

**EFFECT OF FUNGICIDE COPPER OXYCHLORIDE ON
DIVIDING CELLS OF *Allium cepa* L.**



A Dissertation

**Submitted to the Central Department of Botany, Tribhuvan
University for the Partial Fulfillment of M. Sc. in Botany**



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LETTER OF APPROVAL

This dissertation entitled "Effect of fungicide Copper oxochloride on dividing cells of *Allium cepa* L." submitted by Ms. Sangita K.C. has been accepted as a partial fulfillment of the requirement for M. Sc. in Botany.

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This is to certify that the dissertation work entitled "Effect of fungicide Copper oxychloride on dividing cells of *Allium cepa* L. " has been carried out by Ms. Sangita K.C. under my supervision. It is based on the experiment performed by the student and the result has not been published or submitted for any other degree. I recommend this dissertaton to be accepted as a partial fulfillment for M.Sc. degree in Botany, Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu, Nepal.

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ABSTRACTS

The present study describes a cytological experiment to determine the effect of fungicide Copper oxychloride on the root meristematic cells of *Allium cepa*. The root meristems were treated with different concentrations of Copper oxychloride i.e., 0.025%, 0.05%, 0.075% and 0.1% for different duration of time i.e., 3, 6, 12 and 24 hours for each concentration.

In the study, mitotic index, phase indices and abnormality indices were calculated and abnormal phases were studied. Mitotic index decreased with increasing concentration and period of treatment. Mitotic index was least in 0.1% concentration at 24 hours treatment. It shows that treatment with higher concentrations and longer period of treatment is toxic. Prophase index increased with increase in concentration and period of treatment. Metaphase and Ana-telophase indices showed decreasing tendency with increase in concentration and period of treatment.

Copper oxychloride induced various types of cellular abnormalities. The abnormalities were diluted cells, unequal condensation of chromatin threads in prophase, equatorial plate shifting, C-metaphase, stickiness, disturbed metaphase, diagonal anaphase, precocious chromosomes, precocious arms, laggards, bridges, fragmentation, sticky anaphase, pole shift in anaphase and telophase, unequal cytokinesis, delay in cell plate formation, binucleated cells, unequal movement of chromosomes, diagonal telophase and unequal condensation of daughter chromosomes. The abnormalities may be attributed to the disturbance in the spindle mechanism and metabolic disturbances caused by the chemical.

The results obtained from the study shows that fungicide Copper oxychloride is cytologically effective, mito-depressive, clastogenic and is lethal at higher concentrations.

CONTENTS

CHAPTER I: INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Background
- 1.2 Copper oxychloride
- 1.3 Objective
- 1.4 Justification

CHAPTER II: LITERATURE REVIEW

- 2.1 Cytological Effects of Fungicides
- 2.2 Cytological Effects of different agrochemicals and others

CHAPTER III: MATERIALS AND METHODS

- 3.1 Materials
 - 3.1.1 Selection of Onion Bulbs
 - 3.1.2 Preparation of Different Concentration of Copper oxychloride
- 3.2 Methods
 - 3.2.1 Treatment of the rooting bulbs
 - 3.2.2 Preparation of reagent for Cytological Study
 - 3.2.3 Cytological Fixation
 - 3.2.4 Aceto- Carmin Squash Technique
 - 3.2.5 Preparation of Permanent Slide
 - 3.2.6 Cytological Observation and Calculation
 - 3.2.7 Statistical Analysis

CHAPTER IV: RESULT

- 4.1 Effect in Mitotic Index
- 4.2 Effect in Phase Indices
 - 4.2.1 Effects in Prophase Index

- 4.2.2 Effects in Metaphase Index
- 4.2.3 Effects in Anaphase and Telophase Index
- 4.3 Relation between mean mitotic Index and mean phase indices
- 4.4 Percentage of Abnormal Cells
 - 4.4.1 Total Percentage of Abnormal Cells
 - 4.4.2 Total Percentage of Abnormality in Prophase.
 - 4.4.3 Total Percentage of Abnormality in Metaphase
 - 4.4.4 Total Percentage of Abnormalities in Anaphase and Telophase.
- 4.5 Proportion of Abnormalities in Phases among experimental groups
 - 4.5.1 Abnormal mitotic phase on 0.025% Copper oxychloride treatment.
 - 4.5.2 Abnormal mitotic phase on 0.05% Copper oxychloride.
 - 4.5.3 Abnormal mitotic phase on 0.075% Copper oxychloride.
 - 4.5.4 Abnormal mitotic phase on 0.1% Copper oxychloride.
- 4.6 Effect in chromosome Behaviour
 - 4.6.1 Nature of Abnormal cells in Prophase.
 - 4.6.2 Nature of Abnormal cells in Metaphase
 - 4.6.3 Nature of Abnormal cells in Anaphase and Telophase
 - 4.6.4 Nature of Abnormal cells in Control

CHAPTER V: DISCUSSION

CONCLUSION

SUMMARY

REFERENCE

APPENDIX

LIST OF TABLES

- Table No. 1: Schedules of Treatment
- Table No. 2: Total no. of counting cells of *Allium cepa* at each phase with different concentration of Copper oxychloride at different time of treatment.
- Table No. 3: Mitotic, Prophase, metaphase, Anaphse and Telophase indices of *Allium cepa* with different concentration of copper oxychloride at different time of treatment.
- Table No. 4: Mean mitotic, prophase , metaphase, Anaphase and Telophase indices treated with different concentration of Copper oxychloride at different duration of treatment.
- Table No. 5: Total percentage of abnormal cells and percentage of abnormal cells at each phase among the abnormalities with different concentration of Copper oxychloride at different time of treatment.
- Table No. 6: Percentage of abnormal and normal cells at each phase with different concentration of Copper oxychloride at different time of treatment.
- Table No. 7: Mean mitotic index values of *Allium cepa* L. root tip cell treated with different concentration of Copper oxychloride at different time of treatment .
- Table No. 8: Ranks of four matched groups (concentration) of mitotic Indices values of *Allium cepa* L. under four conditions.

LIST OF PHOTOGRAPHS

Photo Plate 1

- A. Unequal Condensation of Chromatin Threads
- B. Disturbed Prophase
- C. C-metaphase
- D. Diagonal Metaphase
- E. Disturbed Metaphase
- F. Sticky Metaphase
- G. Diagonal Anaphase
- H. Laggard with Precocious Arms

Photo Plate 2

- I. Star Anaphase
- J. Bridge in Anaphase
- K. Pole Shift in Anaphase
- L. Metaphase
- M. Star Metaphase
- N. Fragmented Chromosome in Metaphase
- O. Precocious Arms
- P. Bridge Formation

Photo Plate 3

- Q. Unequal Condensation of Daughter Chromosomes
- R. Pole Shift in Telophase
- S. Precocious Chromosome
- T. Unequal Cytokinesis
- U. Unequal Movement of Chromosomes
- V. Binucleated Cell
- W. Diagonal Telophase

LIST OF FIGURES

- Fig. 1: Graph of Mitotic index of *Allium cepa* root tip cells Vs Treatment time with given concentration of Copper oxychloride.
- Fig.2: Graph of Prophase Index of *Allium cepa* root tip cells Vs Treatment time with given concentration of Copper oxychloride
- Fig.3: Graph of Metaphase Index of *Allium cepa* root tip cells Vs Treatment time with given concentration of Copper oxychloride
- Fig.4: Graph of Anaphase and telophase Indices of *Allium cepa* root tip cells Vs treatment time with given concentration of Copper oxychloride
- Fig.5: Bar diagram of Mitotic, prophase, Metaphase, anaphase and telophase indices Vs treatment time with 0.025% concentration of Copper oxychloride.
- Fig.6: Bar diagram of Mitotic, prophase, Metaphase, anaphase and telophase indices Vs treatment time with 0.05% concentration of Copper oxychloride
- Fig.7: Bar diagram of Mitotic, prophase, Metaphase, anaphase and telophase indices Vs treatment time with 0.075% concentration of Copper oxychloride
- Fig.8: Bar diagram of Mitotic, prophase, Metaphase, anaphase and telophase indices Vs treatment time with 0.1% concentration of Copper oxychloride
- Fig.9: Graph of mean Indices of Mitotic, Prophase, Metaphase, Anaphase and Telophase Vs Treatment time with mean percentage concentration of Copper oxychloride

Fig.10: Graph of Total abnormal cells percentage Vs Treatment time with given concentration of Copper oxychloride

Fig. 11: Graph of percentage of abnormalities among the abnormal cells in prophase Vs Treatment time with given concentration of Copper oxychloride

Fig. 12: Graph of percentage of abnormalities among abnormal cells in metaphase Vs Treatment time with given concentration of Copper oxychloride

Fig. 13: Graph of percentage of abnormalities among the abnormal cells in Anaphase and Telophase Vs Treatment time with given concentration of Copper oxychloride

ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

$A_{\text{Ana-Telo}}$	=	Percentage of abnormalities at Anaphase and telophase among the abnormal cells.
A_{Meta}	=	Percentage of abnormalities at Metaphase among the abnormal cells.
Ana-Telo I	=	Anaphase and Telophase Index
A_{Pro}	=	Percentage of abnormalities at Prophase among the abnormal cells.
DNA	=	Deoxyribo Nucleic Acid
Fig	=	Figure
Meta I	=	Metaphase Index
MI	=	Mitotic Index
PPD	=	Plant protection Directorate
Pro I	=	Prophase Index
T_{Abn}	=	Total percentage of abnormal cells
$T_{\text{Ana-Telo}}$	=	Total percentage of abnormal cells at Anaphase and Telophase
T_{Meta}	=	Total percentage of abnormal cells at metaphase
T_{Pro}	=	Total percentage of abnormal cells at prophase
$TC_{\text{Abn Ana-Telo}}$	=	Total number of abnormal cells counted at Anaphase and Telophase
$TC_{\text{Abn- Meta}}$	=	Total number of abnormal cells counted at metaphase
$TC_{\text{Abn -Pro}}$	=	Total number of abnormal cells counted at Prophase
TC_{Abn}	=	Total number of abnormal cells counted
$TC_{\text{Ana-Telo}}$	=	Total number of cells counted at Anaphase and Telophase
TC_{Meta}	=	Total number of cells counted at Metaphase
TC_{Pro}	=	Total number of cells counted at Prophase
TC	=	Total number of cells counted
TDC	=	Total dividing cells