molluscicidal were tested by preparing a series of concentrations were prepared using distilled water for two methods of contact and dipping techniques on tested species.

Toxicity test by contact technique:

The contact toxicity of two pesticides was determined using the surface exposure technique, in which 2 ml of the various concentrations (0.5, 1, 1.5, 2, 2.5, and 3%) was dropped and spread over the bottom of a petri dish and then slowly rotating the dish in circles. The water

disappeared after a few minutes at normal temperature, leaving just a tiny film of the tested chemicals at the applied concentration. Mourad (2014) subjected ten normal individual snails from the tested animals to the potential concentration of the tested compounds for 24 hour. Each of the treatments received three duplicates, in addition to an untreated control. Within 24 hour, dead snails were gathered up.

Toxicity test by dipping technique:

Ten healthy snails were chosen for each replicate and deprived for 24 hour before the experiment began. The concentrations used have previously been mentioned by Lambada and Methomyl. The lettuce leaves were immersed in each concentration for one minute before being fed to the experimental animals. Then, for the next 10 days, untreated lettuce was introduced as needed for feeding. Untreated animals were fed lettuce that had simply been treated with water (Bashandy, 2018). Mortality percentages and half Lethal concentration of check pesticides were calculated after one day. and within ten days of treatment according to Finney (1952) using Bakr (2005) Computing program.

Results

Molluscicidal activity of Methomyl and Lambada against *M. cartusiana*. The collected data in Table (1) and Figure (1) displayed that, the high mortality ratio of methomyl and lambda was (96.33 and 90%) after a few hours of testing contact technique with a concentration of 3%, respectively. Also, the concentrations of 2 and 2.5% per 100 ml caused mortality percentages were (70 and 80%) and (60 and 70%) during one day. for methomyl and lambda, respectively. while the rest concentrations of pesticides recorded mortality under fifty percent of animals. Over and above, the Regression Linear Lethal concentration of the test animals for methomyl was higher than lambda with a rate of 1.3097%.

Table 1: The contact technique was used to assess lambda and methomyl mortality in *M. cartusiana*.

Pesticide	Con. (%/100 ml)	0.5	1	1.5	2	2.5	3	LC_{50} (%/100 ml)
Lambda 5%	Observed mortality %	20	30	40	60	70	90.00	1.4513 (1.1779-1.7543)
Methomyl 90%		20	30	40	70	80	96.33	1.3097 (1.0825-1.538)

The lower and higher fiducial limits of 95% are provided in parentheses.

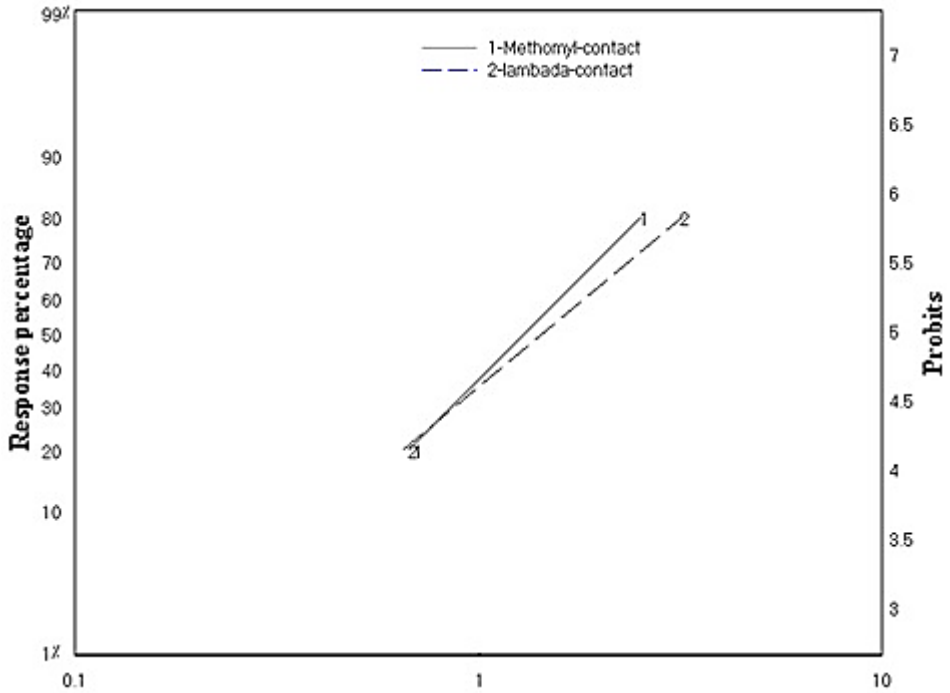

Fig. 1: Regression Linear for pesticides by contact method contra *M. cartusiana* during 24 hrs.

The obtained data is in the table. (2) and figure. (2) disclosed that methomyl had high effects on land snails by leaf dipping method. It caused high mortality for individuals during seven days with moderate 69.99±15.1% by the last concentration (3%) with a lethal concentration fifty of snails was 1.67% per 100ml on regression linear. On the other hand, the pesticide lambda raised the percentage mortality by 26.66±3.1% for snails for ten days and LC_{50} was recorded at 9.43 % per 100ml on regression linear. But the lower concentration of pesticide lannate was higher than lambda which recorded mean mortality of 7.77±2.4 and 6.66±1.5% during interval periods respectively.

Table 2: The leaf dipping technique was used to assess lambda and methomyl mortality in *M. cartusiana*.

Lambda 5%						**Methomyl 90%**				
Con. (%/ml)	Corrected mortality % per day					**Con. (%/ml)**	Corrected mortality % per day			
	1st	3rd	10th	mean			1st	3rd	7th	mean
0.5	3.33	6.67	10.00	6.66±1.5[e]		**0.5**	3.33	6.67	13.33	7.77±2.4[d]
1	6.67	10.00	13.33	10.00±1.5[de]		**1**	6.67	10.00	23.33	13.33±4.1[d]
1.5	10.00	13.33	16.67	13.33±1.5[de]		**1.5**	10.00	20.00	33.33	21.11±5.5[cd]
2	13.33	16.67	20.00	16.66±1.5[cd]		**2**	13.33	40.00	56.67	36.66±10.3[cd]
2.5	16.67	20.00	26.67	21.11±2.4[bc]		**2.5**	26.67	53.33	60.00	46.66±8.3[bc]
3	20.00	26.67	33.33	26.66±3.1[b]		**3**	33.33	83.33	93.33	69.99±15.1[ab]
LC_{50}	13.87	13.19	9.43			**LC_{50}**	5.62	2.17	1.67	
Control				0.00[a]		**Control**				0.00[a]
LSD $_{0.05}$				7.09		**LSD $_{0.05}$**				30.06

Based on three replicates ±SEE, each plastic container has ten land snails.
Values in a column that are followed by the same letter are not statistically different at the 0.05 level.

The statical analyses for mean mortality percentage caused by each pesticide's compounds proved, that there are significant between concentrations compared to the control that was treated with water only. There are significant differences between concentration 3% with the rest concentrations.

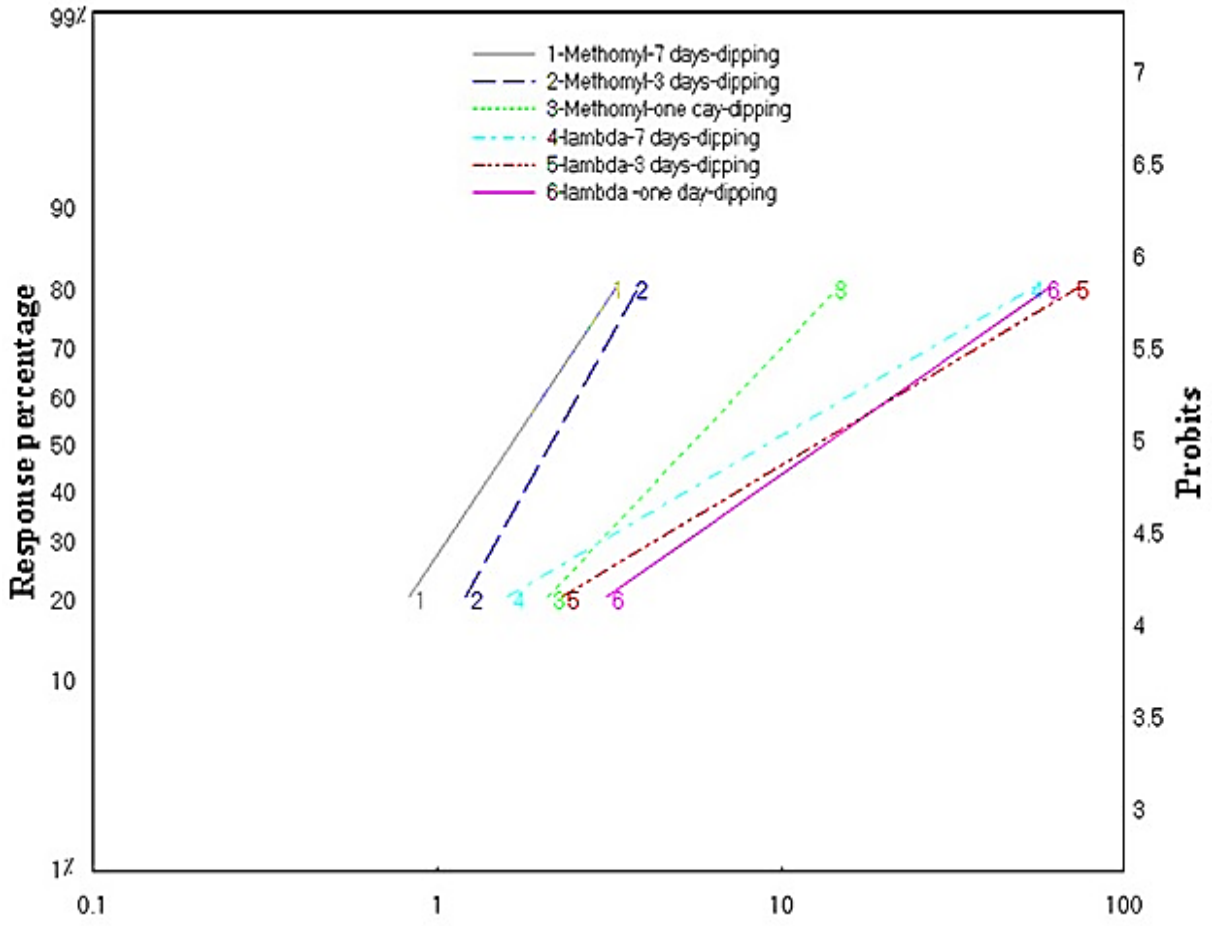

Fig. 2: Regression Linear for pesticides by leaf dipping method contra *M. cartusiana* during exposure time.

Discussion:

Previous findings are consistent with those that came by Hammond, *et al.* (1996), who declare that the effectiveness of pesticides depends on their good application of them because the opposite leads to an increase in cost and impact on the environment. Pyrethroids, such as Lambda-cyhalothrin, damage the neurological system of insects, causing paralysis or death. (Vijverberg & van den Bercken, 1982). According to Radwan and El-Wakil (1991), cypermethrin-treated lettuce discs had the highest fatality percentages of any synthetic pyrethroid

against *Eobania vermiculata* snails. Also, Amaeze, *et al*. (2011) demonstrated that Cypercot with the active component cypermethrin had an immediate fatal impact on *Archachatina marginata* snails. On the other hand, lambda-cyhalothrin was the most effective, causing 70.0% of deaths in land snails, *M. cantiana*, Genena, and Mostafa (2008). Further, Lambada was shown to be less effective than methomyl on land snails, *Eobania vermiculata*, and *Helicella vestalis* by feeding utilizing a leaf dipping approach for seven days under lab circumstances by Hafez, *et al.* (2022). Furthermore, it was the most potent agent against *Monacha cartusiana*, causing 100% death after 3 days compared to other insecticides (Hend *et al*., 2023). Moreover, it showed 100% death at 4, 6, and 8% concentrations in individuals after 3 days post-treatment (Maaroof, *et al*., 2023).

In vitro, *Monacha obstructa* was found to be more sensitive to methomyl (lannate 90%) and had a very harmful impact by contact technique after 72 h of treatment (Hussein, *et al*.,1999). As well, Aioub, *et al*. (2000) demonstrated that methomyl was very poisonous and caused 100.0% of death in land snails, *M. cantiana*, Genena and Mostafa (2008). Additionally, methomyl decomposed slowly in comparison to other pesticides tested against *M. cartusiana in vitro*, Ismail and Mohamed (2009). Otherwise, under field conditions, they found that methomyl had the greatest residual effect on *M. cartusiana* snails. So, it reduced *Monacha contiana* number of individuals more than using Vertimec (abamectin) in pea plantations, lettuce, and cabbage fields. Also, they observed that after one day of treatment with methomyl 2% wheat bran bait, the land snails examined were more effective. (Radwan and EL-Wakil,1991; Abdallah, *et al.*, 1992; Ismail, *et al*., 2005; Mortada, *et al*., 2012 and Samy, *et al*., 2015). Additionally, Ali, *et al.* (2020) From this study, it could be concluded that methomyl and other pesticides were efficient with the same dose to control tomato pests in Egypt as the chocolate banded snail, *E. vermiculata.* Moreover, Bashandy and Raddy (2021) indicated that methomyl was the most toxic compound against *M. obstructa* and the snails were more susceptible to methomyl because it caused 96% mortality for animals with LC_{50} values was 1.80% with leaf dipping techniques after seven days.

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