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Research Article

ALTERATIONS IN BIOCHEMICAL CONTENT OF FRESH WATER BIVALVE *Lamellidens marginalis* AFTER CHRONIC EXPOSURE TO MALACHITE GREEN

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ABSTRACT

The present study was carried out to investigate the effect of malachite green dye used, in dyeing and aquaculture, on the fresh water bivalve *Lamellidens marginalis*. The effects of sub lethal exposure i.e. 1/10th and 1/20th concentration of LC₅₀, were studied by changes in the biochemical constituents like total glycogen, protein and lipid in different tissues like gill, hepatopancreas, gonad and mantle for 30 days exposure period. The glycogen content in selected tissues showed significant depletion ($p < 0.001$) at both the concentration. The mantle showed maximum significant depletion in protein content at both i.e. 1/20th and 1/10th the concentration, (-28.77%) and (-37.77%) respectively compared to other tissues. The lipid showed significant decrease in gill (-21.31%) and mantle (-46.31%) at the 1/20th and 1/10th concentration.

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INTRODUCTION

Dyes, the coloured substances, are soluble during application process which having affinity to the substrate to which they are being applied to the selective absorption of light (Pereira and Alves., 2012). Every year, hundreds of new coloured compounds produced into a series of different applications flooded in the market (Majcen-Le Marechal *et al.*, 1997).

Malachite Green (Basic Green 4) is basic dye, easily soluble in water, used in dyeing wool, silk, leather, jute, cotton and acrylic industries; it is also used as food additive, food disinfectant, food colouring agent, medical disinfectant and antihelminthic (Culp and Beland., 1996). It is also used in aquaculture industries as antiprotozoan, antibacterial, antifungal and antihelminthic (Pointing and Vrijmoed, 2000; Campbell *et al.*, 2001; Chang *et al.*, 2001; Sudova *et al.*, 2007). It is environmentally persistent and causes serious health hazards. Both, clinical and experimental observations reported as MG is a multi-organ toxin. Due to its extreme toxicity and ecotoxicity hazards associated with MG, restriction has been implemented in many countries from 2000. It is still being used in many parts of the world due to its low cost, ready availability and efficacy.

Toxicological effects of this dye have been reported in cat fish, channel cat fish, Salmon, tilapia, snake head barb and carp (Sudova *et al.*, 2007). Due to continuous exposure to this dye,

the residues of this dye i.e. leucomalachite green accumulate in cell cytoplasm which will affect the biochemical content of that animal. This may change normal physiology of that animal. Bivalves have been used as sentinel organisms in pollution monitoring programmes (Moreira and Guilhermino, 2005). Many molluscan species such as *L. marginalis*, *L. corriance*, *B. bengalensis* are used as bioindicator depending on their tolerance power (Oehlmann *et al.*, 2002; Druart *et al.*, 2011). *Lamellidens marginalis* is considered as one of the best pollution bioindicator of pollution in aquatic environment (Kumar *et al.*, 2017). It has been reported that the pollutants start exhibiting its negative exhibit toxicity on molluscs at lower environmental concentrations than other invertebrates or vertebrates (Chakraborty *et al.*, 2010). In the view of the above the aim of the present study was to assess chronic toxicity of malachite green dye and its impact on biochemical parameters of *L. marginalis*.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Chronic Toxicity Study

A total number of 100 healthy bivalves *L. marginalis* (7 – 8 cm) was used to determine 96 hrs LC₅₀ value i.e. 0.9 ppm was determined by static bioassay. For chronic toxicity study, 30 *L. marginalis* were randomly divided into 3 equal group; treated group exposed to 1/20th and 1/10th concentration of LC₅₀ of

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MG and control group. The experiment extended to 30 days and the water was renewed every day and there was no mortality was observed. in chronic study. The physicochemical parameters were measured during the exposure period.

Biochemical Estimations

After exposure period of 30 days bivalves from three groups i.e., control, 1/20th of LC₅₀ and 1/10th of LC₅₀ were sacrificed and different tissues like gill, mantle, hepatopancrease and gonad were separated to study various biochemical parameters. Glycogen was estimated by using anthron reagent (DeZwaan and Zandee, 1972), total protein content was estimated by the method of Lowry (1956) and lipid content was estimated by vanillin reagent (Barnes and Blackstock, 1973).

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The physicochemical parameters like temperature, pH, O₂, CO₂, hardness, phosphate and nitrate content of test water were measured by standard method by APHA (2005). All physicochemical parameters of test water were relatively remains constant through out the experiment. The median lethal concentration (LC₅₀) of MG for 96 hours was 0.9 ppm. For chronic toxicity study, 1/20th of LC₅₀ (0.045 ppm); 1/10th of LC₅₀ (0.09 ppm) and control group contain only tap water was grouped.

Glycogen is the fuel for different metabolic and physiological processes. After chronic exposure for 30 days to sublethal concentrations of Malachite green showed significant decrease in glycogen content in all tissues (p < 0.001). At both 1/10th and 1/20th concentrations there was highly significant depletion. At both the (0.09 and 0.045 ppm) concentrations, the percent decrease was in the order of gill (-47.02%) > mantle (-32.4%) > hepatopancreas (-15.2%) > gonad (-12.38%) and gill (-28.2%) > mantle (-18.88%) > hepatopancreas (-8.77%) > gonad (-6.19%) respectively. The order of depletion was same and highly significant in both the concentrations. The decrease in glycogen (carbohydrate) content indicates the excessive utilization of carbohydrates to cope up with dye induced toxicity stress. The decreased amount of glycogen might be due to breakdown of glycogen in the digestive gland through glycogenolytic activity (Koundinya and Ramamurthi, 1979). Under stress condition, the stored form of glycogen was utilized through hexose monophosphate pathway. The decrease in glycogen content might be due to inhibition of hormonal and enzymatic response (Martinez *et al.*, 2004; Patil *et al.*, 2012). Srivastava (1995b) causes hepatic and muscle glycogenolysis in *H. fossilis*. Afaq (2010) showed decreased glucose serum level in *Cirrhinus mrigala* after lethal and sublethal exposure of Bismark brown. The anthraquinone dye after acute and chronic exposure to *Cyprinus carpio* also showed decreased glycogen content (Olaganathan *et al.*, 2013).

Proteins are the major biochemical component, which act as source of energy for various physiological functions including reproduction. After 30 days of exposure period to malachite green dye more significant decrease in protein content was observed. At 0.045 ppm (1/20th) concentration the depletion of protein content was in the order of mantle (- 28.48%) > hepatopancreas (- 19.45%) > gill (-18.52%) > gonad (-

17.04%). In case of 0.09 ppm (1/10th) concentration, the minimum decrease in protein content was found in gonad (- 25.69%), while other tissues like gill (- 41.19%), hepatopancreas (- 40.2%), mantle (- 37.77%) showed highly significant (p < 0.001) decrease in protein content. The depletion in protein content may be due to increased catabolism and decreased anabolism of proteins or may be due to increased proteolysis and inhibition of protein synthesis (Muley *et al.*, 2007). The different tissues like gills, foot and mantle of *Lamellidens corrianus* and *Lamellidens marginalis* showed decreased protein content after pesticidal stress (Kamble *et al.*, 2010).

Lipid composition of molluscs is affected by external factors (environmental), or by internal factors such as metabolic and physiological activities. After 30 days exposure, at 0.045 ppm (1/20th) concentration, gonad showed less significant decrease (p < 0.05) in lipid content, while more significant decrease (p < 0.001) in lipid content was observed in gill. At 0.09 ppm (1/10th) concentration, the percent decrease was in the order of mantle (- 46.31%) > gill (- 30.17%) > hepatopancreas (- 26.33%) > gonad (- 15.9%) in lipid content. At both the concentration, 0.09 ppm (1/10th) and 0.045 ppm (1/20th), less depletion was observed in lipid content in gonad. Decrease in total lipid content in animal tissue after exposure to various pollutants were reported by some investigators (Sonwane *et al.*, 2015; Suryawanshi *et al.*, 2016). The depletion of lipid content in mantle might be due to utilization of lipid to provide energy in the formation of gonad during gametogenesis (Pardeshi *et al.*, 2015). Olaganathan (2013) noticed the chronic exposure of anthraquinone dyes depleted the carbohydrate, protein and lipid content in *Channa punctatus* and *Cyprinus carpio*.

CONCLUSION

The results obtained in this study indicate that the malachite green dye which was used for number of purposes affect the metabolism in fresh water bivalve *Lamellidens marginalis* by reducing biochemical contents due to stress condition. The malachite green dye showed synergistic effects on physiology of the bivalves at sub lethal concentration after long exposure.

Table 1 Changes in glycogen content after chronic exposure of *L. marginalis* to malachite green (values are expressed in mg/100mg wet tissue)

Tissues	Control	1/20 th	% change over control	1/10 th	% change over control
Gonad	3.238 ± 0.0325	3.033 ± 0.015***	-6.19	2.83 ± 0.053***	-12.38
Hepatopancreas	3.42 ± 0.037	3.127 ± 0.027***	-8.77	2.904 ± 0.042***	-15.2
Gill	2.02 ± 0.027	1.457 ± 0.04***	-28.2	1.077 ± 0.022***	-47.02
Mantle	2.33 ± 0.018	1.895 ± 0.021***	-18.88	1.575 ± 0.031***	-32.4

Values are mean ± S.D., *** indicates significance level P<0.001, (n = 3)

Table 2 Changes in protein content after chronic exposure of *L. marginalis* to malachite green (values are expressed in mg/100mg wet tissue)

Tissues	Control	1/20 th	% change over control	1/10 th	% change over control
Gonad	3.93± 0.23	3.26 ± 0.039**	-17.04	2.929 ± 0.065**	-25.69
Hepatopancreas	3.683 ± 0.12	2.964 ± 0.13**	-19.45	2.201 ± 0.054***	-40.2
Gill	2.842 ± 0.133	2.314 ± 0.119**	-18.52	1.672 ± 0.152***	-41.19
Mantle	3.232 ± 0.128	2.31 ± 0.228**	-28.48	2.019 ± 0.039***	-37.77

Values are mean ± S.D., **, *** indicates significance level P<0.01, P<0.001 (n = 3)

Table 3 Changes in lipid content after chronic exposure of *L. marginalis* to malachite green (values are expressed in mg/100mg wet tissue)

Tissues	Control	1/20 th (3.5 ppm)	% change Over control	1/10 th (7 ppm)	% change over control
Gonad	3.578 ± 0.018	3.395 ± 0.081*	- 5.04	2.63 ± 0.0065***	- 15.9
Hepatopancreas	3.467 ± 0.024	2.81 ± 0.055***	- 18.67	2.43 ± 0.0038***	- 26.33
Gill	2.445 ± 0.011	1.92 ± 0.027***	- 21.31	1.32 ± 0.023***	- 30.17
Mantle	2.69 ± 0.036	2.438 ± 0.165*	- 9.66	2.269 ± 0.051***	- 46.31

Values are mean ± S.D., *, **, *** indicates significance level P < 0.05, P < 0.01, P < 0.001 (n = 3)

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