The involvement of microsomal oxidases in pyrethroid resistance in *Helicoverpa armigera* from Asia

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#### Helicoverpa armigera (Hübner)

-----One of the most important agricultural pests in Asia, Africa, Australia and southern Europe.

-----This pest has developed serious resistance to many classes of insecticides, especially to pyrethroids.

# Mechanisms of resistance to pyrethroid in *H. armigera*

Delayed penetration

Nerve insensitivity

Metabolic detoxification

#### Metabolic mechanisms of pyrethroid resistance in *H. armigera*

## ----- a degree of contradiction (A.R. McCaffery,1998) ----- the subject of controversy (J.G. Scott, 1999)

- Most evidence from the published papers that implicates the role of P450s in pyrethroid resistance in *H. armigera* is circumstantial and indirect.
- In the present study, we confirmed the role of P450s in pyrethroid resistance in Asian *H. armigera* populations from China, India and Pakistan by:
  - 1. Synergist bioassay
  - 2. Metabolic enzyme assay
  - 3. Pyrethroid metabolic study
  - 4. P450 gene sequencing

#### Insect strains used in the study



Collected from Nagpur, India, 2003

Collected from Multon, Pakistan, 2003

1. Synergist bioassay

# Topical toxicity of pyrethroid alone and with synergist against *H. armigera* (1)

Strain	Test	RR <sup>a</sup>	SR <sup>b</sup>
SCD	Fenvalerate	1	
	Fenvalerate+PBO	1.3	0.8
	Cypermethrin	1	
	Deltamethrin	1	
IND <sup>c</sup>	Cypermethrin	11200	
	Cypermethrin+PBO	4	2700
PAK	Fenvalerate	2320	
	Fenvalerate+PBO	5	450
	Cypermethrin	4100	
	Cypermethrin+PBO	4	950

a RR (resistance ratio) =  $LD_{50}$  of resistant strain  $\div LD_{50}$  of SCD strain

**b** SR (synergism ratio) =  $LD_{50}$  of insecticide alone  $\div LD_{50}$  of insecticide+PBO

c Data was kindly supplied by Dr Keshav Kranthi, Central Institute for cotton Research, Nagpur, India

# Topical toxicity of pyrethroid alone and with synergist against *H. armigera* (2)

Strain	Test	RR <sup>a</sup>	SR <sup>b</sup>
YGF	Fenvalerate	1690	
	Fenvalerate+PBO	4	462
	Fenvalerate+DEF	400	4
	Cypermethrin	540	
	Cypermethrin+PBO	10	54
	Cypermethrin+DEF	190	3
YGFP	Fenvalerate	2510	
	Fenvalerate+PBO	211	12
	Fenvalerate+DEF	226	11
	Cypermethrin	2920	
	Cypermethrin+PBO	63	46
	Cypermethrin+DEF	1330	2
YG	Fenvalerate	7	
	Fenvalerate+PBO	1.5	5
	Cypermethrin	14	

### 2. Metabolic enzyme assay



Cytochrome P450 activities of midgut toward different substrates PNOD: *p*-nitroanisole O-demethylation; ECOD: ethoxycoumarin O-deethylation; MROD: methoxyresorufin O-demethylation; AE: aldrin epoxidation



#### **Glutathione S-transferase and esterase activities of midgut**



Metabolic enzyme activities of microsomes of midguts in *H. armigera* 

### 3. Pyrethroid metabolic study



Phospher image of <sup>14</sup>C-deltamethrin metabolism by microsomes

# *In Vitro* Metabolism of <sup>14</sup>C-deltamethrin by microsomes of midguts of *Helicoverpa armigera*

Strain	NADPH	Via	H₂O fraction	Organosoluble fraction	
				Metabolites	Deltamethrin
PAK	+	12%	16.5%	31.4%	15.7%
	-	7.6%	12.4%	7.6%	48.6%
SCD	+	8.1%	10.4%	16.1%	41.3%
	-	7.3%	5%	9.8%	54.5%
Control	+	11%	0.8%	1.6%	63.7%

4. P450 gene sequencing

 Sequencing and functional expression of cytochrome P450 genes associated with pyrethroid resistance in *H. armigera*

• Two new P450 genes were cloned.

Cyp9A12 (GenBank No. AY371318)

Cyp9A14 (GenBank No. AY487948)



Lane 1-3: YG control strain (No selection)

Lane 4-6: German susceptible strain

Lane 7-9: YG-Fen strain (selected with fenvalerate)

EF1-  $\alpha$  : elongation factor gene as control

#### Cyp9A12 and Cyp9A14

Functional expressing is ongoing. (Yeast expression system) Expressed P450 proteins have MROD activities.

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