NATURE OF INCLUSION BODIES OF A NUCLEAR POLYHEDROSIS
VIRUS OF *DIACRISIA OBLIQUA* (WALKER)

Incidence of a nuclear polyhedrosis of D. *obliqua* was first reported by Jacob and Thomas (1972). Observations made on the size and shape of polyhedral inclusion bodies and their dissolution in certain alkalies are reported in this comunication.

A finely purified suspension of polyhedra Was used in these studies. Diameter of polyhedra was determined from electron micrographs. The alkali solutions of NaOH (0.1 and 0.2 per cent), KOH (0.1 and 0.2 per cent) and Na_2CO_3 (5 and 10 per cent) were tested for their effects on the polyhedra. For these tests a drop of polyhedral suspension was put on clean microscopic slide, dried in the air and dipped in the alkali solution for varying periods. The slides were then examined under microscope for the presence or absence of polyhedra.

The polyhedra (Fig. 1) were irregular in shape, the diameter of 150 polyhedra observed ranging from 1.49ft to 3.43μ with a mean of 2.34μ. Treatment with 0.1 per cent NaOH or KOH dissolved the polyhedra in two minutes while at 0.2 per cent the polyhedra were dissolved in one minute. In solutions of 5 and 10 per cent Na_2CO_3 dissolution of polyhedra was achieved only after 35 and 30 minutes respectively. It is known that polyhedra from different nuclear polyhedroses differ greatly in their resistance to alkalies. (Day *et al.*, 1953; Brown and Swaine, 1965). The present observations show that polyhedra of D. *obliqua* are relatively less resistant to alkali treatment than the others reported earlier and that treating glasswares and similar utensils with 0.2 per cent NaOH or KOH for few minutes would give effective sterilization.

സംഗ്രഹം

ഡയാക്രിസിയാ ഒബ്ലിക്വാ rtJ3a«(?> എന്ന നീശാശലപ്പേഴ്ഴവിൽ രോഗം ഉണ്ടാക്കന്ന കോശകേന്ദ്ര ffiaJO§Taf)T(Siru!orru1cro" (Nuclear polyhedrosis) വൈറസിന്റെ പോളിഹിഡ്രക്ക് ഒരു നിശ്ചിത ആകൃതിയോ വലിപ്പമോ ഇല്ല. അതിന്റെ വ്യാസം 1.49μ മുതൽ 3.43μ വരെ വ്യത്യസ്തപ്പെട്ട കണ്ട. സോഡിയം ffisinrxsirLyofflo^cQJlaju⁰, CTruosiOcru^o ഹൈഡ്രോ ക്ലൈയിഡ് എന്നിവയുടെ 0.1 ശതമാനം വീര്യമുള്ള ലായനികളിൽ രണ്ടമിനിട്ടുകൊണ്ടും, **0.2** ശതമാനം വീര്യമുള്ള ലായനികളിൽ ഒരു മിനിട്ടുകൊണ്ടും ഈ പോളിഹിഡ്രാകഢ നിശേഷം raroej1sTOTti)GnjrTO. എന്നാൽ 5 ശതമാനവും 10 ശതമാനവും വീര്യമുള്ള സോഡിയം കാർബണേ റ്റ ലായനികളിൽ അലിയുവാൻ യഥാക്രമം 35, 30 മിനിട്ടുകം വേണ്ടിവന്നു.
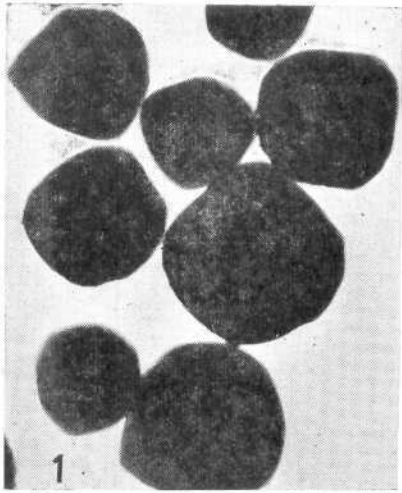
Fig. I. Electron micrograph of polyhedra from *Diacrisia obliqua.* x 11325

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Department of Entomology
College of Agriculture
Vellayani 695522, India

ABRAHAM JACOB

M. J. THOMAS