RESIDUAL TOXICITY OF DALAPON IN FOUR SOIL GROUPS IN SRI LANKA

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A large number of synthetic, biologically active compounds are applied to the environment to control weeds in cultivated crops. These chemicals undergo physical, chemical and biological changes (Audus, 1976) resulting in the formation of compounds which have toxicities different from the original (Weeraratna, 1977, Carroll, 1952).

Toxicity of dalapon (a Weedicide) in four soils, viz. Reddish Brown Earth, Reddish Brown Latasolic, Immature Brown Loam and low-humic gley, over a period of 13 weeks was studied by bio-assay tests under flooded and unflooded condition.

Results indicate that phytotoxicity of dalapon decreased rapidly in all four soils under unflooded condition but slowly under flooded condition, and in sterile soils. Toxicity decreased more rapidly in soils previously treated with dalapon. Leaching tests indicate that this herbicide tends to leach down to 5–7 cm in soil.

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References:

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