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Nano Imidacloprid efficacy against the desert locust, *Schistocerca gregaria* under laboratory and semi field conditions

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ABSTRACT

Nano- Imidacloprid (IMI) evaluated against the desert locust, *Schistocerca gregaria* under National Research Centre (NRC) laboratory conditions and semi field conditions in green house in NRC. The LC_{50} of *S. gregaria* recorded 344, 359, 366, 379 and 340 mg/L for Newly hatched nymphs , nymphs, Last nymphal stage , Adult ♀ and Adult ♂ respectively, under laboratory conditions. While, under semi field conditions the effect of the Nano-Imidacloprid recorded, that the LC_{50} of target pest 333, 343, 344 and 346 mg/L for Newly hatched nymphs , nymphs, Last nymphal stage , Adult ♀ and Adult ♂ respectively.

Key words: Nano, *Schistocerca gregaria*, Imidacloprid.

INTRODUCTION

Nanotechnology is new trend opens up a wide array of opportunities in various fields like agriculture and medicine. These include the Pests management through the formulations of the Nano materials which based on the pesticides and the insecticides, which enhancement of the agricultural productivity and using bio-conjugated of the Nanoparticles (encapsulation) for the slow release of nutrients and water, Nanoparticle-mediated. Desert locust, *Schistocerca gregaria* were controlled by bioassay by the using Nano toxin destruxin (from the fungus *Beauveria bassiana*) on the leaves containing early stages larvae Sabbour (2013^a). The mortality was between 64-85%. Bioassay of destruxin by against desert locust, *S. gregaria* nymphs showed its acceptable effect of destruxin. More than 300 species of locusts and grasshoppers are known to exist in the African continent, but fortunately only a few of them are major pests; most are sedentary, inhabiting a rather confined area throughout their life cycle. The desert locust in Africa exhibits fully gregarious characteristics and is known for its long-range pattern of migration, covering as many as several thousand kilometers within a single generation. This is the main reason why the locust was, not surprisingly, the most feared among agricultural pests in antiquity. It may be assumed that proliferation of the pathogens and parasites was often counterbalanced in ancient times by natural enemies. It is not clear whether this applies also to locusts. Imidacloprid, is a systemic, chloronicotinyl insecticide, which specifically blocks the microtinergetic neuronal pathway. It has recently been demonstrated a highly effective and a systemic insecticide (Byrne and Toscano, 2006). Imidacloprid is the first commercially available representative of a new chemical class. The Imidacloprid consider a chloronicotiny or neonicotinoid insecticides. It can be applied for seed, soil or foliar treatment.

This study aimed to evaluate the toxicity of Nano-Imidacloprid (IMI) against the desert locust, *S. gregaria* in Egypt.

MATERIALS AND MEHODS

Insect rearing

Locust was reared under laboratory condition for several generations on semi-artificial diet as mentioned by Sharaby *et al.* (2010).

Preparation of the nano- imidacloprid

The imidacloprid Nanoparticles synthesized by the hydrolyzing titanium tetra isopropoxide in a mixture of about 1:1 anhydrous ethanol and water. About 9 ml of titanium tetra isopropoxide is mixed with about 41ml of anhydrous ethanol (A). 1:1 ethanol and water mixture is prepared. The (B) Solution and A solutions added in drop wise to solute ion B and stirred in a vigorously for about 2hrs, At the room temperature hydrolysis and condensation are performed, by using about 1M of sulphuric acid and stirred for about 2 hrs. Then the solution was left for about 12hrs. The gel was transferred into an the autoclave apparatus and tightly closed hard, then the mixture was subjected to hydrothermal treatment at about 353K for 24hrs. After filtration the obtained of the solid residue was washed well thoroughly with distaed water and the ethanol mixture, then they dried at 373K in an oven and calcined at 773K.

Efficacy of the imidacloprid against the target insect pests

The imidacloprid were tested at the 6 concentrations: 6 g, 5g ,4g,3g, 2g,1g. They prepared 6 concentrations (prepared according Sameh *et al.*, 2009). The percentages of mortality were calculated according to Abbott's formula (Abbott, 1925), and the LC50 values were calculated throughout the probit analysis according to (Finney, 1971). All the experiments were carried out under the laboratory conditions of $26\pm 2^{\circ}\text{C}$ and 60-70% RH.

Bioassays

The efficacy of the nano- imidacloprid were tested at three dose rates, 0.25, 0.50 and 1 g/kg wheat against the 3rd instar larvae of *S. gregaria* (Orthoptera: Acrididae). For each case, five glass jars as replicates were used. Each one of the replicate was treated individually with the respective nano-imidacloprid quantity and then they was shaken manually for about one minute to achieve equal distribution of the imidacloprid. Subsequently, fifteen nymphal individuals of 3rd instar of the tested insects were introduced into each glass jar and covered with muslin for sufficient ventilation. Ten replicates glass jars containing untreated wheat served as control. Mortality was assessed after about seven days of the first exposure in the treated and untreated jars. Mortality was corrected according to Abbott (1925). All tests were conducted at $27 \pm 2^{\circ}\text{C}$ and $65 \pm 5\%$ relative humidity (RH). All the experiments were repeated three times.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Table (1) show the effect of the Nano-IMI against *S. gregaria* under laboratory conditions , which detect that the LC₅₀ of *S. gregaria* 344, 359, 366, 379 and 340 mg/l for Newly hatched nymphs , nymphs, Last nymphal stage , Adult ♀ and Adult ♂ respectively.

Under semi field conditions the effect of the Nano- Imidacloprid fond in table 2, which show that the LC₅₀ of *S. gregaria* 333, 343, 344 and 346 mg/l for Newly hatched nymphs , nymphs, Last nymphal stage , Adult ♀ and Adult ♂ respectively (Table2).

Table 3, show that under semi field conditions , the numbers of the individuals infestations were significantly decreased . The infestations number of *S. gregaria* decrease to 0.1 ± 1.1 , 2.0 ± 2.1 , 5.7 ± 8.8 and 10.1 ± 3.9 individuals after 20, 50, 90 and 120 days of Nano-IMI first applications as compared to 22.2 ± 9.4 , 39 ± 3.8 , 39 ± 3.8 and 97 ± 8.8 individuals after the corresponding periods in the control (Table3).

Figure 1 show the infestations of the locust stages of *S. gregaria* significantly increased after the Nano-IMI treatments under semi field conditions.

The same obtained matched with Sabbour 2014^a & ^b) who find that, LC₅₀s of the locust *S. gregaria* after treated with the Nano-destruxin which is recode, 99×10^4 , 106×10^4 and 114×10^4 spores/ml . Under semi field condition, the LC₅₀s of newly hatched nymphs, last nymphal stage and adult stages, 210×10^4 , 227×10^4 and 224×10^4 spores/ml .also Sabbour 2013^a&^b, montioned that Bioassay of destruxin by against desert locust, *S. gregaria* nymphs.

Sabbour, 2014^a reported that, under laboratory conditions, the LC₅₀s, were significantly decreased when the adult female of grasshopper *Hetiracris littoralis* treated with nano-destruxin and reached to 153×10^4 spores/ml. Also,

Under semi-field conditions, the percentage of infestations of *H. littoralis* significantly decreased to 1.0 ± 0.3 , 3 ± 0.1 , 5 ± 3.0 and 10 ± 2.9 individuals after treated with nano-destruxin in 20, 50, 90 and 120 days, respectively as compared to 15.2 ± 2.9 , 39 ± 3.5 , 66 ± 9.6 and 98 ± 6.6 individuals in the control. Sabbour 2014^b found LC_{50} s of the locust *S. gregaria* after treatment with destruxin, 210×10^4 , 221×10^4 , 250×10^4 spores/ml, of newly hatched nymphs, last nymphal stage and adult stage, respectively. The effect of Nano-destruxin against *S. gregaria* under semi-field conditions show that after 20 days, the infestations number were significantly decreased to 2.2 ± 1.2 , as compared to 2.4 ± 5.3 , and 12.2 ± 2.2 individuals after treated with destruxin and in the control. Sabbour, 2013^{a&b} reported that. Desert locust, *Schistocerca gregaria* bioassayed by using the leaves containing early stages larvae and the data were recorded after 1, 2, 3 and 4 days after treatment. Results showed that range of mortality was between 84-65% based on the end point data. The minimum of three days to achieve 60% mortality was proved by probit analysis of time-mortality responses. They found that, the range of mortality was between 88-65% based on the end point data. The minimum of three days to achieve 50% mortality was proved by probit analysis of time-mortality responses. The same results obtained by Sabbour and Singer, 2015, Sabbour, 2015^{a&b}, and Sahab, *et al.*, 2015 found the insecticidal activity the Nano-chitosan (CS-g-PAA) showed highest effect against the three insect of soybean. As the means number of eggs deposited /female were significantly decreased. Under laboratory and semi field condition, *Aphis gossypii* were significantly decreased to 20.9 ± 9.1 and 28.9 ± 9.2 eggs/female respectively as compared to 97.3 ± 4.9 and 90.3 ± 4.9 eggs/female in the control, respectively. The same trends were also observed against *Callosobruchus maculatus*. Sabbour, 2015^{a,b,c&d} found that the Nano insecticides of Imidacloprid and fungi strains cases a higher mortality for insect infestations. Our results agree with Sabbour and Abdel- Raheem, 2015^{a&b}, Sabbour and Singer, 2015^{a&b} and Sabbour and Shadia, 2015 who find that the Nano pesticide decrease the infestation percentage of different pests.

Table 1. Effect of Nano-IMI against *S. gregaria* under laboratory conditions

| Stages | LC ₅₀ | V | S | 95% confidence limits |
|----------------------|------------------|------|-----|-----------------------|
| Newly hatched nymphs | 141 | 0.01 | 1.1 | 78-167 |
| Last nymphal stage | 159 | 0.01 | 1.0 | 100-178 |
| Adult ♀ | 166 | 0.01 | 1.0 | 111-189 |
| Adult ♂ | 199 | 1.01 | 0.2 | 99-280 |
| Adult ♂ | 190 | 1.2 | 0.1 | 101-261 |

Table 1. LC₅₀ of *S. gregaria* recorded under laboratory conditions after IMI treatments, *S. gregaria* 141, 159, 166, 199 and 190 mg/L for Newly hatched, nymphs, Last nymphal stage, Adult ♀ and Adult ♂ respectively.

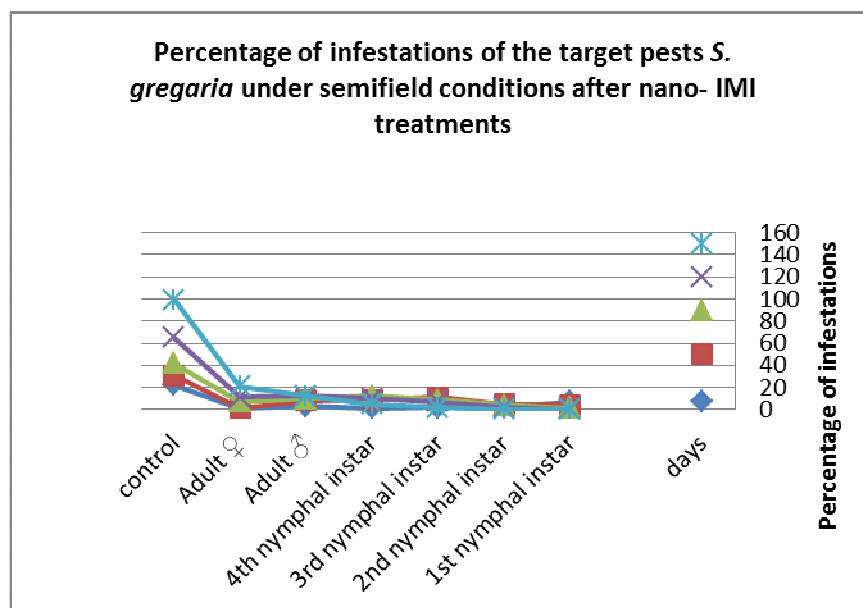
The LC₅₀ for the corresponding stages under semi field conditions, 130, 149, 148, and 145 mg/L (Table 2).

Table 2. Effect of Nano IMI against *S. gregaria* under semi-field conditions.

| Stages | LC ₅₀ | V | S | 95% confidence limits |
|----------------------|------------------|------|-----|-----------------------|
| Newly hatched nymphs | 130 | 0.01 | 1.3 | 100-159 |
| Last nymphal stage | 149 | 0.01 | 0.1 | 110-189 |
| Adult ♀ | 148 | 0.01 | 1.1 | 100-179 |
| Adult ♂ | 145 | 1.00 | 0.1 | 99-159 |

Table (3): Effect of Nano IMI against *S. gregaria* under semi field conditions

| treatments | Days after treatment | No. of infestations of the target pests (Means ± S.E.) |
|------------|----------------------|--|
| control | 20 | 20.2±1.4 |
| | 50 | 37±1.8 |
| | 90 | 50±8.6 |
| | 120 | 99±8.8 |

Fig. 1. Percentage of infestations of the target pests *S. gregaria* under semi field conditions after IMI treatments

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