

WL-79-361

DATA EVALUATION RECORD

1. **CHEMICAL:** Acetochlor.
Shaughnessey number: 121601.
2. **TEST MATERIAL:** Acetochlor; MON-097; lot # NBP 1737874;
94.5% active ingredient; a reddish purple liquid.
3. **STUDY TYPE:** Avian dietary LC₅₀ test.
Species Tested: Bobwhite quail (Colinus virginianus).
4. **CITATION:** Fink, R. 1980. Eight-day dietary LC₅₀ -
bobwhite quail. Submitted by Monsanto Company, St. Louis,
Missouri. Study performed by Wildlife International Ltd.,
Easton, Maryland. Laboratory study # 139-181. Monsanto
study # WL-79-361.
5. **REVIEWED BY:**

Michael L. Whitten, M.S.
Wildlife Toxicologist
KBN Engineering and
Applied Sciences, Inc.

Signature: *Michael L. Whitten*
Date: 6-8-90
6. **APPROVED BY:**

Pim Kosalwat, Ph.D.
Staff Toxicologist
KBN Engineering and
Applied Sciences, Inc.

Signature: *P. Kosalwat*
Date: 6/12/90

Henry T. Craven, M.S.
Supervisor, EEB/HED
USEPA

Signature: *10-29-90 Cynthia A. Montan*
Henry T. Craven
Date: *01/30/90*
7. **CONCLUSIONS:** Based upon nominal concentrations, the dietary
LC₅₀ of acetochlor was greater than 5620 ppm. This value
classifies acetochlor as practically non-toxic to bobwhite
chicks. The NOEC was 1780 ppm, based upon reduced body
weight gain and food consumption at 3160 ppm. The study is
scientifically sound and meets the requirements for an avian
dietary LC₅₀ test.
8. **RECOMMENDATIONS:** N/A

6 hrs

9. BACKGROUND:

10. DISCUSSION OF INDIVIDUAL TESTS: N/A.

11. MATERIALS AND METHODS:

- A. Test Animals: The birds used in the study were 14-day old bobwhite quail (Colinus virginianus) obtained from Wildlife International's own production flock. All birds were acclimated to the facilities from hatching until initiation of the study.
- B. Test System: All birds were housed indoors in brooders measuring 72 cm x 90 cm x 23 cm high. The photoperiod was 14 hours of light per day. The brooder temperature was maintained at 100°F.
- C. Dosage: 8-day dietary LC₅₀ test. Nominal dosages were 562, 1000, 1780, 3160, and 5620 parts per million (ppm). "For the purposes of diet preparation, the experimental material was assumed to be 100 percent active material and the LC₅₀, as reported, is therefore of the experimental material as received."
- D. Design: Groups of ten birds were randomly assigned, without regard to sex, to each of five control groups, five laboratory standard (dieldrin) groups, and five treatment groups. All birds were fed Wildlife International Ltd.'s game bird starter ration. Food and water were supplied ad libitum during the test.

The test substance and dieldrin were dissolved in corn oil and added to the basal feed. The concentration of the solutions in the treatment and dieldrin diets was 2%. The birds were fed the appropriate dietary concentrations for five days, and then given untreated food for three days. The control birds received the basal diet throughout the study.

Mortality and symptoms of toxicity were recorded daily throughout the study. Birds were weighed by pen at initiation and at termination of the test on day 8. Food consumption was recorded by pen at the end of the five-day exposure period.

- E. Statistics: Mortality was analyzed by probit analysis. No statistical analyses of body weight or food consumption were reported.

12. **REPORTED RESULTS:** There were no mortalities in any of the control pens. With the exception of toe picking in a single control pen on day 5, all control birds were normal in appearance and behavior throughout the study.

The report provided results on mortality and signs of toxicity in the dieldrin group.

There was no mortality in any of the acetochlor treatment groups. At 5620 ppm, some birds displayed lethargy, lower limb weakness, and loss of coordination on day 3. Wing droop was noted in some birds in this group on day 4. "No other overt symptoms of toxicity were noted at this or any other dosage level."

Toe picking, a "form of cannibalism," was noted at 1000, 1780, 3160, and 5620 ppm. This behavior produced lesions in birds in the 1000- and 5620-ppm groups. Reduced body weight gains, when compared to controls, were noted at 1000, 3160, and 5620 ppm (Table 1, attached). The author stated that toe picking may have contributed to the reduction in body weight gain at 1000 ppm.

13. **STUDY AUTHOR'S CONCLUSIONS/QUALITY ASSURANCE MEASURES:**

The author presented no conclusions, but included the following statements in an executive summary: 1) There were no mortalities at any dietary level tested. 2) Reduced body weight gain and food consumption were noted at the 3160- and 5620-ppm levels. 3) Lethargy and other physical signs of toxicity were noted in the highest dose group. 4) Owing to lack of mortalities in the study, the dietary LC₅₀ for acetochlor to bobwhite quail is greater than 5620 ppm.

The report stated that the study was conducted in conformance with Good Laboratory Practice regulations. Quality assurance audits were conducted and the final report was signed by the Quality Assurance Officer of Wildlife International Ltd.

An additional quality assurance measure was the inclusion of a laboratory standard treatment, commonly known as a positive, or reference control.

14. **REVIEWER'S DISCUSSION AND INTERPRETATION OF STUDY RESULTS:**

A. **Test Procedure:** The test procedures were in accordance with Subdivision E - Hazard Evaluation: Wildlife and Aquatic Organisms, ASTM, and SEP guidelines except for the following deviations:

Body weights were measured by group. Individual body weights should have been measured.

Food consumption was recorded at the end of test day 5. Food consumption should also have been recorded at the beginning and end of the pre-treatment and observation periods.

The average ambient room temperature and relative humidity were not reported.

The concentration of test substance in the diet was not confirmed by chemical analysis. This is recommended, but not required, by ASTM.

The vehicle (corn oil) was not added to untreated diets. The control birds received the basal diet throughout the study.

- B. Statistical Analysis: Since no birds died in the acetochlor treatment group, the LC_{50} cannot be calculated and is assumed to be greater than 5620 ppm, the highest concentration tested.
- C. Discussion/Results: When compared to controls, body weight gain was reduced at 1000 ppm. Since this did not occur at 1780 ppm, the reduced weight gain at 1000 ppm probably was not a treatment effect. The reduced body weight gain and food consumption at 3160 ppm and 5620 ppm must be assumed to be a treatment effect. Altered growth or development of birds caused by exposure to these concentrations in the wild could result in reduced survival rates.

Since historical dieldrin values were not given, the reviewer could not assess the results reported from the laboratory standard (dieldrin) group.

The dietary LC_{50} of acetochlor was greater than 5620 ppm, the highest concentration tested. This value classifies acetochlor as practically non-toxic to bobwhite chicks. The no-observed-effect concentration was 1780 ppm, based upon reduced body weight gain and food consumption at 3160 ppm.

With minor deviations, the study followed recommended guidelines. The study is scientifically sound and meets the requirements for an avian dietary LC_{50} test.

D. Adequacy of the Study:

(1) Classification: Core.

(2) Rationale: N/A.

(3) Repairability: N/A.

15. COMPLETION OF ONE-LINER: Yes; June 7, 1990.

ACETOCHLOR

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