

## EFFECTS OF PESTICIDES ON CHANGES IN REDUCING SUGAR, STARCH AND SOLUBLE PROTEIN DURING MATURATION OF DIFFERENT VARIETIES OF RAGI

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RECEIVED : 14 December, 2018

Two pesticides, phorate 10 G and Furdan 3 G were applied on different varieties of Ragi. The quantity of reducing sugar, starch and total soluble protein in ears were determined at different intervals from panicle initiation to harvesting. In most cases, the application of pesticides enhanced the nutrient contents very slightly. Furdan 3 G raised the content of reducing sugar, whereas phorate 10 G promoted the production of starch and protein. Among the three varieties at harvest HP 1529 was highest in reducing sugar and UP 262 in starch whereas Sonalika was highest in protein. On days 0 (panicle initiation), 5, 10, 15 and 34 days after flowering (DAF) reducing sugar was found to be positively correlated on days 20, 27 and 41 DAF negatively correlated with starch and protein.

### INTRODUCTION

The effects of pesticides on biochemical processes, activity of enzymes and nutrient contents of crops have recently drawn attention. The effects of several pesticides on the photosynthesis and activity of granulum bound starch synthetase of barley and wheat have been investigated (Torii *et al.*, 1983). Application of pesticides has been found to change the carbohydrate content of *Vicia foba* (Prensser *et al.*, 1984) and maioze (Rajoo, 1981). Changes in protein due to the application of pesticides has also been observed in rice grain (Petibskaya, 1985) and wheat grain (Martin *et al.*, 1986). The present investigation was undertaken to study the effects of Phorate 10 G and Furdan 3 G on the production of reducing sugar, starch and protein in three wheat varieties.

### MATERIALS AND METHODS

Seeds of three Ragi varieties T<sub>20</sub>, Sodangi (6), and C09 were sown in a randomized block design with three replications at the Botany Department, Ravenshaw College, Jan 2018 in plot sizes of 8 × 5 m. Furdan 3 G (0.5 kg a.i.ha<sup>-1</sup>) and Phorate 10 G (1kg a.i. ha<sup>-1</sup>) were applied 40 days after transplanting. Panicles were collected from panicle initiation (0) to 20 DAF at 5 day intervals and from 20 DAF to harvesting stage (41 DAF) at 7 day intervals.

Collected panicles were perfectly dried under the sun and seeds were separated from spikelets, dried in an oven at 45°C and grinded finely by grinding machine (60 mesh sieve).

Extraction and estimation of reducing sugar and starch were done following the procedure as described by Yoshida *et al.* (1972) using Backman (model DPC-600180) and

Spectrophotometer. Total soluble protein was estimated by the colorimetric method of Lowery *et al.*, (1951) as modified by Hartree (1972).

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### Reducing sugar content

It is revealed from Table 1 that all the varieties exhibited significant offsets on the production of reducing sugar during the growth period. But the production rate did not follow a continuous increasing trend, rather it followed a zig-zag path. Maximum sugar was found on 20<sup>th</sup> day in T20 27<sup>th</sup> day in Sodangi (6) and 41<sup>st</sup> day in CO9. Application of pesticides increased the reducing sugar content and the change was found to be significant. Furadan 3 G promoted higher production of sugar than phorate 10 G at harvest (Table 1). So far, the effects of the interaction between varieties and pesticides were concerned, the combination of UP-262 × Furadan 3 G produced maximum sugar at harvest. On an average, the varieties combined with the pesticides promoted higher sugar production.

**Table 1. Effects of pesticides on Reducing Sugar in course of maturation of ragi**

Treatments Varieties	A. Reducing Sugar (%)							
	Days after flowering							
	0	5	10	15	20	27	34	41
T20	3.01	3.06	4.16	4.54	4.83	4.38	4.06	3.45
Sodangi (6)	2.74	2.69	3.14	4.36	4.54	4.56	3.84	4.05
Co9	3.05	2.79	4.04	4.43	4.64	3.92	4.39	4.86
SEm±	0.104	0.104	0.113	0.112	0.116	1.135	0.094	0.206
CD at 5%	0.309	0.309	0.335	0.332	0.338	0.406	0.288	0.615
<i>Pesticides</i>								
Control	2.13	2.15	3.29	4.334	4.55	4.63	3.62	3.99
Phorate-10G(Kg.al.ha <sup>-1</sup> )	3.35	3.28	4.76	4.882	4.59	4.55	3.694	3.69
Furadan-3G(kg.al.ha <sup>-1</sup> )	3.36	3.04	3.68	4.051	4.83	4.26	4.885	4.75
SEm±	0.102	0.108	0.113	0.114	0.114	0.138	0.096	0.206
CD at 5%	0.309	0.309	0.335	0.334	0.338	0.406	0.286	0.615
<i>Interaction</i>								
T20 × Control	1.79	1.98	3.28	4.46	4.08	3.63	3.28	2.79
Sodangi(6) × Control	2.43	2.44	2.64	4.75	5.09	5.29	3.84	3.54
Co9 × Control	2.16	2.05	3.73	3.84	4.55	3.17	3.73	5.36
T20 × Phorate-10G	3.09	3.36	4.46	4.65	5.36	5.09	3.36	3.06
Sodangi(6)×Phorate-10G	2.88	3.06	5.09	4.83	4.19	5.09	3.15	3.18
CO9 × Phorate – 10G	3.26	3.45	4.74	5.18	4.19	3.64	4.56	4.83
T20 × Furadan – 3G	3.45	3.99	4.74	4.46	5.06	4.46	5.54	4.46
Sodangi × Furadan – 3G	2.88	2.54	2.64	3.45	4.38	3.46	4.44	5.48
Co9 × Furadan – 3G	3.73	2.64	3.64	4.28	5.19	4.94	4.64	4.35
SEm±	0.179	0.179	0.195	0.194	0.198	0.236	1.166	0.356
CD at 5%	0.536	0.535	0.578	0.575	0.586	0.706	0.495	1.066

**Table 2. Effects of pesticides on Reducing Sugar in course of maturation of ragi**

Treatments	B. Starch (%)
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Varieties	Days after flowering							
	0	5	10	15	20	27	34	41
T20	15.98	11.95	21.28	36.59	48.66	56.05	59.98	63.85
Sodangi (6)	14.15	10.98	25.96	36.35	49.08	57.26	62.79	64.34
Co9	16.64	12.73	25.46	39.53	47.54	52.42	59.94	63.76
SEm±	0.099	0.095	0.124	0.544	0.159	0.113	0.195	0.123
CD at 5%	0.293	0.284	0.371	1.629	0.476	0.335	0.586	0.365
<i>Pesticides</i>								
Control	14.76	11.56	21.28	38.39	47.44	53.65	59.78	63.00
Phorate-10G(Kg.al.ha <sup>-1</sup> )	16.34	12.49	25.68	38.68	50.34	56.94	62.38	65.16
Furadan-3G(kg.al.ha <sup>-1</sup> )	15.782	11.69	25.79	35.38	47.44	55.14	60.48	63.85
SEm±	0.098	0.095	0.124	0.545	0.154	0.113	0.194	0.123
CD at 5%	0.296	0.284	0.379	1.629	0.476	0.335	0.585	0.364
<i>Interaction</i>								
T20 × Control	14.33	12.14	16.76	33.99	46.74	53.46	57.95	63.09
Sodangi(6) × Control	13.34	10.74	21.16	38.43	44.16	52.09	60.76	64.23
Co9 × Control	16.64	11.83	25.88	42.74	51.49	55.59	60.55	61.68
T20 × Phorate-10G	17.95	12.86	23.09	40.95	50.45	57.86	59.75	64.28
Sodangi(6) × Phorate-10G	14.65	12.39	27.45	36.15	55.65	60.88	64.15	65.26
Co9 × Phorate – 10G	16.35	12.06	26.53	38.95	44.95	51.98	63.18	65.89
T20 × Furadan – 3G	15.73	10/83	23.86	34.89	48.84	56.78	62.29	64.15
Sodangi × Furadan – 3G	14.16	9.94	29.36	34.89	47.36	58.85	63.18	63.68
Co9 × Furadan – 3G	16.94	14.39	23.96	36.86	46.164	49.75	56.04	63.69
SEm±	0.179	0.163	0.215	0.938	0.275	0.195	0.338	0.214
CD at 5%	0.519	0.486	0.614	2.819	0.825	0.583	1.016	0.634

### Starch content

The effects of varieties on the content of starch were almost similar (Table 2). All of them initially exhibited a reduction in starch production on 5 DAF followed by continuous significant increase till harvest. Application of pesticides had no remarkable effect. However, it was not detrimental as well (Table 2). It is observed from Table 2 that combinations of varieties and pesticides bestowed a little effect in promoting starch formation in comparison to the combination of Varieties x control. The interactions between Varieties x Phorate 10 G exhibited better results than other interactions. Starch was positively correlated with sugar on 0, 5, 10, 15 and 34 DAF (Table 4).

### Protein content

It is revealed from Table 3 that production of protein was significantly increased during the growth period of all the varieties. At harvest, the content of protein was almost same. Application of pesticides on protein remarkably during the growth period. But the combinations of varieties x pesticides increased very small amount of protein into the grain during development although this increment was not consistent. Protein was found to be in positive correlation with sugar on 0, 5, 10, 15 and 34 DAF and with starch on 0, 5, 20, 27, 34

and 41 DAF. A significant positive correlation also existed with starch on 0 and 41 DAF at 5% level (Table 4).

**Table 3. Effects of pesticides on Total Soluble Protein in course of maturation of ragi**

Treatments Varieties	A. Total Soluble Protein (%)							
	Days after flowering							
	0	5	10	15	20	27	34	41
T20	11.08	11.96	12.64	13.54	13.94	14.19	14.43	14.59
Sodangi (6)	9.86	11.18	11.75	12.68	13.75	14.14	14.28	14.49
Co9	11.06	11.79	12.23	12.63	13.44	14.06	14.34	14.48
SEm±	0.019	0.029	0.036	0.016	0.022	0.016	0.014	0.014
CD at 5%	0.048	0.089	0.106	0.045	0.058	0.046	0.034	0.035
<i>Pesticides</i>								
Control	10.05	11.25	12.09	12.66	13.44	13.96	14.26	14.35
Phorate-10G(Kg.al.ha <sup>-1</sup> )	11.05	11.76	12.39	13.24	13.73	14.23	14.49	11.63
Furadan-3G(kg.al.ha <sup>-1</sup> )	10.93	11.89	12.26	12.94	13.73	14.18	14.36	14.46
SEm±	0.08	0.029	0.036	0.016	0.026	0.018	0.014	0.014
CD at 5%	0.049	0.089	0.106	0.046	0.058	0.048	0.034	0.035
<i>Interaction</i>								
T20 × Control	10.38	11.63	12.56	13.34	13.85	14.16	14.34	14.56
Sodangi(6) × Control	8.76	10.66	11.58	12.185	13.58	13.88	14.14	14.43
Co9 × Control	10.96	11.55	12.14	12.36	12.94	13.88	14.24	14.35
T20 × Phorate-10G	11.48	12.15	12.86	13.66	13.98	14.19	14.44	14.64
Sodangi(6)×Phorate-10G	10.49	11.34	11.76	13.28	13.95	14.29	14.48	14.69
C09 × Phorate – 10G	11.39	11.76	12.39	12.99	13.85	14.27	14.43	14.64
T20 × Furadan – 3G	11.38	12.08	12.44	13.63	13.98	14.28	14.42	14.43
Sodangi × Furadan – 3G	10.38	11.49	11.96	12.56	13.74	14.28	14.34	14.46
Co9 × Furadan – 3G	10.95	11.85	12.25	12.68	13.44	13.98	14.30	0.029
SEm±	0.029	0.045	0.062	0.026	0.035	0.028	0.018	0.059
CD at 5%	0.086	0.145	0.183	0.078	0.104	0.079	0.054	

**Table 4. Correlation coefficient of different components of Ragi treated with pesticides during development**

	Days after flowering			
	6 day		5 day	
	Starch	Protein	Starch	Protein
Sugar	0.619	0.558	0.0009	0.524
Starch		0.844		0.393
	10 day		15 day	
	Starch	Protein	Starch	Protein
Sugar	0.242	0.346	0.098	0.375
Starch		-0.349		-0.314
	20 day		27 day	

Sugar	Starch	Protein	Starch	Protein
	-0.128	-0.036	-0.024	-0.126
Starch		0.044		0.476
	<b>34 day</b>		<b>41 day</b>	
Sugar	Starch	Protein	Starch	Protein
	0.099	0.029	-0.253	-0.335
Starch		-0.156		0.814

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