EFFECT OF TWO INSECTICIDES ON MICROBIOLOGICAL ACTIVITY OF A REDDISH BROWN LATOSOLIC SOIL FROM DODANGOLLA

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The effect of two commonly used insecticides, Labaycid a Dipterex (applied at the rate of 1 l. per ha.) on activity microorganisms of a Reddish Brown Latosolic Soil was studie Carbon dioxide evolution, ammonification and nitrification we estimated. Soil was treated with one ml of 40% formalin, and set of untreated soil were the control. Soil was maintained field capacity at 28°C.

In insecticide treated soils microbiological activity increas rapidly within the first 4 days as measured by CO_2 evolution, a sharply decreased during the next 8 days. By the 16th day the soils showed an increasing trend in CO_2 evolution which increas upto the 24th day. The formaldehyde treated samples showed t lowest microbial activity.

Ammonification was relatively less in insecticide treat samples. The Labaycid treated samples showed a relative increa of NH_4^+ by the 4th day which then decreased. Similarly, Dipter and Labaycid treated soils showed increases by the 12th day incubation but in both the trend was to increase with tim Ammonium-N was generally lower in the formaldehyde treated soi upto the 12th day of incubation, after which it increased abo all other treatments.

Labaycid supressed nitrification more than Dipterex, b nitrification was more than in the formaldehyde treated soil Dipterex treated samples showed more nitrification than t control treatment. Similar trends were observed in the total values.

The action of insecticides on soil microbiological activity this soil is therefore only temporary.