

Measuring the Level of Radioactivity in Local and Imported used Animal Feeds in Local Markets

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Abstract: In this study of radioactive levels for animal feed which are negotiable Iraqi's markets. The No. of collected samples are twelve from different types and originating, the measured spectrum are made by using NaI (TI) detection which has dimensions "3*3" crystal. From the spectrum results were the specific activity about from (3.0501±2.723)-(9.803±2.832), the range (4.8802±2.75341) Bq kg⁻¹ for ²³⁸U while the specific activity about from (0.527±0.583)-(1.583±0.611), the range (0.9532±0.58695) for ²³²Th, the activity concentration for ⁴⁰K about from (172.5±16.47)-(80.463±9.583). Then, R_{eq} was calculated, it was about 10.488-18.486 Bq kg⁻¹, the internal Hazard index was calculated (H_{in}) which was about 0.0387-0.0767 while external Hazard index (H_{ex}) was about 0.0304-0.04052.

Key words: Radioactivity, specific activity concentration, hazards, radium equivalent, spectrum, animal feed

INTRODUCTION

The radioactive activity of humans is transmitted through, vegetables and fruits as well as by the meat of animals that feed on plants and while fodder. Serious radioactive substances in meat and milk appear in these animals which feed on radiation-contaminated feedings. The study of radioactive decay and nuclear reactions is a study of the dynamics of the nucleus, i.e., a properties that change with time (Zu-Jun *et al.*, 2017). The processes of decomposition can be spontaneous (radioactive decay) or artificial (nuclear reactions). The nucleus that radiates the parent nucleus is called the nucleus of the nucleus and if the nucleus is not stable in view of the close relationship between human life and around it as there is a chain of interconnected human, animal, plant and the universe while in general, so, Artiana study the proportion of radioactivity in animal feed because of its close relationship with humans (Loveland *et al.*, 2017). The natural radiological activity found in animal feed and the environmental radiation activity and its associated external exposure through gamma radiation depends mainly on the components of the feed and its while origin and the soil in which the plants were formed the source of the feed. External exposure means that the exposure is outside the body any product of the nuclides. The natural environment is present but the internal exposure is that which is inside the body and enters the body through nutrition and breathing (Tzortzis *et al.*, 2004).

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Collection of samples: Various samples were selected from the components of the plant feed and the various imported and local food additives used in the manufacture of poultry and large livestock diets. Twelve samples were collected from while local markets (Huang *et al.*, 2017).

Sample Preparation: The materials were exposed to direct sunlight for 10 h and purified from impurities, dried in the convection oven at 60o for 24 h. Take 500 g of each sample and put in Marnelli baker (Pan *et al.*, 2012).

Efficiency Calibration: Efficient detector (ε) is known as the a proportion between the number of photons of the gamma falling on it and the number of pulses out of it which are always <100% and are necessary for accuracy as in flowing Eq. 1 (Makki *et al.*, 2014) (Fig. 1).

$$\varepsilon = \frac{C}{A \cdot \gamma \cdot t} \times 100\% \quad (1)$$

The effectiveness of a known source is used to correct by using the following relation (Hussain *et al.*, 2010).

$$A = A_0 e^{-\lambda \Delta t} \quad (2)$$

Where:

- A : The Activity (Bq) of the source at time t
- A₀ : The initial Activity (Bq) of each source at time t₀
- λ : The decay constant and (Δt = t-t₀)

Radiation background: All measurement systems record the radiation background signals due to natural radiation

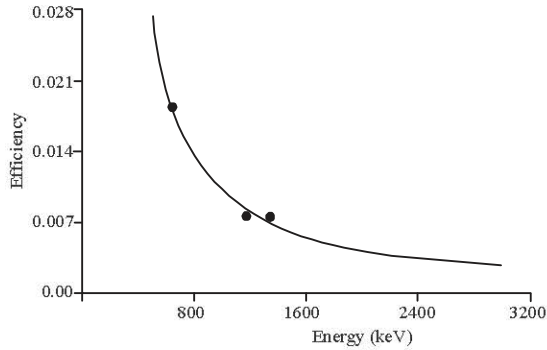


Fig. 1: The efficiency calibration curve of 3×3 NaI (TI) detector

activity in the ground materials, cosmic rays and structural materials in the system and building materials surrounding the system. This background varies from one place to another and depends on the quality and size of the detector and also depends on the quality of the shield used and can increase this background because of radiation interaction. For the purpose of measuring pure radiological activity in the studied models, a spectrum of the radiological background must be recorded and subtracted from the spectrum of each model. Figure 2 shows the background radiation spectrum of the gamma ray. The irradiation background was measured by placing a 1L empty marnelly vessel used for collecting study samples for a period of 18,000 sec. And collecting the spectrum on the calculator screen and subtracting it from the spectrum of the studied models (Hussain, 2011).

Sample spectrum after collecting and configuring the models and calibrating the detection and measurement system and recording the spectrum of the radiation background, the spectral spectrum was recorded for the studied models where the measurement time was second. About 18000 blocks were 0.5 kg models (Anderson and Hough, 1984) (Fig. 3).

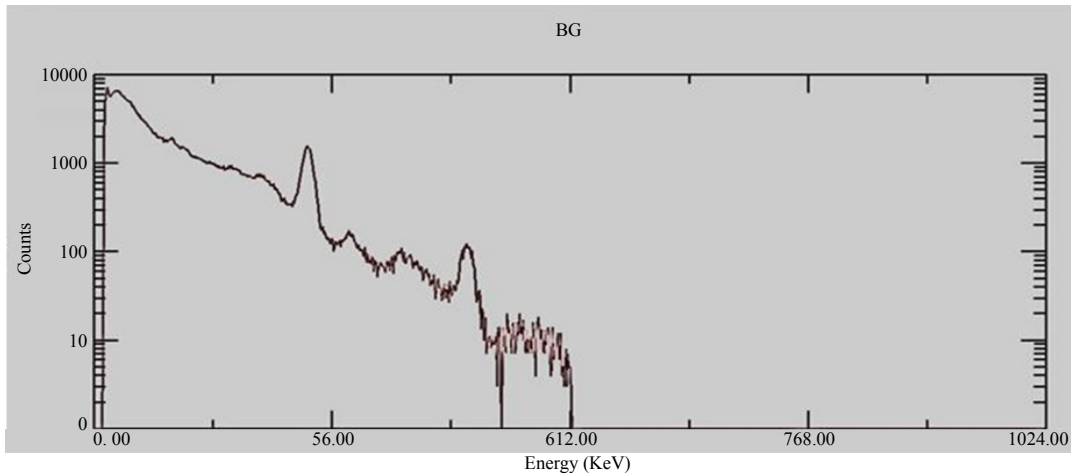


Fig. 2: Background spectra of the gamma ray

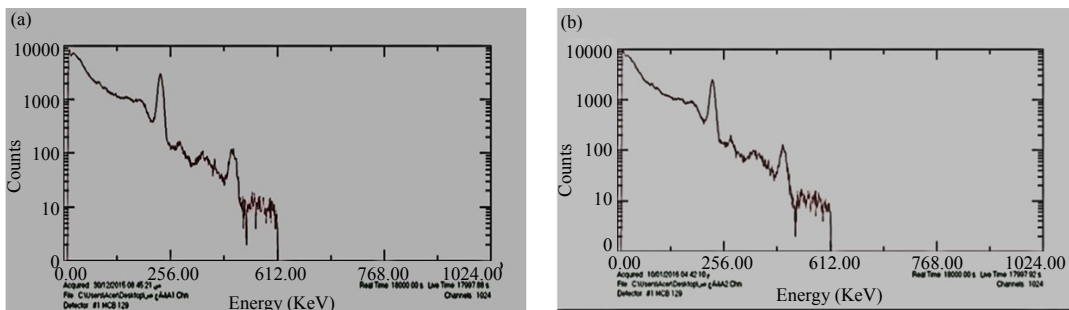


Fig. 3: Continue

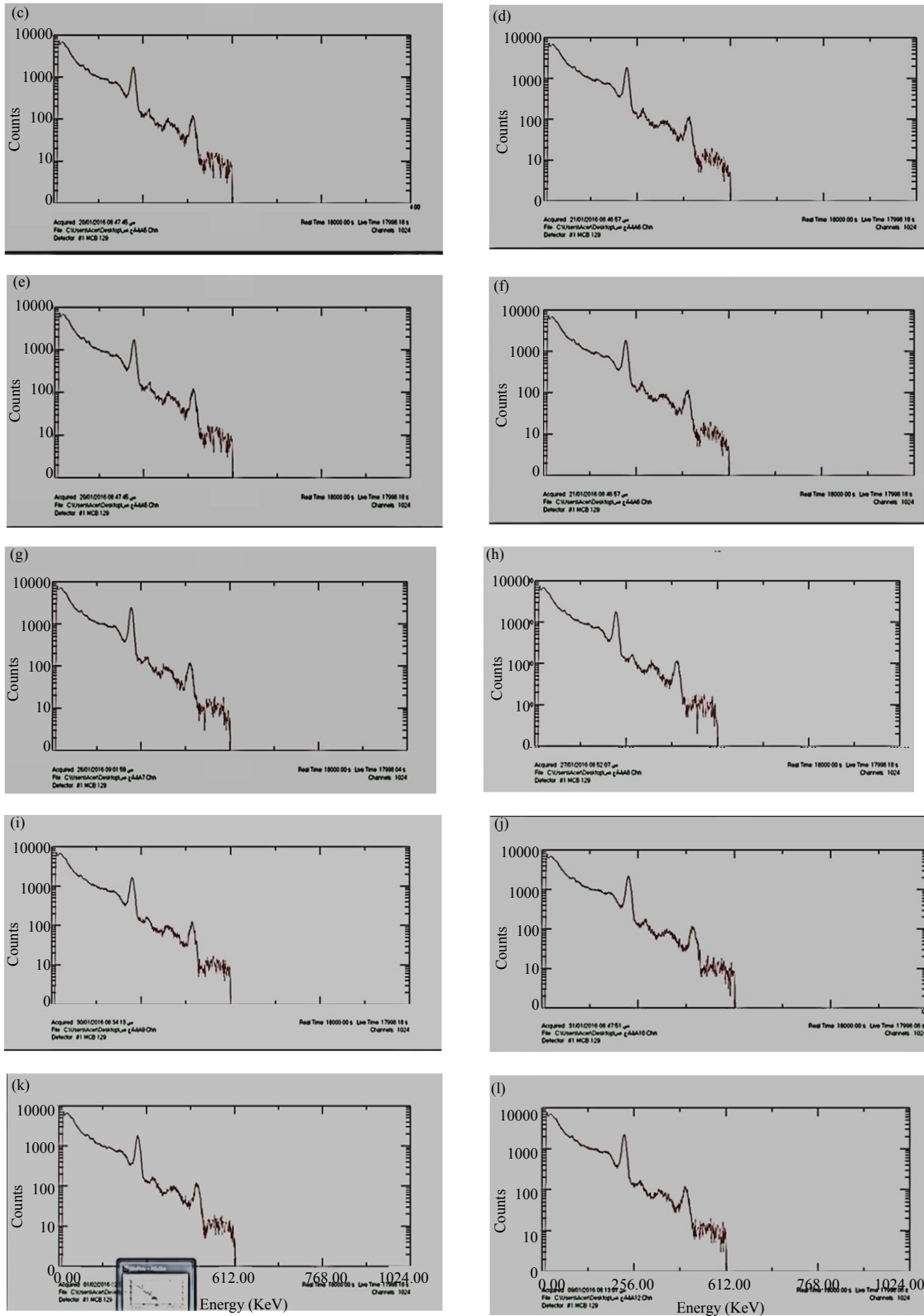


Fig. 3(a-l): Spectral radiation spectrum for studied feed models (A1-A12) between energy (MeV) in x-axis and the counts on the y-axis: (a) A1, (b) A2, (c) A3, (d) A4, (e) A5, (f) A6, (g) A7, (h) A8, (i) A9, (j) A10, (k) A11 and (l) A12

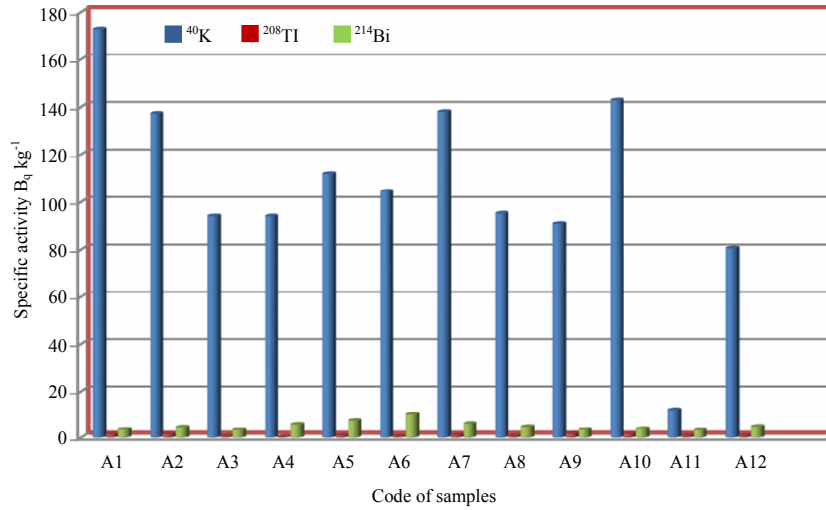


Fig.4: Specific effectiveness of the studied models in local and imported used animal feeds in local markets

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The activity of ²³⁸U is guessed from the 1765 keV gamma transition energy of ²¹⁴Bi (15.96% possibility). Activity of ²³²Th was calculated from the 2614 keV gamma transition energy of ²⁰⁸Tl, (99% possibility) whereas ⁴⁰K activity is calculated by using the 1460 keV gamma ray line (11% possibility). The specific activity is defined as activity per unit mass of radioactive substance and the reported in units such as curie per gram or becquerel per kilogram. To while calculate specific activity of each radionuclide using the following Eq. 3 (Makki *et al.*, 2014):

$$A(\text{Bq kg}^{-1}) = \frac{C}{\varepsilon \cdot \gamma \cdot m \cdot t} \quad (3)$$

Where:

- C : Net peak count (background subtracted)
- A : The specific activity of the radionuclide in Bq kg⁻¹
- ε : The counting efficiency
- γ : The percentage of gamma emission probability of the radionuclide under study)
- t : The counting time (sec)
- m : The mass of the sample (kg) (Hussain *et al.*, 2010)

Competence was calculated at the energies of the study. Table 1 shows the nuclei used in the study and the associated energy and efficiency of each energy. From the Table 2 and Fig. 4 we observed the specific effectiveness of the studied models in local and imported used animal feeds in local markets we found the activity of ²³⁸U is maximum in Brazil sample is minimal in local sample, Activity of ²³²Th maximum in local sample while is minimal in Brazil sample and ⁴⁰K activity maximum in Argentina sample is minimal in (Vitamine G) sample.

Figure 4 is represented the relation between the name of the code of all samples and specific activity in local

Table 1: Nuclei used in the study, energy and efficiency

I (%)	Efficiency (%)	Energy (KeV)	Nuclei
0.1060	0.007	1460	⁴⁰ K
0.1700	0.006	1764	²¹⁴ Bi
1.0000	0.004	2614	²⁰⁸ Tl

and imported used animal feeds in local markets. Hazard measurements depending on the specific efficiency of ²¹⁴Bi, ²⁰⁸Th and ⁴⁰K, several risk factors were measured.

External Hazard index (H_{ex}): The external risk guide is an assessment of the natural gamma radiation risk, calculated from the following Eq. 5 (Brown *et al.*, 2008):

$$H_{ex} = \frac{A_U}{370} + \frac{A_{Th}}{259} + \frac{A_K}{4810} \leq 1 \quad (5)$$

This factor should be less than one. If it is equal to or greater than one, it indicates a radiation hazard.

Internal Hazard index (H_{in}): The internal exposure is the result of the inhalation of radon and its fluids which can be expressed in terms of internal risk factor and calculated by the following Eq. 6 (Beir, 1990):

$$H_{in} = \frac{A_U}{185} + \frac{A_{Th}}{259} + \frac{A_K}{4810} \leq 1 \quad (6)$$

This factor should be less than one per cent to be within the internationally permissible. From Table 3 and Fig. 5, we noted the hazard-index (insider) is maximum in Holland (A2) (sample while is minimal in local (A3) sample where hazard-index (external) is maximum in local (A5) sample while is minimal in local (A3) sample.

Table 2: The specific effectiveness of the studied models

Sample name	Country	Specific activity Bq kg ⁻¹		
		²¹⁴ Bi	²⁰⁸ Tl	⁴⁰ K
A1	Argentina	3.376±2.838	1.25±0.5833	172.5±16.471 {max}
A2	Holland	4.357±2.941	1.361±0.611	137.166±14.974
A3	Local	3.159±2.832	0.611±0.611	94.048±12.578
A4	Local	5.555±2.838	0.6±94±0.583	94.040±12.728
A5	Local	7.189±2.838	0.777±0.583	111.710±12.728
A6	Brazil	9.803±2.838 {max}	0.527±0.583 {min}	104.372±13.027
A7	Local	5.882±2.838	1±0.583	173.915±14.974
A8	Local	4.575±2.838	0.638±0.583	95.238±12.878
A9	Local	3.267±2.838	1.538±0.611 {max}	90.895±12.578
A10	Center most Euphraties	3.703±2.838	1.444±0.583	142.707±14.225
A11	Local	3.0501±2.723 {min}	0.777±0.722	119.796±12.878
A12	Vitamine G	4.647±1.888	0.777±0.4074	80.463±9.583 {min}

Table 3: External and internal risk factors of the models taken

Sample name	Country	Hazard-index	
		Insider	External
A1	Argentina	0.0588	0.04947
A2	Holland	0.572	0.04540
A3	Local	0.0387	0.0304
A4	Local	0.522	0.372
A5	Local	0.06507	0.4564
A6	Brazil	0.0767	0.0502
A7	Local	0.0641	0.0483
A8	Local	0.0447	0.0324
A9	Local	0.0426	0.0338
A10	Center most Euphraties	0.05519	0.04518
A11	Local	0.0443	0.0316
A12	Vitamine G	0.0448	0.04052
Average		0.0537	0.04052

Table 4: Radium equivalent in the studied models

Ra _{eq} Bq/Kg ⁻¹	A _{214Bi}	A _{208Th}	A _{40K}
18.488	3.3760	1.250	172.5000
16.865	4.3570	1.361	137.1660
10.488	3.1590	1.611	94.0480
13.813	5.5550	0.964	94.0401
16.901	7.1890	0.777	111.7100
17.915	9.8030	0.527	104.3720
12.820	5.8820	0.583	137.9150
12.529	4.5750	0.638	95.2380
16.756	3.2670	1.583	90.8950
13.385	3.7030	1.444	142.7070
17.930	3.0501	0.777	119.7960
11.935	4.6470	0.777	80.4630
14.984	Average	-	-

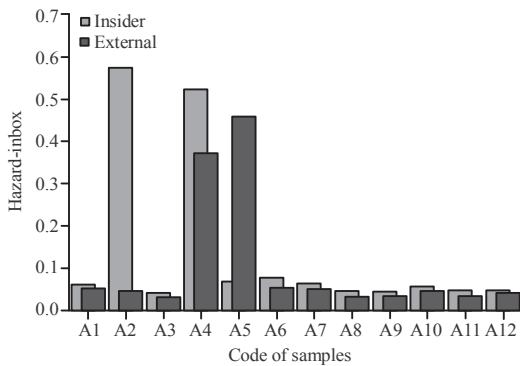


Fig.5: External and internal risk factors of the studied models in local and imported used animal feeds in local markets

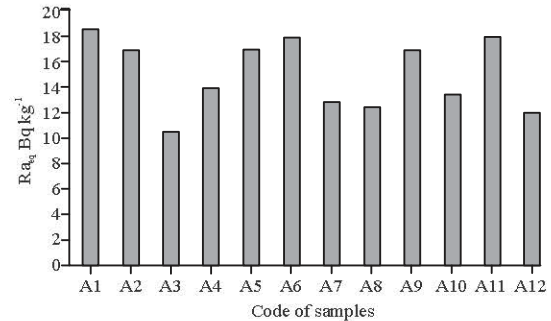


Fig. 6: Radium equivalent of the studied models in local and imported used animal feeds in local markets

Radium equivalent activity (Ra_{eq}): In order to represent or evaluate the radiological hazards associated with the three different radiations of ²³⁸U, ²³²Th and ⁴⁰K a single quantity a common while operator called radium equivalent activity (Ra_{eq}) is calculated. It is mathematically defined by the equation below (Santawamaitre *et al.*, 2014):

$$Ra_{eq} \text{ Bq kg}^{-1} = A_U + 1.43A_{Th} + 0.077 A_K$$

where, A_U, A_{Th} and A_K are the specific activities of uranium, Thorium and potassium, respectively

(Brown *et al.*, 2008). From Table 4 and Fig. 6, we computed the Radium equivalent where was maximum in A1 is minimal in A3 sample.

CONCLUSION

The specific activity of ²³⁸U, ²³²Th and ⁴⁰K was "0.611±1.583" 2.273±3.0501-2.83±9.803 calculated 172.5±16.471-80.463±9.583", respectively and these "0.583±0.527 concentrations were within the internationally permissible limits. The radium equivalent was calculated as the range between 10.488-18.488 Bq kg⁻¹ and the rate was 14.984 Bq kg⁻¹ also among the internationally allowed. The internal risk factor was calculated from 0.0387-0.767 and the rate was 0.0537.

The external risk factor was calculated from 0.0502-0.0302 and the rate was 0.04052. The results were within the limits allowed while internationally.

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