

## Comparative Toxicity of Certain Acaricides against *Tetranychus urticae* Koch and their Side Effects on *Phytoseiulus persimilis* A.-H. (Acari: Tetranychidae: Phytoseiidae)

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### ABSTRACT

The acaricidal activity using the recommended concentrations of the novel compound cyflumetofen 24% SC as compared with bifentazate 48% SC and abamectin 1.8% EC was determined against the two-spotted spider mite, *Tetranychus urticae* Koch under greenhouse conditions at Faculty of Agriculture, Cairo University during 2017-2018. Their side effect on the predatory phytoseiid mite, *Phytoseiulus persimilis* Athias-Henriot was also investigated. Average number of mite mortality in the two seasons showed that abamectin was more toxic to predatory mite than other tested acaricides, while cyflumetofen was more toxic to spider mites *T. urticae* and followed by abamectin and bifentazate. Field trials proved that cyflumetofen was not as harmful as other compounds. Therefore, life-table parameters of both *T. urticae* and *P. persimilis* treated with LC<sub>50</sub> of cyflumetofen were investigated in laboratory to know more knowledge about the population growth of mite pest and its natural enemy under stressful of treatment. Cyflumetofen prolonged the mean generation time, doubling time while it decreased fecundity as represented by female proportion in the generation, net reproductive rate, intrinsic rate of increase, finite rate of increase and gross reproductive rate of both mite species. Cyflumetofen showed considerable negative effects on *T. urticae* life-tables but it had moderate or low effects on *P. persimilis*. It is recommended to use the novel acaricide, cyflumetofen in IPM programs of plants feeding spider mites.

**Keywords:** *Tetranychus urticae*, *Phytoseiulus persimilis*, acaricides, toxicity, mite mortality, life table parameters

### INTRODUCTION

Misuse of synthetic chemical pesticides had many negative effects such as groundwater contamination, human health threats and outbreaks of secondary pests (Abdel-Rahman and Fouly, 2001; Isman *et al.*, 2011; Tirello *et al.*, 2012). Chemical control should be applied when the pest population exceeds the economic injury threshold. Although this principle is designed to minimize pesticide use, sometimes the number of chemical applications can increase in an IPM program; however, under such conditions the pesticides applied ideally are selective pesticides, meaning they suppress pest populations without disrupting the activity of natural enemies. (Hoy, 2011). In other words, the main objective of control program is to kill the pest but not the beneficial organisms. Pesticides can be intrinsically selective, in that their chemistry makes them more toxic to pests than to beneficial species. Unfortunately, these products are less often available.

The two-spotted spider mite, *Tetranychus urticae* Koch (Tetranychidae), is a widespread and common mite pest of many plant species in greenhouses and open fields. This mite pest frequently reaches the economic injury level on over 150 host plant species worldwide (Zhang, 2003 and Ramasubramanian *et al.*, 2005). Although, the importance of this mite is not only due to its direct damage but also due to indirect damage to plants which causes declines in photosynthesis and transpiration (Zhang, 2003). Further, when this mite begins to feed on a plant, they produce webbing that can protect its eggs and developmental stages from acaricide effects (Brandenburg and Kennedy, 1987).

The chemical pesticides have been widely used in suppressing the mite populations but they are hazardous to human and domestic animals. Indiscriminate use of chemical pesticides may however result in adverse effects such as resistance and resurgence in secondary pests (Ramasubramanian *et al.*, 2005; Isman *et al.*, 2011; Tirello *et al.*, 2012). Pesticide resistance, the high cost of pesticides and loss of production have raised interest by

growers to introduce predatory phytoseiid mites to manage the two-spotted spider mites and reduce their need for acaricide applications (Hassan, 1992 and Sabelis, 1981 and 1985).

The family Phytoseiidae is the most important family of acarine predators of plant pest mites (Helle and Sabelis, 1985; Sabelis 1985 and 1991 and McMurtry and Croft 1997). Relatively little is known about the biology of many of the approximately more than 2000 named phytoseiid species, because they are not found on agricultural crops. Some phytoseiids are found on crops in a single country, but some premier species are used in integrated mite management (IMM) programs in multiple countries. *Phytoseiulus persimilis* Athias-Henriot is one of the most important predators of spider mites, especially on protected crops (Irigari *et al.*, 2007 and Tello *et al.*, 2009). This species is an obligatory predator of tetranychid mites and reared commercially feeding on its natural hosts, *Tetranychus* spp. such as *T. cinnabarinus* and *T. urticae* using bean plants (Samsøe-Petersen, 1983; Zhang and Sanderson, 1990 and Nadimi *et al.*, 2008). Despite the success of *P. persimilis* in reducing populations of *T. urticae*, acaricide applications may still necessary due to limitations associated with the effectiveness of *P. persimilis* introductions (Hassan, 1992 and Poletti *et al.*, 2007).

In our present study, we aimed to evaluate the acaricidal activities of the novel acaricide cyflumetofen as compared with bifentazate and abamectin against all motile stages of *T. urticae* under greenhouse conditions. Also, experiments were done to determine their side effects on the predatory phytoseiid mite *P. persimilis*, which is widely used in IPM programs of spider mites especially in greenhouses. Moreover, laboratory experiments using LC<sub>50</sub> of cyflumetofen, which achieved the highest efficiency against spider mites in greenhouse, were done to determine its latent effects on the life-table parameters of both spider mite *T. urticae* and its biological control agent *P. persimilis* just to understand the forthcoming information about the successive generations and their population growth.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

### Mite Collection

Mite individuals of *T. urticae* as well as the predatory mite species *P. persimilis* were collected from leaves of bean plants *Phaseolus vulgaris* L. growing in the Acarology greenhouse, Department of Zoology and Agricultural Nematology, Faculty of Agriculture, Cairo University, Egypt in summer 2017. Spider mite individuals were transferred to plastic pots (20 cm in diameter) containing bean plants to maintain a pure culture for further studies.

A pure colony of *P. persimilis*, was provided with spider mites as food source and kept in an incubator at  $26 \pm 1$  °C and  $70 \pm 5$  % RH. Newly deposited eggs of the predatory mite were collected daily for ten days and transferred to new cultures in order to get a surplus amount of mites and used in both toxicological and biological studies.

### Acaricides used

**Abamectin (vertemec 1.8% EC):** application rate 40ml/100L. **Chemical name:** 80% avermectin B1a (22,23-dihydroavermectin B1a: C48H72O14) and 20% avermectin B1b (22,23-dihydroavermectin B1b: C47H70O14).

**Bifenazate (acramite 48% SC):** application rate of 65ml/100L

**Chemical name:** hydrazine carboxylic acid, 2-(4-methoxy-[1,1'-biphenyl]-3-yl) 1-methylethyl ester

**Cyflumetofen (danisaraba 24% SC):** application rate 30ml/100L. This compound is a novel benzoyl acetonitrile acaricide developed by Otsuka AgriTechno Co., Ltd.

**Chemical name:** 2-methoxyethyl (RS)-2-(4-tert-butylphenyl)-2-cyano-3-oxo-3-( $\alpha, \alpha$ ,  $\alpha$ -trifluoro-*o*-tolyl) propionate

An experiment was conducted using the recommended concentration of three acaricides, cyflumetofen 24% SC, bifenazate 48% SC and abamectin 1.8% EC (as mentioned before) against spider mites infesting bean plants growing under greenhouse conditions for two successive seasons 2017 and 2018.

### Experimental procedure:

Soil of the greenhouse was well prepared before the plantation of bean seeds. The experimental area was divided into four plots (treatments) each of which containing 10 plants. The first three plots were sprayed with the recommended concentration of one of the three tested acaricides, while the fourth one was sprayed with water and used as a check. A manual compressor sprayer (20 liters capacity) was used for acaricide applications. Each treatment was replicated four times according to a complete randomized block design. Artificial infestation was conducted by individuals of spider mites *T. urticae* 45 days after seed germination.

The same technique was followed in similar plots infested with spider mites and containing the natural bio-agent, *P. persimilis* and that just to configure the side toxicity effect of these acaricide to the predatory mite, which used for biological control purposes and lives in the same environment during control applications. In all cases, plant seedlings were left for 15 days for mite population increase.

Samples of 40 leaves were randomly collected from each treatment, just before spraying and then after 3, 6, 9 and 14 days afterwards. Leaf samples were kept in perforated polyethylene bags, tightly closed with rubber bands, kept in an ice box and then transferred to the

laboratory for examination using a stereomicroscope. Alive moving stages of *T. urticae* and *P. persimilis* were recorded.

### Statistical analysis

Experiments were arranged in a completely randomized design where data were analyzed using one-way ANOVA. Means of alive mites were compared using Duncan's Multiple Range Test (CoStat program, 1990). Reduction percentages in populations of the two tested mite species *T. urticae* and *P. persimilis* were calculated and then corrected according to Henderson and Tilton's formula (1955).

### Experiments of life-table parameters

#### Preparation of LC<sub>50</sub> of cyflumetofen 24% SC

Five leaf discs (2 cm diameter) of fresh leaves of *Acalypha wilkesiana* L. were placed upside down on wet cotton pad in Phil dishes facing upper surface upward. The cotton bed was kept wet by soaking with water twice daily so that the discs remained fresh. Ten adults of each *T. urticae* and *P. persimilis* were transferred to each disc as replicate (50 adults for each concentration). Then it sprayed with 240, 120, 60, 30 and 15 ppm of cyflumetofen. Mites were maintained at suitable moisture and kept in incubator  $26 \pm 2$  °C and  $60 \pm 5$  % R.H. Mortality percentages were calculated for *T. urticae* and *P. persimilis* adults 24 hr after spraying.

The LC<sub>50</sub> values were estimated by applying probit analysis of Finney (1971) using mortality data which was corrected by Abbott's formula (1925).

LC<sub>50</sub> for *T. urticae* 8.125 ppm

LC<sub>50</sub> for *P. persimilis* 184.639 ppm

#### *Tetranychus urticae* culture

A pure culture of spider mites was collected from infested bean plants growing in the Acarology greenhouse, Cairo University. Adult females of spider mites were collected from the culture and kept on fresh leaves of castor bean, *Ricinus communis* and left for laying eggs. Plant leaves were placed on moist cotton pads in Petri dishes (15 cm in diameter) to keep leaf discs fresh, and to prevent mite individuals from escaping. The newly deposited eggs were collected daily for ten days and then divided into two groups of approximately 10 eggs each/arena. The first group was sprayed with LC<sub>50</sub> of cyflumetofen 24% SC (8.129 ppm) by the aid of a manual hand sprayer (1 liter capacity), while the second group was sprayed with water and used as a check. Each group was replicated for five times. In daily controls the individuals that hatched and did not hatch from the eggs were recorded by using the control group as a reference. Counting hatchability continued until all untreated eggs hatched. All treatments were maintained in an incubator at  $27 \pm 1$  °C and  $70 \pm 5$  % RH and photoperiod of 14:10 (D:L).

#### *Phytoseiulus persimilis* culture

A pure culture of *P. persimilis* was collected from bean plants infested with spider mites. Copulated adult females of *P. persimilis* were provided daily with a surplus amount of spider mites *T. urticae* as a prey and left to lay eggs on leaf discs of castor bean leaves. The same technique mentioned above was followed where treatments were sprayed with LC<sub>50</sub> of cyflumetofen (184.639 ppm).

#### Data analysis of life-table parameters

Life table parameters of both *T. urticae* and *P. persimilis*, which were sprayed with the recommended

concentration of cyflumetofen 24% SC as compared with those treated with water (control) were investigated. Duration of immature stages, mortality in developmental period and adults, sex ratio and total number of deposited eggs/females (fecundity) of *T. urticae* and *P. persimilis* were estimated daily and used for calculating the life-table parameters according to Birch (1948), Laing (1968) and then by using the Basic Computer Program of Abou-Setta *et al.* (1986). The intrinsic rate of natural increase,  $r_m$  was estimated by the equation:  $\sum e^{-r_m x} L_x M_x = 1$ , where:  $x$  is the age in days,  $L_x$  the age-specific survival rate (proportion of females alive at age  $x$ ) and  $M_x$  the oviposition rate at age  $x$  {(age-specific oviposition)  $\times$  (proportion of females)}. The net reproductive rate ( $R_0$ ) was given as  $R_0 = \sum L_x M_x$  is the number of times as population will multiply per generation. The mean generation time in days ( $T$ ) was calculated as  $T = \sum (x \cdot L_x \cdot M_x) / \sum (L_x \cdot M_x)$ , then used as  $T = \ln R_0 / r_m$ . The proportion of females (number of females/total females+males) was used for calculating the  $M_x$  values as well as the intrinsic rate of increase ( $r_m$ ), the finite rate of increase ( $e^{r_m} = \lambda$ ) is the number of times the population will multiply itself per unit of time as No. females/female/day. Doubling time  $DT$  is the time required for a given population to double its number (in days) as well as gross reproductive rate ( $GRR = \sum M_x$ ) measured as female eggs/female/generation.

The life-tables of both *T. urticae* and *P. persimilis* were prepared from data recorded daily on developmental time (egg to first egg laid), sex ratio, the number of deposited eggs, the fraction of eggs reached maturity, and the survival of females. Interval of one day was chosen as the age classes for constructing the life-tables.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### Effect of tested acaricides on *Tetranychus urticae*

In 2017, data in Table (1) clearly showed that there is a significant difference between the toxic effect of cyflumetofen on spider mites mortality and both bifentazate and abamectin just one day after treatment where these compounds reduced mite populations by an average of 95.88%, 79.51% and 76.84%, respectively. Treated mite individuals started to overcome from chemical applications three days after spraying where mite mortality averages 94.12%, 54.46% and 68.83% for the mites treated with the same acaricides, respectively. At the end of experiment 14 days after spraying, cyflumetofen proved to be the most persistent compound where it caused mortality 82.54%, and abamectin came second by 61.99% while bifentazate caused the least mortality rate by an average of 36.93% and all differences were significant (Table 1).

**Table 1. Average No. of live *Tetranychus urticae* Koch treated and untreated with three acaricides infesting bean plants *Phaseolus vulgaris* during 2017 and 2018 under greenhouse conditions**

Year	Time after treatment	Tested acaricides						Control	L.S.D	F	P ≤ (0.05)
		Cyflumetofen		Bifenazate		Abamectin					
		Mean No./Leaf	Reduction %	Mean No./Leaf	Reduction %	Mean No./Leaf	Reduction %				
2017	Pre-treatment	8.10	-	6.88	-	7.95	-	8.88			
	1 day	0.58 <sup>b</sup>	95.88	2.45 <sup>a</sup>	79.51	3.20 <sup>a</sup>	76.84	15.43	1.42	9.22	**
	3 days	1.33 <sup>b</sup>	94.12	8.75 <sup>a</sup>	54.46	6.92 <sup>ab</sup>	68.83	24.80	5.79	4.57	*
	6 days	4.95 <sup>c</sup>	90.31	31.50 <sup>a</sup>	27.40	18.25 <sup>b</sup>	63.62	56.00	7.53	31.82	***
	9 days	8.25 <sup>b</sup>	78.97	29.25 <sup>a</sup>	12.20	16.75 <sup>b</sup>	56.51	43.00	11.80	8.20	**
	14 days	11.25 <sup>a</sup>	53.46	18.25 <sup>b</sup>	11.10	13.25 <sup>a</sup>	44.18	26.50	8.73	1.74	*
Mean	5.27 <sup>c</sup>	82.54	18.04 <sup>a</sup>	36.93	11.76 <sup>b</sup>	61.99	29.10	4.62	20.12	**	
2018	Pre-treatment	8.45	--	7.70	--	9.30	--	9.48	--	--	--
	1 day	0.80 <sup>c</sup>	96.01	2.38 <sup>b</sup>	86.98	4.28 <sup>a</sup>	80.61	22.50	1.26	19.62	***
	3 days	5.00 <sup>b</sup>	89.85	9.25 <sup>a</sup>	79.40	12.0 <sup>a</sup>	77.51	55.25	3.64	9.58	**
	6 days	11.08 <sup>b</sup>	83.05	30.25 <sup>a</sup>	49.16	24.75 <sup>a</sup>	65.56	73.25	11.26	7.86	*
	9 days	15.23 <sup>b</sup>	70.15	39.25 <sup>a</sup>	15.59	31.0 <sup>a</sup>	44.80	57.25	14.48	7.26	*
	14 days	14.33 <sup>b</sup>	62.61	33.75 <sup>a</sup>	3.37	37.5 <sup>b</sup>	11.10	43.00	17.34	5.27	*
Mean	9.28 <sup>b</sup>	80.33	22.97 <sup>a</sup>	46.90	21.90 <sup>a</sup>	55.92	43.45	8.12	6.24	*	

Means No. of mite individuals/leaf followed by the same letter in each row are not significantly different, Duncan Multiple Range Test (P ≤ 0.05) Mortality % was corrected according to Henderson & Tilton (1955)

In 2018, similar trend of acaricide's toxicity was observed where the highest rate of mortality in spider mite population was achieved by cyflumetofen where 96.01% of treated mites were killed 24 hr after treatment. This percentage was significantly declined by using bifentazate and abamectin that caused 86.98% and 80.61% mortality, respectively (Table 1). At the end of experiments, cyflumetofen caused the highest total average of spider mite mortality and followed by abamectin and then bifentazate. The mite mortality was 80.33%, 55.92% and 46.90% in mites treated with the aforementioned acaricides as shown in Table 1, respectively.

From the previous results it can be concluded that the recommended concentration of cyflumetofen proved to be more toxic to spider mites *T. urticae* and followed by abamectin while bifentazate was the last in its acaricidal

effect against mite pest. Similar results were obtained by Latheef and Hoffman (2014) who tested five pesticides against *T. urticae* and found that abamectin and bifentazate was ten times more toxic than dicofol. They arranged the tested compounds according to their toxicity level as abamectin > bifentazate > dicofol > propargite = spiromesfin. They declared that spider mites treated with acaricides will become hyperactive after approximately 3 hours and will cease feeding. Subsequently, their movements gradually decrease (paralysis) and mortality occurs after 3 to 7 days and this may explain why they have a higher initial kill or knock down effect against mite individuals.

### Effect of tested acaricides on *Phytoseiulus persimilis*

Table (2) proved that there were no significant differences between the toxic action of the three tested acaricides, which were tested mainly against the

phytophagous spider mites, on the non-target predatory mite *P. persimilis* even in 2017 or 2018. The initial kill of abamectin was the highest with 37.85%, followed by bifentazate (30.33%) and cyflumetofen (30.30%), 24 hr after treatment in 2017, respectively. These percentages sharply declined after 14 days to be 2.89%, 5.0% and 1.04% mortality for *P. persimilis* treated with the aforementioned miticides, respectively. Abamectin also caused a higher killing action in 2018 as compared with that in 2017 and recorded the highest rate of mortality among the tested compounds by an average of 45.96% mortality in *P. persimilis* populations and then declined gradually to only 8.98% at the end of experiments. Bifenazate occupied the

second rank in its negative effect on the predatory mite where it killed 30.0% while cyflumetofen caused the lowest mortality of 23.14% one day after spray, respectively (Table 2). After 14 days from application, bifentazate and cyflumetofen caused only 11.21 and 1.90% mite mortality. These findings agree with Kim and Seo (2001) and Kim and Yoo (2002) who found that bifentazate had low mortality and no effect on fecundity and fertility of treated females of both phytoseiid species *P. persimilis* and *Amblyseius womersleyi*. Similarly, Irigaray and Zalom (2006) found that etoxazole and bifentazate didn't reduce adult longevity of the predatory phytoseiid mite *Galendromus occidentalis* (Nesbitt), but progeny were not produced.

**Table 2. Average No. of the motile stages of the predatory mite, *Phytoseiulus persimilis* A.-H. treated and untreated with three acaricides on bean plants *Phaseolus vulgaris* during 2017 and 2018 under greenhouse condition.**

Year	Time after treatment	Tested acaricides						Check No./Leaf	L.S.D	F	P ≤ (0.05)
		Cyflumetofen		Bifenazate		Abamectin					
		Mean No./Leaf	Reduction %	Mean No./Leaf	Reduction %	Mean No./Leaf	Reduction %				
2017	Pre-treatment	4.00	-	4.00	-	3.00	-	3.8	--	--	--
	1 day	2.75 <sup>a</sup>	30.30	2.75 <sup>a</sup>	30.33	1.84 <sup>b</sup>	37.85	3.75	1.41	2.30	Ns
	3 days	4.25 <sup>a</sup>	19.25	3.20 <sup>a</sup>	27.62	2.20 <sup>b</sup>	32.44	4.20	2.06	3.28	Ns
	6 days	4.80 <sup>a</sup>	8.40	3.94 <sup>a</sup>	18.63	3.20 <sup>b</sup>	11.88	4.60	1.96	5.38	Ns
	9 days	4.60 <sup>a</sup>	8.90	4.25 <sup>a</sup>	15.89	3.40 <sup>a</sup>	10.28	4.80	2.53	0.90	Ns
	14 days	5.00 <sup>a</sup>	1.04	5.00 <sup>a</sup>	5.00	3.68 <sup>a</sup>	2.89	4.80	1.58	2.14	Ns
Mean		4.28 <sup>a</sup>	13.58	3.82 <sup>a</sup>	19.49	2.86 <sup>a</sup>	19.07	4.43	1.84	4.82	Ns
2018	Pre-treatment	4.25	--	4	--	4.75	--	5.25	--	--	--
	1 day	2.80 <sup>a</sup>	23.14	2.40 <sup>a</sup>	30.00	2.20 <sup>a</sup>	45.96	4.50	1.70	0.29	Ns
	3 days	3.20 <sup>a</sup>	17.65	2.68 <sup>a</sup>	26.72	2.68 <sup>a</sup>	38.29	4.80	2.39	1.58	Ns
	6 days	4.40 <sup>a</sup>	12.33	3.60 <sup>a</sup>	23.79	4.60 <sup>a</sup>	18.00	6.20	3.32	0.8	Ns
	9 days	4.60 <sup>a</sup>	5.29	3.88 <sup>a</sup>	15.13	4.82 <sup>a</sup>	11.21	6.00	4.61	0.73	Ns
	14 days	5.40 <sup>a</sup>	1.90	4.60 <sup>a</sup>	11.21	5.60 <sup>a</sup>	8.98	6.80	3.28	1.08	Ns
Mean		4.08 <sup>a</sup>	12.06	3.71 <sup>a</sup>	21.37	3.98 <sup>a</sup>	24.48	5.66	1.64	1.24	Ns

Means No. of mite individuals/leaf followed by the same letter in each row are not significantly different, Ns = not significant, Duncan Multiple Range Test (P ≤ 0.05) Mortality % was corrected according to Henderson & Tilton (1955)

Comparative analysis of mite mortality of both spider mite and its predator, tested miticides showed a higher acaricidal activity against the target mite pest. Therefore, it can be concluded that *P. persimilis* was not as sensitive as spider mites to acaricide applications. Therefore, the predatory mite individuals, which survived after treatments, can soon recover and build up their population. These results proved that tested acaricides have a kind of selectivity against the mite pest and moderate or low side effect on the non-target bio-agent *P. persimilis* as shown in Tables (1-2). Irigaray and Zalom (2006) found that acequinocyl, etoxazole and spiromesifen didn't harm the predatory phytoseiid mite *G. occidentalis* where they didn't reduce its female longevity but they significantly reduced its fecundity. They also found that mite females treated with bifentazate stopped laying eggs. Dekeyser *et al.*, (1996) and Dekeyser (2005) contradictory found that bifentazate to be harmless to adult females of *G. occidentalis*. Also, Rhodes *et al.* (2006) reviewed that bifentazate can be used in IPM programs of spider mites especially with the use of *P. persimilis*. These results agree with the findings obtained by Nadimi *et al.*, (2011), Abde-Mageed *et al.*, (2013), and Halloum and Qerhaili (2013). On the other hand, Nadimi *et al.* (2008) used 25%, 50% and 100% of the recommended concentration of abamectin in the open field to control spider mites and they found that all these concentrations were harmful to *P. persimilis* especially to its reproduction and survival rates. Therefore, they stated that

abamectin is not compatible in IMM programs when *P. persimilis* is involved.

In conclusion, the activity of different acaricides may depend mainly on the mite species as well as acaricides used.

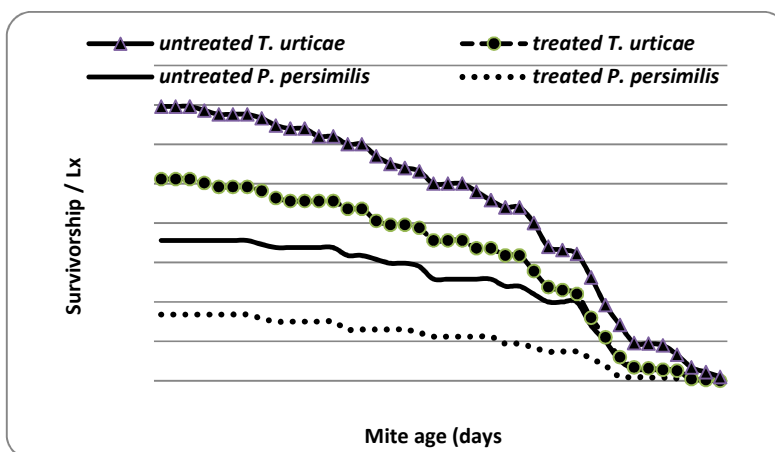
**Effect of tested acaricides (LC<sub>50</sub>) on life-table parameters of *Tetranychus urticae* and *Phytoseiulus persimilis***

The obtained results in the laboratory showed that 92% of untreated spider mites, *T. urticae* succeeded to reach adulthood, while only 78% from mites, which were subjected to LC<sub>50</sub> of cyflumetofen passed to adulthood as represented by *Lx* values (Fig. 1). These values were 94% and 84% for *P. persimilis* untreated and treated individuals that reached maturity, respectively. The present observations proved again that the tested compound is a selective acaricide against the spider mite but not to its natural enemy. In other words, Fig. (1) illustrates that *Lx* values gradually decreased during the oviposition period for both spider mite and its predatory mite.

It was also found that chemical application using LC<sub>50</sub> of cyflumetofen had insignificant effect on the sex ratio where cyflumetofen caused a female proportion of an average of 0.54 - 0.52 for untreated and treated *T. urticae*, while it was 0.62 - 0.56 for *P. persimilis*, respectively (Table 3). Contradictory, Li *et al.*, (2006) found that clofentezine negatively affected the sex ratio of *T. viennsis* Zacher where female proportion significantly decreased by acaricidal application. The same negative effect was observed by Marcic (2003) for flufentezine and hexythiazox who

suggested that perhaps this may due to the development of non-differentiated reproductive cells in mother mites treated with acaricides which is considered to be the most intensive at the deutonymphal stage. Therefore, it can be concluded that the variation of sex ratio in different exposure regimes in this study provided circumstantial evidence for the hypothesis that a female should shift her sex ratio towards the production of males when facing stressful environments. In general, acaricides that retard or inhibit mite development

seem to disturb this process and cause decrease in the fertility of mother mites, which survived after treatment. Moreover, Hayashi *et al.*, (2013) demonstrated that LC<sub>50</sub> of cyflumetofen inhibited metochondria complex II in mites and it was more effective on spider mites such as citrus red spider mite, *Panonychus citri* (McGregor) and *T. urticae* than on non-target species. They recommended the use of cyflumetofen in IMM programs especially in greenhouses.

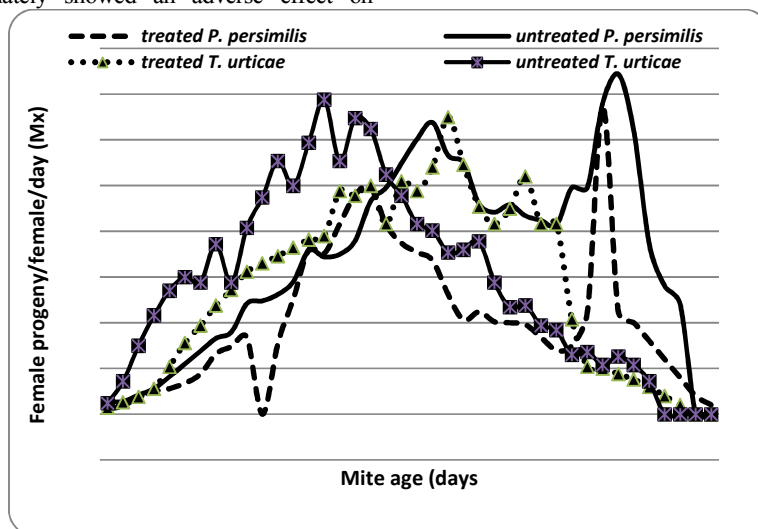


**Fig. 1. Age-specific survival ( $L_x$ ) of un-treated and treated *Tetranychus urticae* and *Phytoseiulus persimilis* with LC<sub>50</sub> of cyflumetofen under laboratory conditions of 27°C and 70% RH**

The mean generation time ( $T$ ) was obviously affected by chemical application as shown in Table (3). Therefore, LC<sub>50</sub> of cyflumetofen application prolonged  $T$  time of *T. urticae* from 17.54 days for untreated mites to 21.86 days for treated ones, respectively. Similarly, Li *et al.*, (2006) found that clofentezine also delayed *T. viennsis* development and prolonged  $T$  time for 2.5 days in comparison with untreated individuals. Contradictory, chemical application neither prolonged nor shortened  $T$  time of *P. persimilis* where it was 21.99 and 22.84 days in untreated and treated mites, respectively (Table 3).

Generally, chemical application reduced the net reproductive rate  $R_o$  of both mite species, where LC<sub>50</sub> of cyflumetofen fortunately showed an adverse effect on

fecundity females/female) to spider mites *T. urticae* where  $R_o$  was 44.10 in control group and then sharply declined to 24.11 female eggs/female/generation in treated group, respectively. That means, LC<sub>50</sub> of cyflumetofen reduced the reproductive rate of spider mite by almost 50% in the first generation after treatment as shown in age-specific fecundity curve (Fig. 2). These findings agree with those obtained by Marcic (2003 and 2007) and Li *et al.*, (2006) who showed that clofentezine and spiroadiclofen highly reduced the net reproductive rates of spider mites but when they treated mite individuals with sublethal concentrations they found that  $R_o$  increased. Marcic (2003) found that  $R_o$  of untreated spider mites was about 2.6 times more than treated ones.



**Fig. 2. Age-specific fecundity ( $M_x$ ) of un-treated and treated *Tetranychus urticae* and *Phytoseiulus persimilis* with LC<sub>50</sub> of cyflumetofen under laboratory conditions of 27°C and 70% RH**

**Table 3. Life table parameters of both untreated *Tetranychus urticae* and *Phytoseiulus persimilis* and treated with cyflumetofen 24% SC under laboratory conditions of 27°C and 70% RH**

Life table parameters	Mite species			
	<i>Tetranychus urticae</i>		<i>Phytoseiulus persimilis</i>	
	untreated	treated	untreated	treated
No. mite individuals	48	41	50	46
Hatchability %	96	82	100	92
Female proportion ( $No. \text{♀} / \text{♀} + \text{♂}$ )	0.54	0.52	0.62	0.56
Mean generation time $T$	17.54	21.86	22.84	21.99
Net reproductive rate $R_o$	44.10	24.11	28.12	24.82
Intrinsic rate of increase $r_m$	0.216	0.145	0.173	0.161
Finite rate of increase $e^{r_m} (\lambda)$	1.24	1.15	1.18	1.14
Doubling time $DT$	1.39	2.13	1.79	2.36
Growth reproduction $GRR$	58.77	54.11	36.07	32.17

On the other hand,  $LC_{50}$  of cyflumetofen didn't show this negative effect on fecundity of the predatory mite *P. persimilis* where  $R_o$  was 28.12 and slightly decreased to 24.88 female eggs/female/generation for untreated and treated mite individuals, respectively (Table 3). These results contradicted with findings of Nadimi *et al.* (2008) who found that abamectin significantly decreased reproduction and fertility of *P. persimilis*. Zhang and Sanderson (1991) previously found that abamectin retarded egg production of *P. persimilis* and they believed that it may be due to the decrease in mite's mobility and thus consuming fewer preys. Similarly, Kim *et al.* (2005) found that abamectin reduced fecundity of *Amblyseius cucumeris* (Oudemans) from 130 eggs/female to only 6 eggs/female in control and treatment, respectively.

The intrinsic rate of natural increase ( $r_m$ ) is the rate of increase of an insect or mite species under specific physical conditions, as described by Birch (1948). The present data showed that  $LC_{50}$  of cyflumetofen application obviously reduced  $r_m$  by approximately 50% where it was 0.216 female offspring/female ( $\text{female}^{-1}\text{day}^{-1}$ ) in *T. urticae* control group and then declined to 0.145 after treatment as shown in Table (3). This gap was not observed between untreated and treated individuals of *P. persimilis* with cyflumetofen. The intrinsic rate of increase was 0.173 female/female in untreated mites and reduced by the application to 0.161 (Table 3). These results are supported by Marcic (2003) who found that  $r_m$  of untreated *T. urticae* was significantly bigger than mite treated with clofentezine where it was 0.242 and declined to 0.215 female/female, respectively.

Concerning the finite rate of increase ( $e^{r_m} (\lambda)$ ) which is the number of times the population will multiply itself per unit of time and measured in females/female/day or the expected numbers of new females which would added daily to the population ( $\text{day}^{-1}$ ). The present results showed that the finite rate of increase of *T. urticae*, which was subjected to  $LC_{50}$  of cyflumetofen, was reduced by 7.25% from 1.24 to+ 1.15 eggs/female/day ( $\text{day}^{-1}$ ). These values were 3.38% from 1.18 and 1.14 eggs/female/day for

untreated and treated *P. persimilis*, respectively (Table 3). Therefore, cyflumetofen was more effective on spider mites than on predatory mite. These results agree with those obtained by Marcic (2007) who found that spiroadiclofen significantly reduced the rate of natural increase and finite rate of increase of spider mites. Similarly, Ghsemzadeh and Qureshi (2018) demonstrated that fenpyroximate and thiacloprid negatively influenced the biological parameters ( $r_m$  and  $e^{r_m}$ ) of the phytoseiid mite *Amblyseius swirskii* Athis-Henriot.

The present results also showed that  $LC_{50}$  of cyflumetofen prolonged  $DT$  time, the time required for a population to double itself, of *T. urticae* from 1.39 to 2.13 days and from 1.79 to 2.36 days for *P. persimilis*, respectively. These results agree with those obtained by Marcic (2007) who found that spiroadiclofen significantly extended the doubling time of *T. urticae*. Moreover, Ghsemzadeh and Qureshi (2018) noticed that fenpyroximate and thiacloprid extended  $DT$  time of *A. swirskii* as compared with untreated individuals.

Gross reproduction rate  $GRR (\sum Mx)$  also was affected by the acaricidal application where it was 58.77 and declined to 54.11 offspring for untreated and treated spider mites with  $LC_{50}$  of cyflumetofen. While  $GRR$  of *P. persimilis* was 36.07 and declined to 32.17 offspring in untreated and treated individuals, respectively (Table 3). The present observations are supported by the findings of Li *et al.*, (2006) who found that clofentezine retarded  $GRR$  of spider mite, *T. viennsis*. Also, Ghsemzadeh and Qureshi (2018) demonstrated that  $GRR$  value of *A. swirskii* was reduced from 8.62 to 3.83 and 5.95 offspring when mites were treated with fenpyroximate and thiacloprid, respectively. Nevertheless, several researchers found that some acaricides can stimulate mite fertility and fecundity. James (1997) stated that fecundity was increased when *Amblyseius victoriensis* was treated with imadoclopride. Also, Nadimi *et al.* (2008) found that the fecundity-enhancing property of the acaricide hexythiazox to *P. persimilis* and therefore, he suggested this acaricide can make *P. persimilis* as an excellent choice as a biological control agent especially for crops growing in greenhouses.

Although the present data of the side effect of the novel acaricide cyflumetofen on *P. persimilis* agrees with some of the cited studies but also are somewhat different with others. Susceptibility between mite species and differences in experimental techniques could be the responsible for these conflicting results. Also, different values in life-table parameters reveal that acaricidal effect on the population strongly depend on the life history characteristics of spider mites or beneficial mite species and also on the chemical mode of actions.

### CONCLUSION

All tested acaricides showed a considerable toxicity to spider mite *T. urticae* but they didn't show the same killing action against the predatory mite. Cyflumetofen ( $LC_{50}$ ) didn't have considerable effects on the fecundity and other population growth parameters of *P. persimilis* as compared with its effects on spider mites, therefore, it is recommended for use as a selective acaricides in IMM programs for spider mite in greenhouses. In other words, a selective acaricide is needed to adjust the prey/predator



ratio and maintain long-term control. Further studies defining the specific effects of acaricide applications and residual exposure are important and necessary to evaluate compatibility of these compounds with augmentative and release of predaceous mite species that used in biological control. Also, the use of excessive chemical pesticide concentrations should be prevented.

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## السمية المقارنة لبعض المبيدات الأكاروسية على العنكبوت الأحمر تترانيكس أورتيكا وتأثيراتها الجانبية على المفترس الأكاروسي فيتوسيلولس برسيميليس (أكاري : تترانيكدي : فايوسيدي)

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تم دراسة التأثير السام باستخدام التركيز الموصى به للمبيد الأكاروسي الجديد سيفلوميثوفين 24% اس سي، بإيفنازيت 48% إس سي، بأمكنين 1.8% إي سي ضد الحلم العنكبوتي ذو البقعتين (*Tetranychus urticae* Koch) (العنكبوت الأحمر) و *Phytoseiulus persimilis* Athias-Henriot تحت ظروف البيت المحمي بكلية الزراعة جامعة القاهرة موسمي 2017-2018. أظهرت النتائج لمستويات السمية خلال العام أن مركب الأبامكتين كان أكثر سمية على المفترس الأكاروسي وكان ثانياً ضد العنكبوت الأحمر بينما كان مركب سيفلوميثوفين الأعلى في نسبة قتل العنكبوت الأحمر والأقل سمية على المفترس الأكاروسي بينما كان مبيد بإيفنازيت وسطياً على كلا نوعي الحلم. ولذلك تم دراسة التركيز النصفى لمركب سيفلوميثوفين والذي أعطى أحسن النتائج ضد العنكبوت الأحمر على معايير جداول الحياة لكل من المفترس الأكاروسي بمقارنتها للعنكبوت الأحمر تحت ظروف المعمل لمعرفة المزيد عن مستويات التعداد والكفاءة التناسلية وغيرها من المعايير البيولوجية تحت تأثير المعاملة بالمبيدات. أظهرت النتائج أن التركيز النصفى لمبيد سيفلوميثوفين قد أدى إلى إطالة معنوية في مدة الجيل المتوسط وكذلك الوقت اللازم لمضاعفة نفسه بالنسبة للعنكبوت الأحمر وبدرجة أقل في المفترس الأكاروسي - ولكن على النقيض أدت المعاملة بالمركب الكيماوي إلى ميل نسبي للجيل الجديد من كلا نوعي الأكاروس إلى الذكورة مع خفض في القدرة على وضع البيض خلال فترة الجيل المتوسط (أنثى/أنثى/الجيل) ومعدل التزايد الطبيعي والتزايد النوعي (عدد البيض الأنثوي/أنثى/اليوم) - وبصفة عامة كانت التأثير السلبي للمبيد أوضح على العنكبوت الأحمر *T. urticae* عن المفترس الأكاروسي *P. persimilis*. مما سبق يتضح أن مركب سيفلوميثوفين أكثر تخصصاً على العنكبوت الأحمر وبذلك نوصي باستخدامه في برامج مكافحة متكاملة للأكاروسات المتطفلة على النباتات.