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Bait Formulations of Chlorophyllin against Infected/Uninfected *Lymnaea acuminata* in Red and Sunlight

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ABSTRACT

Control of snail population is an important tool in fasciolosis control programme. In order to achieve this objective the method of bait formulation containing an attractant and a molluscicide is an appropriate approach to ensure the death of host snail. Chlorophyllin bait pellets were prepared by addition of attractants starch (10 mM)/serine (20 mM) and Chlorophyllin 2% agar solution. These baits were used against host snail *Lymnaea acuminata*. The behavioral response of snail against attractant (starch/serine) and chlorophyllin was examined in red and sunlight. The fraction of snail that was in contact with chlorophyllin bait in zone-3 was used as measure of attraction process. Infected snails were more attracted with red light+starch (57.7%). Uninfected snails were more attracted by red light+serine (58.0%). The molluscicidal activity of chlorophyllin against infected snails in red light (96h LC₅₀-1.88% chlorophyllin in bait) and sunlight (96h LC₅₀-2.40% chlorophyllin in bait) was more pronounced than uninfected snail in red light (96h LC₅₀-1.76% Chlorophyllin in bait) and sunlight (96h LC₅₀-3.62% chlorophyllin in bait).

Key words: Chlorophyllin, bait formulation, *Lymnaea acuminata*, light, snail

INTRODUCTION

Water-borne disease fasciolosis is one of the devastating diseases of cattle and human (Mas-Coma *et al.*, 2005; WHO., 2007). Liver fluke *Fasciola* is the causative agent of this disease. Incidence of fasciolosis is very high in cattle population of Northern part of India (Singh and Agarwal, 1981; Agarwal and Singh, 1988). Fresh water snail *Lymnaea acuminata* is the intermediate host of *Fasciola gigantica*. Fasciolosis can be reduced by destroying the carrier snails (Singh *et al.*, 1996; Singh *et al.*, 2012). Synthetic molluscicides had been widely used for effective control of harmful snails. Now it has been realized that these synthetic molluscicides cause serious environmental hazards (Shafer *et al.*, 2005; Singh *et al.*, 2008). Use of plant molluscicides is gaining importance because of their easy availability, low cost and safe use than their synthetic counterparts. Use of bait formulation in control of snail population is one of the effective and target specific techniques in killing the host snail (Singh *et al.*, 1996; Singh *et al.*, 2012; Upadhyay and Singh, 2011). Earlier, Tripathi and Singh (2013) noted, that *L. acuminata* is more attracted in red light. Photodynamic chlorophyllin a derivative of chlorophyll is a potent larvicides and cercaricides (Singh and Singh, 2015; Wohllebe *et al.*, 2009, 2011; Mahmoud *et al.*, 2013). The aim of the present study is to explore the efficacy of photodynamic Chlorophyllin in bait formulations against both infected and uninfected *L. acuminata* in monochromatic visible red-light and sunlight.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Collection of snails: The adult snails (2.25±0.25 cm in length) were collected from Maheshra Lake Gorakhpur, India. The field collected adult *L. acuminata* were acclimatized for 72 h, in dechlorinated tap water, at 22-24°C. Infected and uninfected snails were identified by the method of Sunita *et al.* (2013).

Test material: Chlorophyllin was prepared by the method of Wohllebe *et al.* (2012). Chlorophyll is extracted from deep-frozen spinach leaves. Adding 100% ethanol to the extract and incubating (for about 2 h) at 55°C then CaCO₃ was added to avoid transformation of chlorophyllin into pheophytin.

Preparation of bait: The bait pellets were made as described by Madsen (1992) as modified by Tiwari and Singh (2004). Carbohydrate starch (10 mM) and serine (20 mM) were added to 100 mL of water in 2% agar solution separately. Chlorophyllin was added inside the bait.

Design of experiment: The chemo-attraction studies of starch and serine with chlorophyllin against *L. acuminata* were made in clean circular glass aquarium of diameter 60 cm. Each aquarium is divided into 4 concentric zone 3 (central zone), zone 2 and 1 (middle zone) and zone 0 (outer zone) had a diameter of 12, 18, 24 and 30 cm, respectively and had an area of 113.14, 254.57, 452.57 and 707.14 cm², respectively. A small annular elevation of 9 mm height and 2.4 cm diameter was made in the centre of aquarium. The aquaria were then filled with 1500 mL of dechlorinated tap water to an 8 mm height and maintained at 25±1°C. At the start of the assay, ten individual snails of uniform size were placed at a distance of 94 mm on the circumference of zone 0 (Fig. 1). Xenon arc lamp (500 w) was used as visible light source spectral responses from 400-650 nm were produced with the help of spectrophotometer behind the interference colour filters. Exposure of 500 flux monochromatic light was given for 15-60 min and movement of snails (Tripathi and Singh, 2013) in glass aquarium was noted. Simultaneously, one of the prepared bait of molluscicide component added on the small annular elevation in the centre (zone 3) (Fig. 2). The position of snail was noted every 15 min for 2 h. The mortality rate of the snails at different concentration of molluscicide in bait was recorded at interval of 24 h up to 96 h. Control animal were kept in equal amount of dechlorinated water under similar conditions without treatment with chlorophyllin. Each observation was replicated 6 times. During these observations the aquaria were covered with dark black cloth. Intensity of different monochromatic light in the centre of aquarium was measured by digital flux meter. In control experiment no light (negative control) and white light (positive control) were used for the snail attraction.

Statistical analysis: The values was express as Mean±SE of 6 replicates. LC₅₀, lower and upper confidence limits (LCL and UCL), slope value, t-ratio, g-value, heterogeneity factor were calculated using POLO computer program (Robertson *et al.*, 2007). Product moment correlation coefficient was applied to determine significant (p<0.001) different between treated and control groups. One way ANOVA was applied between the different data to observe the significant mortality (Sokal and Rohlf, 1973).

RESULTS

Placement of bait in the centre (zone 3) affected the behavior of infected and uninfected snails (Fig. 1). There was significant (p<0.001) variation was noted in between the attracted infected and uninfected snails towards the chlorophyllin bait in zone-3. Higher attraction of infected snails

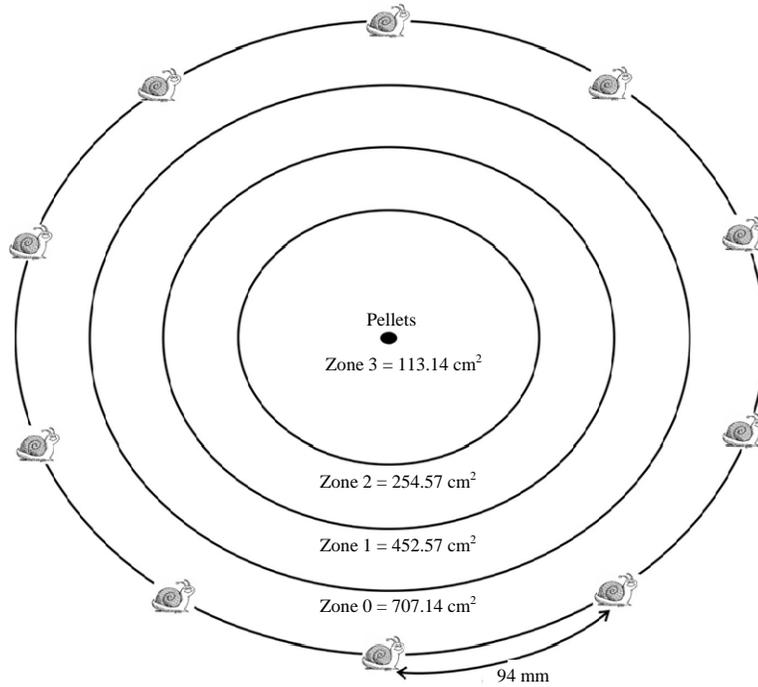


Fig. 1: Experimental design of the aquarium for the study of chemo-attraction of snails by chlorophyllin bait+starch/serine. Chlorophyllin bait was placed in the centre of Zone 3, whereas 10 marked snails were placed at periphery of Zone 0. The distance between the two snails was 94 mm

Table 1: Distribution of snails *L. acuminata* (infected/Uninfected) around chlorophyllin bait (in sunlight/red light) containing starch 10 mM/serine 20 mM zones 3 of aquarium after 2 h from beginning of the experiment

Attractant	Exposure	Time (h)	Concentrations (%)			
			2	5	7	9
Infected snails						
Starch	Control	2h	2.33±0.20 (28.86)	3.33±0.20 (35.24)	1.33±0.20 (21.38)	1.66±0.20 (24.04)
	Red light		2.5±0.21 (57.7)	2±0 (26.56)	1.33±0.20 (21.38)	2±0 (26.56)
	Sunlight		2.66±0.20 (31.04)	2.33±0.55 (28.86)	1.33±0.20 (21.38)	2.66±0.55 (31.04)
Serine	Control	2h	2.66±0.75 (31.04)	4.33±0.55 (41.14)	1.66±0.20 (24.04)	2.33±0.20 (28.86)
	Red light		2.33±0.20 (57.20)	3.00±0.36 (33.21)	2.00±0.36 (26.56)	2.00±0.36 (26.56)
	Sunlight		1.5±0.22 (42.8)	2±0.36 (26.56)	1.66±0.20 (24.04)	1.33±0.20 (21.38)
Uninfected snails						
Starch	Control	2h	3.0±0.72 (33.21)	2.66±0.75 (31.04)	2.00±0.36 (26.56)	1.66±0.41 (24.04)
	Red light		4.33±0.41 (41.14)	1.5±0.34 (33.3)	1.33±0.5 (39.9)	1.33±0.42 (30.7)
	Sunlight		1.33±0.49 (39.09)	2.33±0.20 (28.86)	2±0.62 (26.56)	0.66±0.20 (14.88)
Serine	Control	2h	1.66±0.20 (24.04)	2.66±0.20 (31.04)	2.66±0.20 (31.04)	1.00±0.36 (18.43)
	Red light		1.16±0.16 (58.0)	1.83±0.16 (31.8)	1.5±0.20 (42.8)	0.5±0.22 (20.0)
	Sunlight		3±0.36 (33.21)	2±0.36 (26.56)	1.66±0.20 (24.04)	2.33±0.55 (28.86)

Values in parentheses are percentages of snails in zone 3 (in contact with chlorophyllin bait) statically significant ($p < 0.001$), when two way ANOVA was applied in between different chlorophyllin concentrations

towards the starch (57.7%) and serine (57.20%) was observed in red light. Attraction of uninfected snail towards starch (41.14%) and serine (58.8%) in red light was more pronounced than sunlight starch (39.09%) and serine (33.21%). Lowest attraction of infected snails (21.38%) and uninfected snail (14.88) was observed in 9% chlorophyllin baits (Table 1).

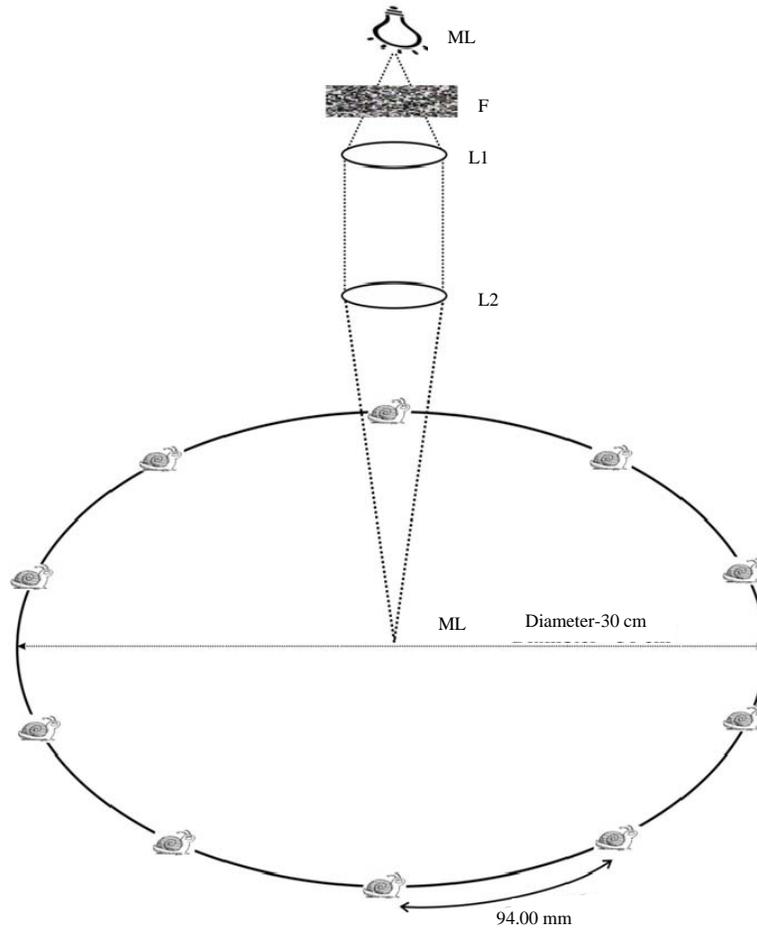


Fig. 2: Design of photoresponse experiment, ML: Monochromatic light was produced with the help of spectrophotometer behind the interference color filter by xenon lamp, F: Interference color filter, L1 and L2: Lenses

Toxicity of chlorophyllin baits in sunlight or red light against infected and uninfected *L. acuminata* was time and dose dependent. There is negative regression in between exposure period and LC_{50} of all the treatments. Highest toxicity of chlorophyllin bait against *L. acuminata* was noted in red light (24 h LC_{50} 9.34% and 96 h LC_{50} 1.88% chlorophyllin bait) than sunlight (24 h LC_{50} 11.05% and 96 h LC_{50} 2.40% chlorophyllin in bait) (Table 2).

The LC_{50} of chlorophyllin bait against uninfected *L. acuminata* in red light (24 h LC_{50} 7.05% chlorophyllin in bait) was more pronounced than sunlight (24 h LC_{50} 9.85% chlorophyllin in bait). The 96 h toxicity of chlorophyllin bait in red light against *L. acuminata* was (96 h LC_{50} 1.76% chlorophyllin in bait) greater than sunlight (96 h LC_{50} 3.62% in chlorophyllin bait) (Table 2).

The slope values were steep and separate estimation of LC_{50} based on each of the 6 replicates was found to be within 95% confidence limits of LC_{50} . The t-ratio was greater than 1.96 and the heterogeneity factor is less than 1.0. The g-value was less than 0.5 at all probability levels (90, 95 and 99).

Table 2: Toxicity of bait (chlorophyllin+starch/serine) against infected/uninfected *Lymnaea acuminata* in red light/sunlight at different exposure period

Exposure period	Exposure	Treatment	LC ₅₀	Limits		Slope value
				LCL	UCL	
Infected snails						
24 h	Red light	Chl+St	9.34	7.82	12.64	2.68±0.49
		Chl+Se	10.93	9.48	11.97	4.67±0.84
	Sunlight	Chl+St	11.05	8.57	18.53	2.06±0.43
		Chl+Se	11.57	9.78	12.86	3.67±0.78
48 h	Red light	Chl+St	7.78	6.29	10.96	1.88±0.37
		Chl+Se	7.11	5.97	9.04	2.26±0.39
	Sunlight	Chl+St	9.24	6.38	29.17	1.05±0.36
		Chl+Se	6.41	5.26	7.29	2.99±0.60
72 h	Red light	Chl+St	5.12	4.06	6.47	1.75±0.34
		Chl+Se	4.75	3.86	5.74	2.87±0.35
	Sunlight	Chl+St	5.31	4.12	6.10	3.36±0.66
		Chl+Se	4.70	3.06	6.78	1.14±0.33
96 h	Red light	Chl+St	1.88	0.70	2.78	1.36±0.34
		Chl+Se	2.91	1.99	3.67	1.85±0.35
	Sunlight	Chl+St	3.35	2.62	3.99	2.35±0.36
		Chl+Se	2.40	1.76	2.90	2.27±0.43
Uninfected snails						
24 h	Red light	Chl+St	7.05	4.92	16.34	1.74±0.39
		Chl+Se	7.89	6.24	12.58	2.29±0.47
	Sunlight	Chl+St	9.85	7.93	14.51	2.21±0.41
		Chl+Se	10.93	9.48	11.97	4.67±0.84
48 h	Red light	Chl+St	6.38	5.45	7.68	2.50±0.39
		Chl+Se	8.88	7.04	13.62	1.84±0.39
	Sunlight	Chl+St	7.09	5.16	13.29	1.17±0.34
		Chl+Se	7.39	5.38	14.30	1.18±0.34
72 h	Red light	Chl+St	4.83	4.14	5.57	2.82±0.38
		Chl+Se	5.78	4.65	7.46	1.77±0.35
	Sunlight	Chl+St	3.13	1.69	4.22	1.29±0.33
		Chl+Se	4.07	2.67	5.42	1.31±0.33
96 h	Red light	Chl+St	1.76	0.79	2.53	1.60±0.53
		Chl+Se	2.64	1.64	3.42	1.72±0.34
	Sunlight	Chl+St	3.62	3.03	4.18	2.95±0.38
		Chl+Se	3.79	3.08	4.47	2.61±0.36

Each experiment was replicated 6 times. The 6 batches of 10 snails were exposed concentration of the above chlorophyllin+starch/serine. Mortality of infected/uninfected snails was recorded every 24 h interval. Concentrations given are the final concentration (w/v) in the glass aquarium water. The t-ratio was greater than 1.96 and the heterogeneity factor is less than 1.0. The g-value was less than 0.5. TS: Testing significant of the regression coefficient for chlorophyllin (red light+infected snail) starch-2.710⁺⁺ and for serine -3.415⁺ and uninfected chlorophyllin (red light+ uninfected snail) starch -0.352⁺⁺ and for serine -2.610⁺⁺. Chlorophyllin (sunlight+ uninfected snail) starch -5.761⁺⁺ and for serine-4.979⁺⁺ and chlorophyllin (sunlight+infected snail) starch-3.216⁺ for serine-4.115⁺⁺+linear regression between x and y⁺⁺: Non-linear regression log x and log y. Chl: Chlorophyllin, St: Starch, Se: Serine, LCL: Lowest confidence limits, UC: Upper confidence limit, LC₅₀: Lethal concentration 50

DISCUSSION

It is evident from result section that there was a significant variation in mean number of snail in zone 3 exposed to bait containing+starch and serine after 2 h from beginning of the experiment. Infected snails more attracted by bait containing chlorophyllin+starch, while uninfected snails more attracted by chlorophyllin+serine. More attraction of infected snails was noticed when they were fed to bait containing chlorophyllin+starch in red light (Tripathi and Singh, 2013). Probably, in nature starch is the major carbohydrate stored in aquatic plants and snails are more attracted to their exposure. In natural condition snails were more surfaced on water surface of the ponds in the morning and evening h. Red light penetration was more in water due to their diagonal exposure on water body in morning and evening. Uninfected snails were attracted (55.0%) more by 2% chlorophyllin+serine bait. Variation in behavioral response of infected and uninfected snail towards starch and serine containing bait may be due to differences in feeding and metabolism of both groups.

Toxicity of chlorophyllin against infected and uninfected snails in red light was higher than sunlight and control. Red light attracted more snails in comparison to other visible light (Tripathi and Singh, 2013) toxicity of chlorophyllin bait in red light is due to more absorption of red light by chlorophyllin, which produces more reactive singlet oxygen. Obviously, snails are more attracted by chemo+phyto stimulus. More attraction and feeding as well as more production of reactive oxygen by chlorophyllin red light caused higher mortality of bait fed snails. Variation of intensity of different wave length of light has significant effect on the attraction of snails towards the light source (Tripathi and Singh, 2013). The photodynamically active chlorophyllin, even at low concentrations, was able to kill snails within few h when exposed to solar light (Mahmoud *et al.*, 2013). Chlorophyllin exposed to light induce necrosis and apoptosis in the intestine of insect larva *Chaoborus crystallinus* (Wohllebe *et al.*, 2011). Photodynamic application of chlorophyllin was found to have antimicrobial effects (Kreitner *et al.*, 2001; Lopez-Carballo *et al.*, 2008). The effectiveness of chlorophyllin depends on light attenuation in the water body (Kessel and Smith, 1989; DeRosa and Crutchley, 2002). Erzinger *et al.* (2011) stated earlier that about 36 w m^{-2} visible daylight are sufficient to induce photodynamic destruction of *chaoborus crystallinus* larva. Chlorophyllin can be also active in deeper horizons of the water column- depending on the light attenuation in water column (Wohllebe *et al.*, 2011). The difference in toxicity may be due to fact that infected snails requires large amount of bait feeding and they accumulate greater percentage of chlorophyllin the snail's body, which resulted more snail mortality in comparison to uninfected snails.

The slope value indicates that a small increase in concentration of molluscicide caused higher level of mortality. Separate estimation of LC_{50} based on each of the 6 replicates was found to be within 95% confidence limits of LC_{50} . The t-ratio was greater than 1.96 indicates that the regression is significant. Heterogeneity factor values 1.0 denote that the replicates test of random sample the concentration response limit and thus the model fits the data adequately. The index significance of the potency estimations g values indicates that the value of mean within the limits at all probability levels (90, 95 and 99, respectively) since it is less than 0.5.

CONCLUSION

It can be concluded that infected snails fed to the chlorophyllin bait in red light caused more mortality. The use of attractant in combination with chlorophyllin in red light would have been additional advantage in attracting as well as killing the host snails. Use of chlorophyllin bait formulation would be ecologically sound and culturally more acceptable. Chlorophyllin would be non toxic to the non targeted animals and cause only short term environmental toxicity, if any.

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