



## Research Article

# Effect of Carbufuran Pesticide on Mitotic Chromosomes of *Mus musculus*

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### Abstract

The Genotoxic effect of the carbufuran pesticide was evaluated in the metaphasic chromosomes of bone marrow cells of female Swiss albino mice, *Mus musculus*. Six week old mice were put into different groups (six mice per group) and treatment were done according to experimental plan (CLD<sub>15</sub> i.e. lower dose =30ppm or 0.03mg/ml and CHD<sub>30</sub> i.e. higher dose =300ppm or 0.3mg/ml). The test material was administered orally for 15 days in CLD<sub>15</sub> and for 30 days in CHD<sub>30</sub> test groups of female mice. The result revealed that the frequency of chromosomal abnormalities i.e. structural and numerical changes were 11.5% in control, 74.0% in CLD<sub>15</sub> and 99.0% in CHD<sub>30</sub>, respectively in bone marrow cells of female mice.

**Keywords:** Carbufuran; genotoxic; bone marrow cells; Swiss albino mice.

### Introduction

Pesticide is a massive poisoning substance; spread a major global health problem and killing 250-350 000 people each year (Jeyarathnam 1990; Gunnell *et al.*, 2007). Carbufuran is one of the most known toxic carbamate pesticides. It is marketed under the trade names Furadan by =FMC corporation and cutrated among several others. Carbufuran (2,3-dihydro-2,2-dimethyl-7-benzofuranyl methylcarbamate, molecular weight of 221.25 and a melting point of 150-152°C). It is a broad spectrum systematic insecticide, acaricide and nematicide, currently registered for use on agriculture crops for example alfalfa (*Medicago sativa*), peanuts (*Arachis hypogaea*), rice (*Oryza sativa*), sugar cane (*Saccharum officinarum*), and especially corn

(*Zea mays*) (Gupta 1994; Osten *et al.*, 2005). The use of Pesticide is not specific otherwise, it lead to a number of number of toxicological consequences in the environment. (Milatovic *et al.*, 2006).

About 5.6 billion pounds of pesticides are used world wide. The 11% of total pesticides used world wide corresponds to carbamates which shows higher amount of its use world wide in agricultural crops as (Anonyms). About 2.5 million agricultural workers worldwide experienced in initial pesticide poisoning (Jeyaratnam, 1990) Out of which about 16% have at least one pesticide poisoning encountered during their lifetime. (Alavanja *et al.*, 2001). The lower toxicity and lesser environmental persistence of organocarbamates have led their application more frequent

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than any other pesticide i.e. organophosphate (OP), organochlorines (OCI). Reversible inhibition of AChE is caused by carbamate pesticides by carbamylation of serine residue AChE. Therefore, the inhibition is short lived. Thus, its effect relatively low toxicity as compared to Organochlorine pesticide and Organophosphates (Kaur and Sandhir, 2006). The presence of carbofuran has been reported in the non target mammalian systems such as umbilical cord, maternal plasma and blood of American and African women and new born babies respectively (Whyatt et al., 2003). The effect of different vital organs such as brain, liver, skeletal muscles and heart (Kaur & Sandhir 2006; Gupta 1994; Rai et al., 2011) has shown to generally accumulated in the fat depots and to exert adverse effects and also induces the carbofuran caused the neuronal injury of mammalian system and also induces the oxidative stresses. Rai et al. (2011) reported that the neural injury is caused by carbofuran through dose administration of aqueous extract of *Cynodon dactylon* and vitamin C.

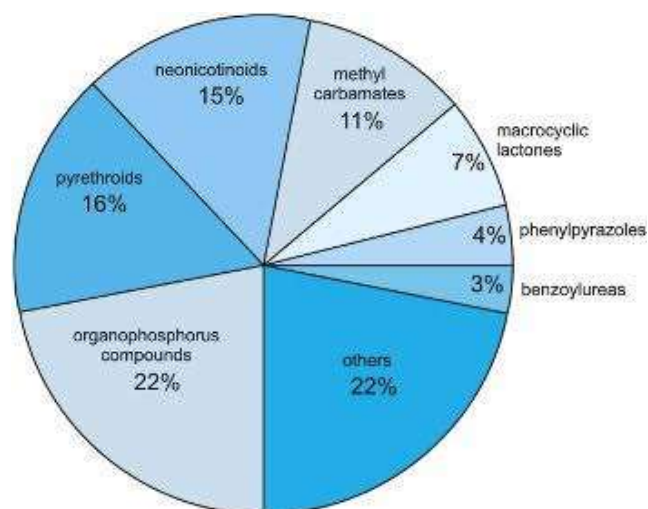


Fig. 1: Pie chart showing percentage use of different pesticides world wide.

## Material and Methods

### Experimental Animals

Healthy adult swiss albino female mice weighting 25 to 30g body weight were taken from University Department of Zoology, T.M.B. University, Bhagalpur. All experimental mice were maintained under hygienic condition in well ventilated room in polypropylene cages, with 12 hrs light/dark cycle at 22±2°C temperature. The animals were separated in to 3 major groups each consisting six mice i.e. control and treated ones. The treatment groups were further subdivided in to two groups according to concentration of chemicals for studying different parameters manifesting cytogenetic toxicity. All the experimental as well as control groups were fed twice with bread, dalia, green vegetables, milk, and supplemented with germinated grown seeds along with tap water *ad libitum*.

### Chemicals

Commercially available Carbofuran [2,2-Dimethyl-2,3-dihydro-1-benzofuran-7-yl Methylcarbamate] (50% E.C, trade name : 'Furadan, Curater, Furacarb' was purchased from local market.

### Treatment Protocol

The animal were grouped in to three groups in which one was control and another was carbofuran treated at higher dose and lower dose. The LD<sub>50</sub> for carbofuran was calculated through standard method and the LD<sub>50</sub> for carbofuran was estimated as 3mg/kg b.w for swiss albino mice. Therefore, dose for carbofuran were taken as higher dose (0.03 mg/ml) and lower dose (0.3mg/ml) kg b.w. The dosing were done once a day for 30 days. The dosing were done with 1000 microliter of aqueous medium of higher and lower dose in their respective test groups. The mice scarified after 15 days for lower dose test group similarly the higher dose test group mice were scarified after 30 days of dosing. To analyze the chromosomal damages, the bone marrow cell preparation was done (Adler, 1984). Colchicine was injected in the animals 1.5 hr. prior to sacrifice. Bone marrow cells were aspirated with warmed (37°C) Potassium chloride (0.59%) from the femurs and treated hypotonically for 20 min. at 37°C in incubator. The sample was then centrifuged at 1000 rpm for 10 mins, and supernatant was discarded. The cell pellet was fixed in chilled methanol:acetic acid (3:1 v/v). The centrifugation and fixation steps were repeated thrice with an interval of 30 mins. The slides were prepared by dropping method, dried completely and then stained with 4% giemsa. The cytological or genotoxic assessment of carbofuran were done with the help of Olympus 41x microscopic examination of chromosomes for the studies of chromosomal abnormalities both in structure and numbers. The photographs of cytological slides were taken at 400 magnification from the Olympus 41x microscope with illumination. Structural chromosomal aberrations (SCAs) like chromatid breaks, chromosomal association (Ctb), stickness (st), pulverisation (Pv), stickness (st) translocation were scored. Two hundred (n=200) metaphase cells per animal were analyzed to determine the total chromosomal aberrations.

## Results and Discussion

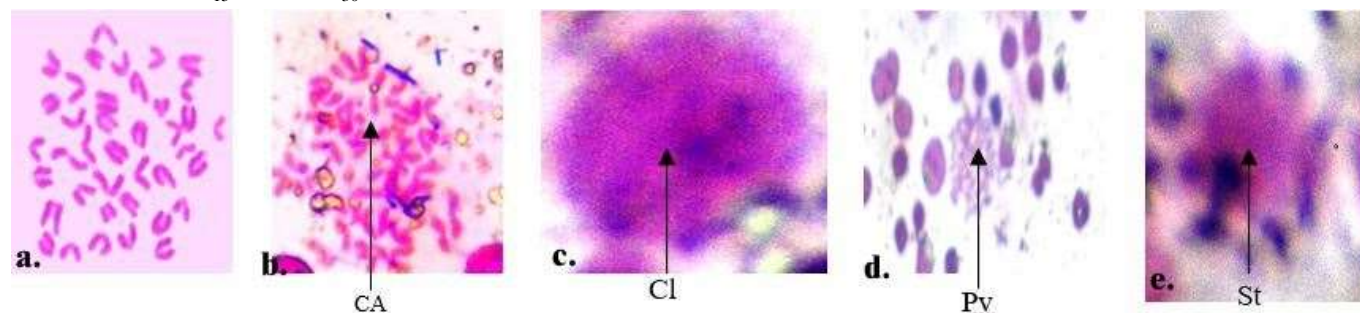
### Comparison between Carbofuran Lower Dose (CLD<sub>15</sub>) with Higher Dose (CHD<sub>30</sub>)

It was observed that exposure of carbofuran on mammalian model Swiss albino mice (balb/c) strain produces chromosomal anomalies. The oral doses for 15 days provided for the test group CLD<sub>15</sub> and 30 days of test group CHD<sub>30</sub> days. The cytological slides were prepared from the bone marrow cells of sacrificed mice treated with 4% giemsa stain (Prestone et al., 1987). The results of cytological slides revealed that different chromosomal abnormalities, such as Chromosomal association, chromatid

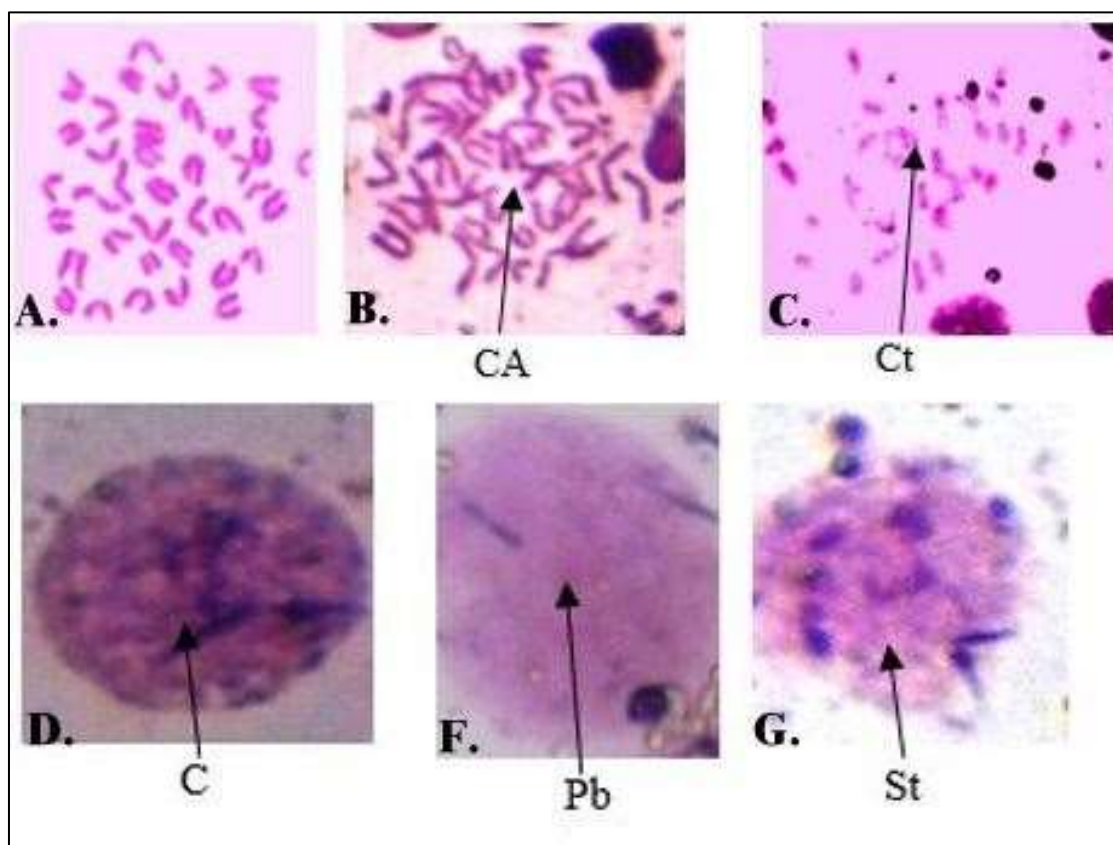
break, clumped, pulverised and stickiness in both test groups with different degree of alteration, it was observed that in CHD<sub>30</sub> the test group chromosomal stickiness were more prominent than CLD<sub>15</sub> test group similarly, chromosomal association were shown to be of similar occurrence in CLD<sub>15</sub> test group and CHD<sub>30</sub> test groups, clumping in CDH shown to be more prominent than CLD, chromatid break found in CDH<sub>30</sub> separately (Fig. 1 and 2). Pulverisation is as similar as CLD<sub>15</sub> and CHD<sub>30</sub>. The alteration in mitotic

chromosomes after the carbafuran treatment is similar with the work of (Ila et al., 2008; Tyrkiel et al., 2001).

The statistical analysis revealed that the  $p > 0.05$  indicates result come in the region of rejection. Therefore, interestingly the null hypothesis is not applicable and it gets rejected.



**Fig. 2:** Microphotographs showing structural chromosomal aberrations at CLD<sub>15</sub> [a. Normal metaphase; b. Chromosomal association (CA); c. Clumped (Cl); d. Pulverised (P); e. Stickiness (St)]

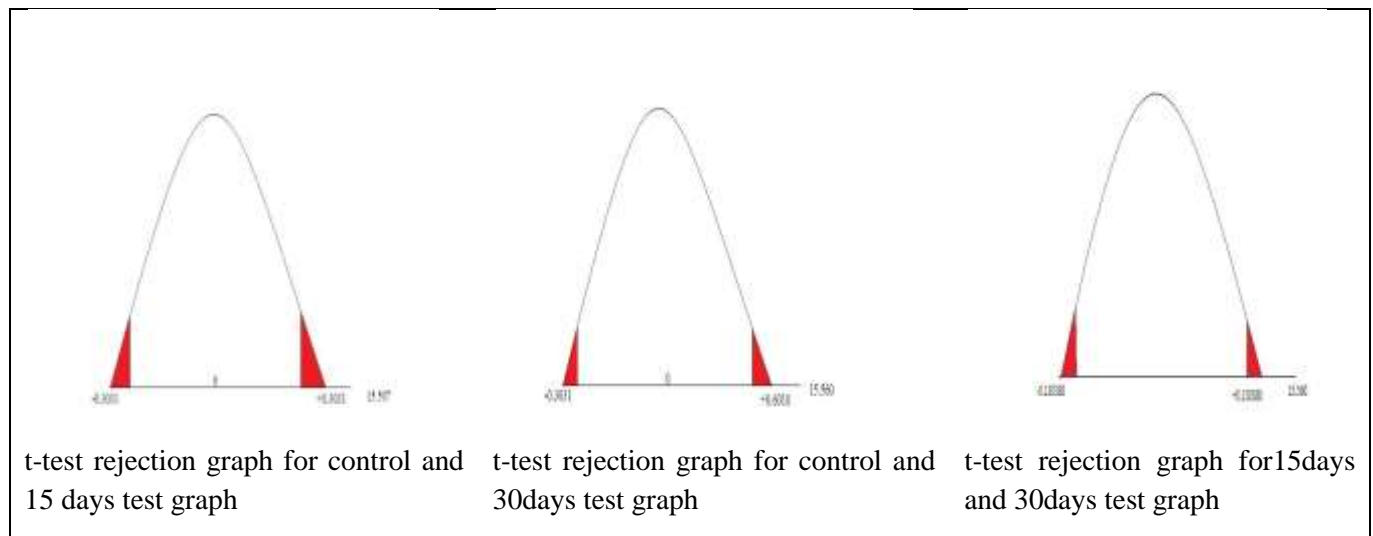


**Fig. 3:** Microphotographs showing structural chromosomal aberrations at CLD<sub>30</sub>; [A. Normal metaphase; B. Chromosomal association(CA); C. Chromatid break(Ct); D. .Pulverisd(Pb); F. Pulverisd(Pb); G. Stickness (St)].

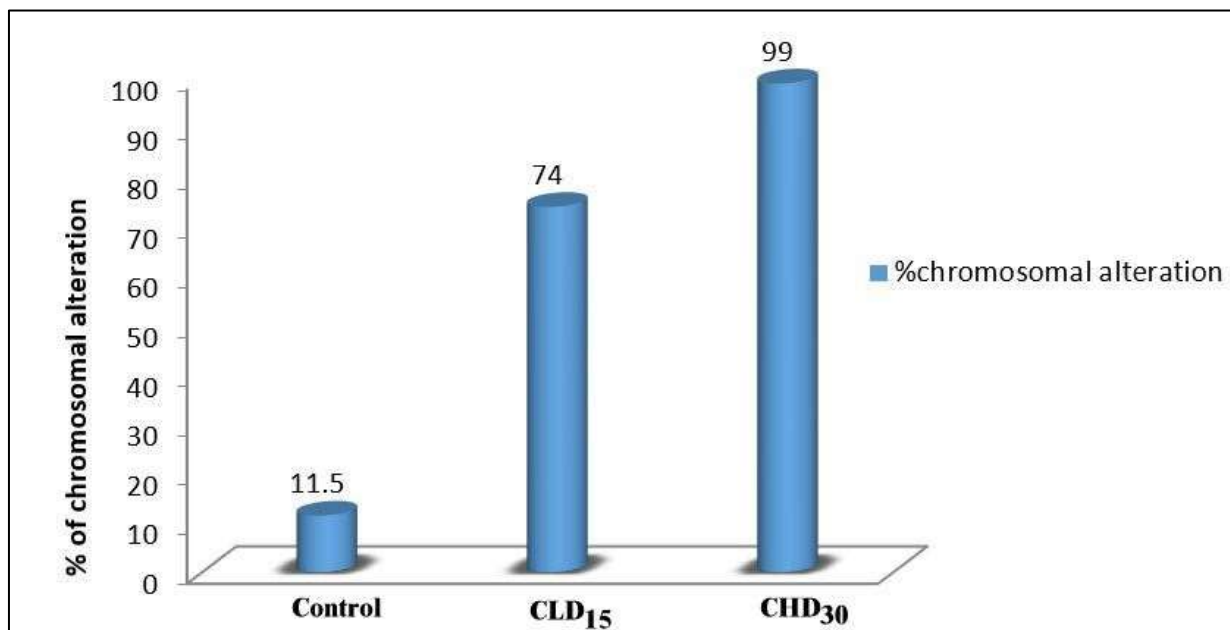
**Table 1:** Showing different chromosomal abnormalities at CLD<sub>15</sub> and CHD<sub>30</sub>.

Effect of carbafuran of different chromosomal changes (N=200)								
S.N.	Groups	Mean ± SE	Ctb	St	Cl	Ca	Pul	Unaltered
1.0	Control	33.33±4.73	03	02	07	09	02	177
2.0	CLD <sub>15</sub>	33.33±7.09**	31	49	11	36	21	52
3.0	CHD <sub>30</sub>	33.33±5.30*	61	58	08	37	34	2

df=8, 95%significance=15.507



**Fig. 4:** statistical analysis of data detracting the t-rejection graphs for different groups of test animals.



**Fig 5:** Histogram showing the percentage of aberrations at CLD<sub>15</sub> and CHD<sub>30</sub>

The tabular data 1.0 indicates that for total number of 200 slides studied for each group having a mean value of 33.3 along with ± S.E as 4.73, 7.09 and 5.30 for control, CLD<sub>15</sub> and CHD<sub>30</sub> respectively.

The CLD<sub>15</sub> group shows more variation amount different abnormality groups in comparison to CHD<sub>30</sub>, it was reveal that the CLD<sub>15</sub> group had lesser impact on total chromosomal aberration with respect to CHD<sub>30</sub> groups.



The Table 2 indicates that the test group CLD<sub>15</sub> shows about 74% of chromosomal alteration (Fig: 5).

The chromosomal alterations such as Ctb, St, Pul, Cbr produced in bone marrow cells have comparable results with the work of (Shudhanshu & Singh 2012).

The data was validated through the t-test along with standard error within each group. It was compared for  $p > 0.05$ . The 95% confidence level shows that the null hypothesis comes in the region of rejection which suggests that the data of each group statically escapable.

## Conclusion

It was observed that carbofuran is a potent pesticide causing structural changes in mammalian model. The higher exposure produced higher % of chromosomal alterations with some exception. Exposure for 30 days has 74% more impact on chromosomal alterations.

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