## The susceptibility and resistance of fry and fingerlings of Oreochromis mossambicus Peters to some pesticides commonly used in Sri Lanka

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## Summary

The acute toxicity (48 hr LC<sub>50</sub>) of seven herbicides, three acaricides and eight insecticides used in the Control of agricultural pests in Sri Lanka to the fry and fingerlings of *Oreochromis mossambicus* Peters were investigated in freshwater at  $28-29^{\circ}$ C under static laboratory conditions.

The fry were more susceptible to the pesticides tested than were the fingerlings. Most of the pesticides tested induced severe behavioural changes in the exposed fish. Exposure to some herbicides and insecticides resulted in lateral and upward bending of the body, while higher concentrations of some pesticides caused excessive mucous secretions, rupturing of eyes and production of haemmorrhagic patches.

Of the pesticides tested on fry and fingerlings, Ronstrar, Elsan and Endosulfan are the most toxic herbicide, acaricide and insecticide, respectively, while Basfapon, Rogor and Azodrin 60 are, respectively, the least toxic herbicide, acaricide and insecticide.