

TOXICOLOGICAL EFFECTS OF TWO INSECTICIDES COMMONLY USED NIGERIA

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ABSTRACT

Insecticides are a class of pesticides designed to control insects. Insecticides like all other pesticides are poisonous or toxic in nature. Sometimes they have been known to go beyond their role by harming other organism called non-target organisms. One way of ensuring that an insecticide is formulated for safety of other organisms is to estimate a safe lethal dose commonly known as LD₅₀ (Lethal Dose 50). This is the dose of the pesticide which is designed to control 50% of the pest population for which it is made for. A research was carried out to estimate the LD₅₀ of two commonly used insecticides (RAID and GO-90) in Delta State, Nigeria to determine their LD₅₀ and safety threshold. The results showed that the LD₅₀ of RAID was 1.8ppm and that of GO-90 was 2.25ppm. This indicated that RAID is safer to use than GO-90. This has implication that while we may not be threatened by chemical weapon deployed by terrorists we should avoid undue and misguided exposure to toxic materials such as insecticides to ensure our security and that of our environment.

KEYWORDS: Toxicological Effects of Two Insecticides Commonly Used Nigeria