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CASE GS PROMETRYN

STUDY 2

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BRANCH: ENVIRONMENTAL FATE AND GROUND-WATER

FORMULATION 00 - ACTIVE INGREDIENT

Rustrum, A.M. 1988. Determination of the Mobility of <sup>14</sup>C-GS-11354 in Selected Soils by Soil Thin-Layer Chromatography. Study No. HLA 6015-382. Performed by Hazleton Laboratories America, Inc. Submitted by Ciba Geigy Corporation. Accession Number 405737-08.

DIRECT RVW TIME = 1 day

REVIEWED BY: R.C. DOYLE  
TITLE: CHEMIST  
ORG: EFGWB/EFED/OPP  
TEL: 557-7442

SIGNATURE: 

CONCLUSIONS:

This study is acceptable for partially fulfilling EPA requirements for registering pesticides (Subdivision N Guideline Section 163-1). The soil TLC R<sub>f</sub> values for <sup>14</sup>C-2-methylthio-4-amino-6-isopropylamino-s-triazine (GS-11354), a degradate of prometryn, were 0.42 for California sandy loam, 0.62 for Mississippi silt loam, and 0.84 for Plainfield sand. The mobility of GS-11354 was less than that of 2,4-D, and less than or equal to that of atrazine.

MATERIALS AND METHODS:

Soil thin-layer chromatography (TLC) plates were prepared using four sieved (1.18 mm) soils as the stationary phase. The soils were a Plainfield sand, California sandy loam, Mississippi silt loam, and a Hagerstown clay loam (reported as a silty clay loam). Textural analysis, organic matter, pH, and CEC were determined by the University of Wisconsin Extension Soil and Forage Laboratory. Bulk density and the water content at field capacity were determined by Hazleton. Apparently, analyses of the sample of Hagerstown soil used in this study were not

conducted. Physical/chemical characteristics of the Hagerstown soil were obtained from the literature and personal communications with USDA personnel. Soil characterization data are summarized in Table 1.

The soil TLC plates (20x20cm) were prepared with water slurries of each soil, air dried at room temperature, and scored into seven strips. The thickness of each plate was measured using a micrometer. Average soil thicknesses were 0.90 mm for the Plainfield sand, 1.0 mm for the California sandy loam, 0.6 mm for the Mississippi silt loam, and 1.2 mm for the Hagerstown clay loam. Uniformly ring-labeled <sup>14</sup>C-2-methylthio-4-amino-6-isopropylamino-s-triazine (GS-11354) (supplied by Ciba-Geigy Corporation 24.9 uCi/mg, 94.0% radiochemical purity) was spotted (~0.03 uCi) onto three strips of each TLC plate. Uniformly ring-labeled <sup>14</sup>C-atrazine (supplied by Ciba-Geigy Corporation, 20.6 uCi/mg, 98% radiochemical purity) and acid-labeled <sup>14</sup>C-2,4-D (supplied by Ciba-Geigy Corporation, 247 uCi/mg, 98% radiochemical purity) were each applied (0.02-0.03 uCi) to two strips on each soil TLC plate.

The soil TLC plates were developed in water at room temperature. The plates were air dried at room temperature. Radioactivity on each strip was mapped using a radioactivity scanner. Results from the scanner were verified using autoradiography.

R<sub>f</sub> values were calculated using the distance traveled to the leading edge of detectable radioactivity. Sorption coefficients (K) were calculated from the soil TLC R<sub>f</sub> by the following equation:

$$K = \frac{1/R_f - 0^{2/3}}{D (1-0^{2/3})}$$

where: 0 = pore fraction of the soil (assumed to be 0.5)  
D = specific gravity of the solids in the soil  
(assumed to be 2.5)

#### REPORTED RESULTS

All results are summarized in Tables 2 and 3.

#### STUDY AUTHOR'S CONCLUSIONS:

The mobility of GS-11354 ranged from intermediate to mobile: intermediate mobility in California sandy loam and Hagerstown clay loam, and mobile in Plainfield sand and Mississippi silt loam. Relative to 2,4-D, GS-11354 was less mobile. The mobility of GS-11354 was lower than or equal to that of atrazine for all soils tested. Inspection of the radioactivity scans showed that a higher percentage of 2,4-D moved away from the origin compared to GS-11354. The distribution of atrazine was similar to that of GS-11354.

## REVIEWER'S DISCUSSION:

The Hagerstown soil sample used for this study apparently was not analyzed to determine its physical/chemical characteristics, but data characterizing the soil were obtained from references. Variation within a soil series can be substantial, and utilizing data from one subsample of soil to characterize another subsample may result in a significant error. Characteristics of the Hagerstown soil used in this study must be determined before EFGWB can utilize the mobility data from this soil.

GS-11354 appears to be a mobile compound.  $R_f$  values for 3 of the soils tested ranged from 0.64 to 0.84. The  $R_f$  of the fourth soil (California sandy loam), 0.42, is something of an anomaly. The California soil is light textured (59% sand, 8% clay) with low organic matter (0.8%) and the greater retention in this soil cannot be explained from the data available. The  $R_f$  values between 0.64 and 0.84 are probably more indicative of the mobility in most soils.

The author's conclusions on the relative mobilities of GS-11354, atrazine, and 2,4-D are correct. The  $R_f$  values indicate that 2,4-D is more mobile than GS-11354, and atrazine is of equal or greater mobility relative to GS-11354. However, the greater movement of radioactivity away from the origin for  $^{14}\text{C}$ -2,4-D relative to  $^{14}\text{C}$ -atrazine and  $^{14}\text{C}$ -GS-11354 cannot be confirmed from the data submitted.

The sorption coefficients (K) reported were calculated from  $R_f$  values, and are reported to correlate with  $K_{oc}$  values (Hamaker, J.W. 1975. The Interpretation of Soil Leaching Experiments, in Environmental Dynamics of Pesticides, Plenum Press, NY). These calculated sorption coefficients may provide a rough estimate of pesticide mobility, but they are not adequate to replace actual measurements. Therefore, the  $R_f$  values alone are used to classify the mobility of GS-11354.

Table 1. Characteristics of Soils

Soil	Sand (%)	Silt (%)	Clay (%)	Organic Matter (%)	Field Moisture Capacity (0.33 bar) (%)	pH	Cation Exchange Capacity (meq/100 g)	Bulk Density (g/mL)
Plainfield sand	97	1	2	0.3	2.1	5.4	1	1.59
California sandy loam	59	33	8	0.8	8.7	5.2	6	1.55
Mississippi silt loam	29	58	13	1.1	20.3	7.0	13	1.18
Hagerstown <sup>1</sup> clay loam	21	50	28	2.5	31.0	6.6	15	1.21

<sup>1</sup> Error in reported texture. Total percentages of sand, silt and clay equal 99%. Texture reported as silty clay loam. All physical/chemical properties taken from literature and personal communications.

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Table 2. Relative Mobility of  $^{14}\text{C}$ -GS-11354,  $^{14}\text{C}$ -Atrazine, and  $^{14}\text{C}$ -2,4-D on Two Soil TLC Plates Developed in Water

Compound	Replicate Number	Frontal	Mean	Mobility	Sorption
		$R_f$ Value <sup>1</sup>	$R_f$ Value	Class <sup>2</sup>	Coefficient(K) <sup>3</sup>
<u>Mississippi Silt Loam</u>					
$^{14}\text{C}$ -GS-11354	1	0.62	0.67	4	0.93
	2	0.71			
	3	0.68			
$^{14}\text{C}$ -Atrazine	1	0.66	0.66	4	0.96
	2	0.65			
$^{14}\text{C}$ -2,4-D	1	0.80	0.79	4	0.69
	2	0.78			
<u>Plainfield Sand</u>					
$^{14}\text{C}$ -GS-11354	1	0.85	0.84	4	0.61
	2	0.83			
	3	0.83			
$^{14}\text{C}$ -Atrazine	1	0.90	0.92	5	0.49
	2	0.93			
$^{14}\text{C}$ -2,4-D	1	0.98	0.92	5	0.41
	2	1.00			

<sup>1</sup> Frontal  $R_f$  value determined from the linear analyzer scan of the TLC plate.

<sup>2</sup> Mobility class assignment based on the mean frontal  $R_f$  value as defined by

2 Mobility class assignment based on the mean frontal  $R_f$  value as defined by the EPA Pesticide Assessment Guidelines, Subdivision N, Page 67 (1982):

- (1) = Immobile ( $R_f = 0.0$  through  $0.09$ )
- (2) = Low mobility ( $R_f = 0.1$  through  $0.34$ )
- (3) = Intermediate mobility ( $R_f = 0.35$  through  $0.64$ )
- (4) = Mobile ( $R_f = 0.65$  through  $0.89$ )
- (5) = Very mobile ( $R_f = 0.90$  through  $1.0$ )

3 sorption coefficient calculated from the mean frontal  $R_f$  value.

Table 3. Relative Mobility of  $^{14}\text{C}$ -GS-11354,  $^{14}\text{C}$ -Atrazine, and  $^{14}\text{C}$ -2,4-D on Four Soil TLC Plates Developed in Water

Compound	Replicate Number	Frontal	Mean	Mobility	Sorption
		$R_f$ Value <sup>1</sup>	Frontal $R_f$ Value	Class <sup>2</sup>	Coefficient ( $K_d$ )
<u>California Sandy Loam</u>					
$^{14}\text{C}$ -GS-11354	1	0.40	0.42	3	1.89
	2	0.44			
	3	0.41			
$^{14}\text{C}$ -Atrazine	1	0.76	0.78	4	0.70
	2	0.79			
$^{14}\text{C}$ -2,4-D	1	0.84	0.87	4	0.56
	2	0.90			
<u>Hagerstown Clay Loam<sup>4</sup></u>					
$^{14}\text{C}$ -GS-11354	1	0.68	0.64	3	1.01
	2	0.62			
	3	0.61			
$^{14}\text{C}$ -Atrazine	1	0.74	0.75	4	0.76
	2	0.75			
$^{14}\text{C}$ -2,4-D	1	0.81	0.79	4	0.69
	2	0.77			

<sup>1</sup> Frontal  $R_f$  value determined from the linear analyzer scan of the TLC plate.

<sup>2</sup> Mobility class assignment based on the mean frontal  $R_f$  value as defined by



the EPA Pesticide Assessment Guidelines, Subdivision N, Page 67 (1982):

- (1) = Immobile ( $R_f = 0.0$  through  $0.09$ )
- (2) = Low mobility ( $R_f = 0.1$  through  $0.34$ )
- (3) = Intermediate mobility ( $R_f = 0.35$  through  $0.64$ )
- (4) = Mobile ( $R_f = 0.65$  through  $0.89$ )
- (5) = Very mobile ( $R_f = 0.90$  through  $1.0$ )

3 Sorption coefficient calculated from the mean frontal  $R_f$  value.

4 Reported as a silty clay loam.

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