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## HYGIENIC SUBSTANTIATION OF CALCULATING MODELS FOR PREDICTING TOXICITY OF DIFFERENT CLASSES INSECTICIDES (first part)

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**Ключевые слова:** инсектицид, токсикология, расчетные модели, уравнение регрессии

**Abstract.** Hygienic substantiation of calculating models for predicting toxicity of different classes insecticides (first part). Antonenko A.M., Vavrinevych O.P., Omelchuk S.T., Shpak B.I. This work is the first part of our study to develop alternative experimental mathematic models for predicting toxicity of insecticides. In the first stage, calculations will be carried out and the most reliable models will be proposed. In the second – a statistical analysis and comparative estimation of the toxicometric parameters obtained experimentally and calculated according to the proposed equations. The purpose of the research is the scientific substantiation of the calculation models for predicting toxicity of insecticides of different classes. Data on the physico-chemical properties and toxicometry parameters of fungicides are taken from the PPDB pesticides database. Insecticides of such chemical classes as derivatives of tetram and tetric acid, benzoylureas, carbamates, neonicotinoids, pyrethroids, organophosphorus compounds, avermectins were selected for analysis. It has been established that there is a significant positive correlation between NO(A)EL in the chronic experiment of all insecticides, the median lethal doses at oral administration ( $LD_{50}$  per os) of pyrethroids and neonicotinoids, and the molecular weight (at  $p < 0.05$ ). There is a significant negative correlation between the toxicometry parameters of all insecticides and their individual groups (pyrethroids, neonicotinoids, organophosphorus compounds) and melting temperature and the octanol-water partition coefficient,  $\log P_{o/w}$  (at  $p < 0.05$ ). It is proved that the proposed calculation models for predicting insecticide hazards are adequate according to Fisher's criterion, and the coefficients of regression equations are reliable according to Student's criterion ( $p < 0.05$ ).

**Реферат.** Гігієнічне обґрунтування розрахункових моделей прогнозування токсичності інсектицидів різних класів (перша частина). Антоненко А.М., Вавріневич О.П., Омельчук С.Т., Шпак Б.І. Ця робота є першою частиною нашого дослідження з розробки альтернативних експериментальних математичних моделей для прогнозування токсичності інсектицидів. На першому етапі будуть проведені розрахунки й запропоновані найбільш надійні моделі. На другому – буде проведено статистичний аналіз і порівняльна оцінка токсикометричних параметрів, отриманих експериментально і розрахованих за запропонованими рівняннями. Метою дослідження було наукове обґрунтування розрахункових моделей прогнозування токсичності інсектицидів різних класів. Дані про фізико-хімічні властивості та токсикометричні параметри фунгіцидів взяті з бази даних пестицидів PPDB. Для аналізу були обрані інсектициди таких хімічних класів: похідні тетрамової і тетронової кислот, бензоїлсечовини, карбамати, неонікотиноїди, піретроїди, фосфорорганічні сполуки, авермектини. Встановлено, що існує достовірний прямий кореляційний зв'язок між NO(A)EL у хронічному експерименті всіх інсектицидів, середньосмертельними дозами при пероральному надходженні ( $LD_{50}$  per os) піретроїдів і неонікотиноїдів і молекулярною масою. Існує достовірний негативний кореляційний

*зв'язок між параметрами токсикометрії всіх інсектицидів та їх окремих груп (піриноїди, неонікотиноїди, фосфорорганічні сполуки) і температурою плавлення та коефіцієнтом розподілу октанол-вода,  $\log P_{o/w}$ . Доведено, що запропоновані розрахункові моделі для прогнозування небезпеки інсектицидів є адекватними за критерієм Фішера, а коефіцієнти рівнянь регресії є надійними за критерієм Стьюдента.*

Today's pesticides are a very effective in increasing yields, but at the same time a serious risk factor for human health because of contamination of environmental objects [6, 7]. Methods for determining the toxicological parameters of pesticides are long-term, labor-intensive and require significant financial and resource costs [9, 14]. In solving this problem, the important role is played by methods of mathematical modeling and predicting of toxicity of xenobiotics, the results of which can be used both for substantiation of toxicological parameters, and at the stage of experiment planning, this will reduce the probability of error and reduce the duration of the study [9].

Foreign laboratories and institutes have been using modeling dependence of toxicometric parameters on the physico-chemical properties of xenobiotics for a long time [5, 11].

In Ukraine today, there are such models for fungicides and herbicides proposed by the specialists of the Hygiene and Ecology Institute of Bogomolets National Medical University [10, 15], as for insecticides, only attempts were made to develop hazard prediction models for prognosis of the risk of neonicotinoid insecticides [2].

This work is the first part of our study to develop alternative experimental mathematic models for predicting toxicity of insecticides. At the first stage, calculations will be carried out and the most reliable models will be proposed. At the second – a statistical analysis and comparative estimation of the toxicometric parameters obtained experimentally and calculated according to the proposed equations.

The purpose of the research is the scientific substantiation of the calculation models for predicting toxicity of insecticides of different classes.

#### **MATERIALS AND METHODS OF RESEARCH**

For the development and substantiation of the calculation models in the hygienic assessment of the studied insecticides hazard, an array of experimentally established values of LD<sub>50</sub> (median lethal dose) after oral and percutaneous administration, LC<sub>50</sub> (median lethal concentration) at inhalation and NO(A)EL (no observed (adverse) effect level) [12], physical and chemical properties (molecular mass, water solubility, vapor pressure, melting point, octanol-water partition coefficient ( $\log P$   $K_{o/w}$ ), surface tension) was taken. Data on the physico-chemical properties of fungicides are taken from the PPDB pesticides database [12].

For analysis, we selected insecticides of chemical classes the most widely used in the world [4, 8]: 3 compounds of derivatives of tetram and tetronic acids class (spiromesifen, spirodiclofen and spirotetramat); 3 benzoyl-ureas (diflubenzuron, navaluron, teflubenzuron); 4 compounds of the carbamates class (carbosulfan, methomyl, carbaryl, phenoxycarb); 5 substances of the neonicotinoid class (acetamiprid, thiacloprid, imidacloprid, thiamethoxam, clothianidin); 12 active ingredients – pyrethroids (zeta-cypermethrin, lambda-cyhalothrin, beta-cyfluthrin, tau-fluvalinate, gamma-cyhalothrin, tefluthrin, bifenthrin, esfenvalerate, beta-cypermethrin, cypermethrin, deltamethrin, alpha-cypermethrin); 6 organophosphorus compounds (chlorpyrifos-methyl, dimethoate, malathion, fosalon, pyrimifos-methyl, phenythrothion); 2 avermectins (abamectin and emamectin benzoate).

Statistical processing of the results was performed using the package of licensed statistical software IBM SPSS StatisticsBase v.22 and MS Excel. Correlation and regression analyses were carried out, taking into account the determination coefficient, which most closely approximates the connection between the selected toxicological parameters and physical-chemical properties. The significance of the obtained regression equations was checked by Fisher's F-criterion, the reliability of individual coefficients in the regression equation (a, b) – according to the Student's t-criterion.

#### **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

Initially, by the Pearson method we analyzed the correlation relations between the physical and chemical properties of the derivatives of tetram and tetronic acids, benzoylureas, carbamates, neonicotinoids, pyrethroids, organophosphorus compounds, avermectins and their parameters of toxicometry. Statistically significant results are given in Table 1.

The results of the correlation-regression analysis revealed a reverse (negative) correlation between the "octanol-water" partition coefficient and LD<sub>50</sub> percut. and NO(A)EL of all insecticides and LD<sub>50</sub> per os of neonicotinoids ( $r = -0.47$ ;  $-0.39$  and  $-0.83$ , respectively, at  $p < 0.05$ ) on the array of 35, 28 and 5 active ingredients of the corresponding classes. Using the determination coefficient ( $R^2$ ), the proportion of the effect of the investigated factor on the parameters of toxicometry was determined and it was established that the share of influence of the

«octanol-water» distribution coefficients was 22.1; 15.0 and 69.0%, respectively.

The obtained results can be explained by the fact that fat-soluble compounds are slowly metabolized and eliminated from the body, tend to accumulate [13], this increases their toxicity and reduces NO(A)EL and LD<sub>50</sub>. This dependence is typical, since log P<sub>o/w</sub> is an indicator of the bioavailability of toxic substances [1, 3]. At the same time, for herbicides, the opposite dependence was found: their toxic manifestations decreased with increasing log P<sub>o/w</sub>, which can be explained by the presence of

alternative routes of herbicide penetration into the organism due to slightly lower molecular weight and higher solubility in water [10].

There is an inverse (negative) correlation between the melting point and LC<sub>50</sub> in inhalation and NO(A)EL of organophosphorus compounds, as well as LD<sub>50</sub> per os of pyrethroids (r= -0.88; -0.92 and -0.62, respectively at p<0,05) on an array of 5 and 12 active substances of the corresponding classes. Percentage of impact of the melting temperature on the parameters of toxicometry is quite high and makes 78.0; 84.0 and 38.8%, respectively.

Table 1

**Correlation between the parameters of toxicometry and physical and chemical properties of studied insecticides**

Chemical class	Resulting variable	Factor variable	Statistical parameters*		
			correlation coefficient	determination coefficient, %	n
Insecticides	LD <sub>50</sub> percut., mg/kg	log P <sub>o/w</sub>	-0.47	22.1	35
	NO(A)EL, mg/kg		-0.39	15.0	28
	NO(A)EL, mg/kg	molecular weight	0.51	25.8	27
Pyrethro-ids	LD <sub>50</sub> per os, mg/kg	melting temperature, °C	-0.62	38.8	12
		molecular weight	0.72	51.3	11
Oganophosphorus compounds	NO(A)EL, mg/kg	melting temperature, °C	-0.92	84.0	5
	LC <sub>50</sub> inhal., mg/m <sup>3</sup>		-0.88	78.0	5
Neoni-cotinoids	LD <sub>50</sub> per os, mg/kg	log P <sub>o/w</sub>	-0.83	69.0	5
		molecular weight	0.85	71.6	5

Notes: «\*» – significant results are given (at p <0,05); n – number of observations; log P<sub>o/w</sub> – the logarithm of octanol-water partition coefficient; LD<sub>50</sub> per os – median lethal dose after oral consumption; LD<sub>50</sub> per cut – median-lethal dose when applied to the skin; LC<sub>50</sub> inhal. – median lethal concentration at inhalation; NO(A)EL – no observed (adverse) effect level.

A similar correlation of the melting point with the parameters of toxicometry (with an increase in the melting point LD<sub>50</sub> per os and inhal., NO(A)EL, values decrease, it means that toxicity of these compounds increases) was also found in the chemical class of herbicides pyrazoles-triketones [10]. One of the reasons for this effect may be the need for a higher temperature for the degradation of the mentioned compounds. At body temperature they retain their initial physical and chemical

properties longer and, accordingly, have more time to implement toxic manifestations.

Positive (direct) correlation was found between molecular weight and LD<sub>50</sub> per os of pyrethroids (n=11) and neonicotinoids (n=5); NO(A)EL of all insecticides without phosphorus compounds (n=27) (r=0.72; 0.85 and 0.51, respectively, at p<0.05). The proportion of the influence of the molecular weight, as well as the melting point, is quite high and amounts to 51.3; 71.6 and 25.8%, respectively.



Detected dependence is due to the fact that compounds with very high molecular weight poorly penetrate into the body, in contrast to low molecular weight compounds that easily pass through histohectic barriers [1, 3, 13]. It should be noted that for fungicides, the relationship between molecular weight and toxicometry parameters is reversible, since most of them, in contrast to insecticides, form

isomers that greatly increase the specificity of their action and toxicity [15].

The next step was to carry out a regression analysis with the verification of the obtained equations (tbl. 2, 3) according to Fisher's F statistics, and separate coefficients in the regression equations (a, b) – according to Student's t-criterion.

Table 2

## Models of predicting insecticides hazard (linear equations)

Chemical class	n	N	Regression equations	Model adequacy indices			Coefficients reliability indices		
				Fisher's criterion		Approximation accuracy (R <sup>2</sup> )	a	b	t <sub>sp.</sub> **
				F	F <sub>sp.</sub> **		t	t	
Insecticides	35	1	LD <sub>50</sub> percut. = 3.1136X <sub>1</sub> + 3371	9.34*	4.15	0.003	3.51*	3.06*	2.04
	27	2	NO(A)EL = -0.0038X <sub>2</sub> + 5.0773	8.68*	4.24	0.113	4.26*	2.95*	2.06
	28	3	NO(A)EL = -0.6959X <sub>1</sub> + 6.4644	4.58*	4.22	0.150	4.10*	2.14*	1.71
Pyrethroids	11	4	LD <sub>50</sub> per os = 4.1975X <sub>2</sub> - 1690.1	9.48*	5.12	0.513	2.86*	3.08*	2.26
	12	5	LD <sub>50</sub> per os = -2.6492X <sub>3</sub> + 268.28	6.33*	4.96	0.388	3.99*	2.52*	2.23
Organophosphorus compounds	5	6	NO(A)EL = -0.405X <sub>3</sub> + 18.196	15.69*	10.13	0.840	4.53*	3.96*	3.18
	5	7	LC <sub>50</sub> inhal. = -0.0541X <sub>3</sub> + 3.7237	10.64*	10.13	0.913	6.15*	3.26*	3.18
Neonotinoids	5	8	LD <sub>50</sub> per os = 21.016X <sub>2</sub> - 4844.9	7.57	10.13	0.716	2.48	2.75	3.18
	5	9	LD <sub>50</sub> per os = -981.92X <sub>1</sub> + 1172.1	6.66	10.13	0.690	3.74*	2.58	3.18

Notes: «\*» – statistical significant results; «\*\*» – at p=0.05 and k<sub>1</sub>=1, k<sub>2</sub>=n-2; n – number of observations; X<sub>1</sub> – octanol-water partition coefficient, log P<sub>o/w</sub>; X<sub>2</sub> – molecular weight; X<sub>3</sub> – melting temperature, °C.

The results of the regression analysis given in Table 2 indicate that the 4 derived linear regression equations N 1-14 are adequate according to Fisher's criterion (p<0.05).

The assessment of coefficients «a» and «b» reliability showed that in all regression equations, they are significant according to Student's t-criterion (p<0,05), except for the equations N 8 and 9. In this equations, the coefficients «a» and/or «b» were unreliable, since the absolute value of the criterion t

is less than t<sub>cr</sub>, which may be due to a small number of observations (n=5).

We also used the exponential, logarithmic, polynomial and step functions in addition to the linear one. In Table 3 the obtained mathematical models are given. Except for the formulas 10, 11, 17, 18, 19, the rest showed rather high indicators of the adequacy of the model by the coefficients of approximation.

## Models of predicting insecticides hazard (nonlinear equations)

Chemical class	n	N	Regression equation	Model adequacy index (R <sup>2</sup> )
Insecticides	35	10	LD <sub>50</sub> percut. = 2247.1e <sup>-0.037X<sub>1</sub></sup>	0.015
	35	11	LD <sub>50</sub> percut. = 59.94X <sub>1</sub> <sup>2</sup> - 418.17X <sub>1</sub> + 2731	0.044
	27	12	NO(A)EL = 3.8947e <sup>-0.002X<sub>2</sub></sup>	0.222
	27	13	NO(A)EL = -3.782ln(X <sub>2</sub> ) + 25.928	0.216
	27	14	NO(A)EL = 9572.6 X <sub>2</sub> <sup>-1.447</sup>	0.265
	27	15	NO(A)EL = 9×10 <sup>-6</sup> X <sub>2</sub> <sup>2</sup> - 0.0223X <sub>2</sub> + 10.655	0.273
	28	16	NO(A)EL = -0.1125X <sub>1</sub> <sup>2</sup> + 0.1261X <sub>1</sub> + 5.5048	0.165
	28	17	NO(A)EL = 3.7507e <sup>-0.182X<sub>1</sub></sup>	0.086
	28	18	NO(A)EL = -0.404ln(X <sub>1</sub> ) + 3.8851	0.017
	28	19	NO(A)EL = 1.7218X <sub>1</sub> <sup>-0.014</sup>	0.0002
Pyrethroids	11	20	LD <sub>50</sub> per os = 0.1234X <sub>2</sub> <sup>2</sup> - 108.4X <sub>2</sub> + 23844	0.818
	11	21	LD <sub>50</sub> per os = 0.029e <sup>0.0184X<sub>2</sub></sup>	0.300
	11	22	LD <sub>50</sub> per os = 1864.9ln(X <sub>2</sub> ) - 11191	0.490
	11	23	LD <sub>50</sub> per os = 3×10 <sup>-20</sup> X <sub>2</sub> <sup>8.1429</sup>	0.285
	12	24	LD <sub>50</sub> per os = 160.23e <sup>-0.012X<sub>3</sub></sup>	0.248
	12	25	LD <sub>50</sub> per os = 0.0418X <sub>3</sub> <sup>2</sup> - 6.2181X <sub>3</sub> + 291.86	0.520
Organophosphorus compounds	5	26	NO(A)EL = 5.7067e <sup>-0.059X<sub>3</sub></sup>	0.696
	5	27	NO(A)EL = 0.0104X <sub>3</sub> <sup>2</sup> - 0.7223X <sub>3</sub> + 11.339	0.996
	5	28	LC <sub>50</sub> inhal. = 0.0006X <sub>3</sub> <sup>2</sup> - 0.073X <sub>3</sub> + 3.3139	0.947
	5	29	LC <sub>50</sub> inhal. = 3.2317e <sup>-0.022X<sub>3</sub></sup>	0.754
Neonicotinoids	5	30	LD <sub>50</sub> per os = 0.4334X <sub>2</sub> <sup>2</sup> - 203.01X <sub>2</sub> + 23888	0.919
	5	31	LD <sub>50</sub> per os = 0.0567e <sup>0.0338x</sup>	0.619
	5	32	LD <sub>50</sub> per os = 5239.7ln(x) - 28501	0.676
	5	33	LD <sub>50</sub> per os = 1E-18x <sup>8.4697</sup>	0.592
	5	34	LD <sub>50</sub> per os = 1170.4X <sub>1</sub> <sup>2</sup> - 2217.4X <sub>1</sub> + 1220.3	0.890
	5	35	LD <sub>50</sub> per os = 804.89e <sup>-1.424x</sup>	0.486

Notes: n – number of observations; X<sub>1</sub> – log P<sub>ow</sub>; X<sub>2</sub> – molecular weight; X<sub>3</sub> – melting temperature, °C.

## CONCLUSIONS

1. It has been established that there is a significant positive correlation between NO(A)EL in the chronic experiment of all insecticides, the

median lethal doses in oral admission (LD<sub>50</sub> per os) of pyrethroids and neonicotinoids, and the molecular weight (at p<0.05).

2. There is a significant negative correlation between the toxicometry parameters of all insecticides and their individual groups (pyrithoids, neonicotinoids, organophosphorus compounds) and the melting temperature and the octanol-water partition coefficient, log Po/w (at  $p < 0.05$ ).

3. It is proved that the proposed calculation models for predicting insecticide hazards are adequate according to Fisher's criterion, and the coefficients of regression equations are reliable according to Student's criterion ( $p < 0,05$ ).

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