# HISTOLOGICAL EFFECTS OF THIAMETHOXAN INSECTICIDES ON MIDGUT OF HORNET WORKERS VESP ORIENTALIS L. (HYMENOPTERA: VESPIDAE).

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# **ABSTRACT**

Oriental hornet is one of the main pest to beekeeping in Iraq and other countries. Also considered as agricultural pest. Adults of Oriental hornet workers were treated with three different concentrations (7500, 5000 and 2500) mg / 4 ml (distilled water) from the insecticide Thiamethoxam 10%. The results showed slight changes in the midgut of adult wasps workers who were exposed to a minimum concentration of 2500 mg 4 / ml distilled water. And the workers exposed to lethal concentration 5000mg/4ml , exhibit less morphological alterations in the epithelium cells of midgut; cytoplasmic vacuoles, deformation of digestive cells with overlapping, disorganizing of nucleus, cytoplasmic protrusions and microvilli observed on the apical part of epithelium cells. Whereas, the Oriental hornet workers were exposed to excessive concentration which was 7500 mg 4 / ml, caused severe changes in the midgut epithelium cells compared with previous doses: uncondensed cytoplasm, nucleus elongated and shrinkage , blebs with appearance of nucleoli scattered and releases into the cytoplasm, regions with cytoplasmic vacuolization, ruptured and breaks of apical cell membrane from the top with release of cell contents into the lumen, and the nucleus condensing with pyknosis of nuclei are observed.

KEYWORDS: Toxicity; Histology; Oriental hornet; Neonicotinoid; Midgut

# 1. INTRODUCTION

Vespa orientalis, Oriental Hornet is eusocial insects belong to Hymeno-ptera Family vespidae, Oriental Hornet considered a main pest to honeybee in many Arab countries as Egypt, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Palestine, Lebanon, Emirate, Jorden, Yemen, Sudanand, and Syria. (Abdelaal, and EL-defrawy, 2014.), (Khodairy, and. Awad, 2013), and (Glaiim, 2009). Also count as an agricultural pest that cause damages to fruit trees, grapes, figs, and Vegetables. (Glaiim, 2009.) (Abdelaal, and ELdefrawy, 2014.) (Al-Mahdawiand. and Al-Kinani, 2011) and (Spurr, 1991). Oriental hornets with their powerful sting can cause hurting and mortal reaction in case of allergic person get sting (Tawfiq et al., 2016).

In many countries as well as Iraq beekeepers have trained many method developed by the beekeepers them-selves to control all the species of the genus Vespa (Al-Mahdawiand. and Al-Kinani, 2011). Killing of queen of vespa

orientalis in the beginning of spring to get rid of many of would be enemies in the summer and autumn, and hornets nests damage by applying insecticides or fire after dark; furthermore baited and non-baited traps. Although these methods are operational, while they are tedious and expensive, (Glaiim et al., 2008).

The first line of resistance against extreme level of insecticides and metals in the insects are the midgut cells. This study is concentrated on investigating for morphological characteristics of midgut cell that might be significant for the circulation of metals or their elimination, therefore defending the insects against their toxicity (Rost- Roszkowska., et al, 2008). The epi-thelium of midgut is primarily consist of the epithelial and regenerative cells. The epithelial cells are responsible for the food digestibility through the manu-facture and secretion of enzymes and absorption of digests. The second group of cells found among basal areas of epithelial cells exchanges them when they are

missing as result of scratch or getting old processes (Cavalcante and Cruz-Landin 1999).

Very little scientific literatures on the effect of insecticides on the midgut cells of the Oriental hornets, has been done (Elbert et al., 2008; and Matsuda et al., 2001) reported that among the various kinds of insecticides the neonicotinoids including amidacloprid, acetamiprid, thiacloprid and thiame-thoxam that work as an agonist of nicotinic acetylcholine receptors of insects, Thus considered important group of neurotoxins. Neonicotinoids insecticides are widely used in agriculture specially against sucking insects.

The Midgut is one of the main organs for toxicity analysis, as it is in control for digestion and absorption of digest food; Furthermore it is one of the major source of interaction when insects comes in contact with insecticides orally (Catae et al., 2014). The midgut cells alterations caused by insecticides demonstrated by some investigators (Cruz et al., 2010; Ferreira et al., 2013; Jesuset al., 2005; Oliveira et al., 2013, Rossi et al., 2013). The aim of this study is to detect the physiological and morphological alterations in the midgut cells which is responsible for absorption and digestion of food using histological techniques and Microscopy by exposure hornet's adult workers to different doses of thiamethoxam 10 % insecticide.

# 2. MATERIAL AND METHODS

# **2.1.Oriental Hornet Collecting Methods**

Wooden Traps, using cages made of wood (50 x35 cm) cover with metal screen with small conical hole at the bottom (Abdelaal and El-Defraw, 2014) .Different baits such as sheep meet, bee food (Candy), and Sardin fish were used for attracting wasps.

- Net collecting, Aerial collecting nets which is made of a circle of metal wire diameter 30 cm cover with muslin and connect with wooden stick length 100cm. workers were collected placed in the plastic bottles 1.5 liter already contain holes for air exchange then moving to the growth chamber.
- Collection by aerial net and special boxes, the most effective way to collect wasps. Near pools of water, running water, spring water, and near the apiaries of honeybees, where the Oriental hornets gather, the wasps were collected by aerial net and then transported to special cages (50x35 cm), made of wood and a metal mesh that covers three faces while the other side is closed with a

wooden board that has a small door with a slide to open and close at the bottom (12 x 8 cm), to provide food and water; in addition to the main door at the top. When many wasps meet, the wasps were covered with a net and then about 10-25 hornet workers gathered simultaneously, transported to the cages by making the box inverted, so that the main door would be down in an attempt to fit the mesh opening with the upper door of the cage(Fig.1),



Figure 1. Collection by aerial net and special boxes

# 2.2. Method of Rearing:

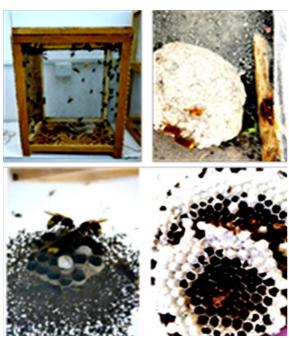
Nests collecting, three nest where collected from different places Besifki and Sinjar and they were placed in the growth chamber Lab. at (29  $\pm 1$ C°) and relative humidity 67%  $\pm 1$ , with in the cages (35 \* 35 \* 50 cm) provide with bee food (Candy) through the small (Fig. 2).

# 2.3. Fixation and Insects Treatments

Pick up 40 Adult workers of Oriental hornets aged 7-40 days at random from stock culture by cooling them for 8-10 minutes at 8 C°. Hornets wasps where placed in four disposal cages (15x15x15cm) for each ten workers and exposure to three concentrations of thiamethoxam 10% (Agita insecticides) over lethal concentration 7500mg/4 ml distilled water spread out on the 166 g. of bee food (Candy) for first group, and lethal concentration 5000mg/4 ml distilled water spread out on the 166 g.

of bee food (Candy) for second group, then sub-lethal concentration 2500mg /4ml distilled water spread out on the 166 g. of bee food (Candy) for third group, and fed the control with bee food (Candy) and H2O 1:1, dead workers

were collected after 24hours and cut off all the appendages, the head and the thorax regions as well. Transfer the abdomen to 100% alcohol for 2 hours. Placed the Sample into the formalin 10% for 24-48 hours Tissue processing by passing the samples through formalin 10% for 90 minutes first, then Ethanol 70%, %90, 100% and 100% for each 90 minutes. Dehydration of specimens were placed in Xylene for 4-5 hours. (Christopher et al., 2017).



Fig, (2): Hornets rearing cage, Oriental Hornets' nest with brood2.4. Embedding and Cutting

Embedding by Placed the samples into the hot paraffin wax three times for 1.5, 1.5, 1.5 hours. (55-60 °C) at 28°C (Fig. 3). Cooling the blocks by using the LEICA EG 1130 (Fig.4), to pre-cool the paraffin embedded biological specimen at -30°C before start sectioning on the Microtome. After cooling process completed the blocks were ready for cutting using Manual Microtome LIECARM—2235 (fig. 5), and paraffin sections were collected at 3-5 µm starting from the end of the abdomen. Placed the sections in to water bath at 40 °C (Fig. 6). Sections where dewaxed in the xylene for 6 minutes and drayed using Oven at 60 °C for 30 minutes.



**Fig. (3):** Specimen where placed in paraffin blocks.



**Fig.(4):** LEICA EG 1130 to pre-cool the paraffin embedded biological specimen at 30C $^{\circ}$ 



Fig. (5): Manual Microtome LIECARM-2235



Fig. (6): Water bath



Fig. (7): LEICA AUTOSTAINER XL.

# 2.5. Tissue Staining Process

Tissue Staining process were carried out using LEICA AUT-OSTAINER XL, (Fig.7). As show in the (table 2) Cover the slides with DPX and left to be dray 20 -30minutes, then the sections were examined using (Microscope Olym-pus CX 22 RFS1, China) under magnification 40 X and 100X, then the Microphotographs were taking with (NIKON DIGITAL CAMERA D 5200, U.S.A).

Table(1): Tissue Staining process

Step	Substances (solutions	Time
	)	
1.	Xylene	3 minutes
2.	Xylene	3 minutes
3.	Ethanol 100%	2 minutes
4.	Ethanol 90%	2 minutes
5.	Ethanol 70%	2 minutes
6.	Tap Water	3 minutes
7.	Hematoxylin	6 minutes
8.	Tap Water	3 minutes

70% 2 minutes 90% 2 minutes
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#### 3. RESULTS

In this study the sections were examined under the microscope, oriental hornet's midgut from control group revealed typical characteristics of this structure: longitudinal muscles regenerative cells, goblet cells and columnar cells with nucleus of spherical shape with no alterations in the cell organelles and cytoplasm (Fig. 8. A, B, C).

In the experimental group that treated with high lethal dose 7500 mg / 4 ml distilled water and after 24 hours of treatment. The midgut cells exhibit irregular structure and uncondensed of cytoplasm, nucleus elongated shrinkage initiation of blebs at the apical of epithelium with

appearance of nucleoli scattered and releases into the cytoplasm, the epithelium of midgut show severe decrease in the thickness and show many cytoplasmic vacuolation regions Fig. (9. A, B and C). Then the epithelium cells start swelling, ruptured and break of apical cell membrane from the top with release of cell contents into the lumen, and the nucleus condensing with pyknosis of nuclei are observed Fig. (9. D, E).

In the wasps groups exposed to a concentration equivalent to 5000 mg / 4ml distilled water of thiamethoxam. The midgut cells exhibited cytoplasmic vacuolization and deformation of digestive cells with overlapping, and the disorganizing of nucleus and cytoplasm with protrusions and microvilli observed on the apical part of epithelium cells Fig. (10. A, B and C).

The third group of Oriental hornets were treated with sub-lethal dose 2500 mg / 4ml distilled water of thiamethoxam10% insecticide, and the sections were examined under the microscope, the midgut cells showed swollen vacuolated, less midgut epithelium, and the cytoplasmic protrusions in the apex of epithelium cells with no microvilli are observed, also exhibit row of condensed nucleus and reduction in the number of regenerative cells with very obvious fragmentation of midgut epithelium on the top of folded regions as show in (Fig.11. A and B).

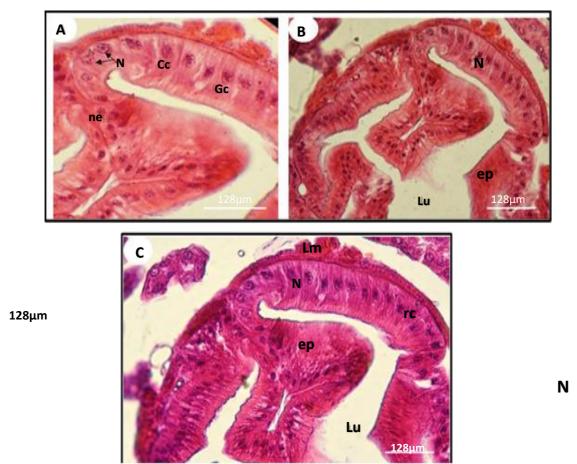


Fig. (8): Histological sections (3-5 μm) through midgut of *Vespa orientalis L*. workers control group. (A) Midgut epithelium cells showing columnar cells( Cc).Goblet cells(Gc).with large spherical nucleus(N) where nuclei (ne)of epithelial digestive cells are observed.(B and C) Showing midgut epithelium detail(ep),and showing longitudinal muscles in the outside with circular shape(Lm), and the lumen(Lu), Digestive cell (Cc), with spherical organizing Nucleus(N) including some nuclei(ne).and goblet cells(Gc) arrange around with regenerative cells (re) between columnar and goblet cells are observed.

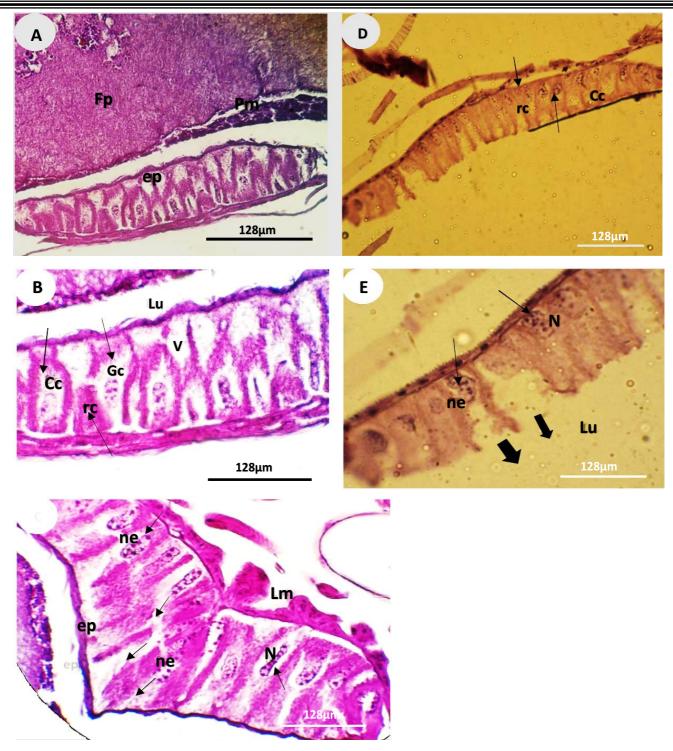


Fig. (9): Histological sections and microphotographs of midgut of *Vespa orientalis L.* adult workers(3-5μm) treated with over-lethal dose of thiamethoxam10%, 75000 mg/4 ml. (A) Midgut epithelium show irregular structure with and uncondensed cytoplasm (ep),food particle(Fp), peritrophic membrane(pm). (B and C) Midgut cells, digestive cells(Dc),regenerative cells (rc),and goblet cells(Gc) showing nucleus elongated, shrinkage and blebs with appearance of nucleoli (ne)scattered and releases into the cytoplasm, and epithelium (ep) showing decrease in thickness with cytoplasmic vacuolization(V).(D and E) Epithelium cells start swelling, ruptured and break of apical membrane( )from the top with release of cell contents in to the lumen (Lu), and the nucleus condensing with Pyknosis of nuclei are observed.

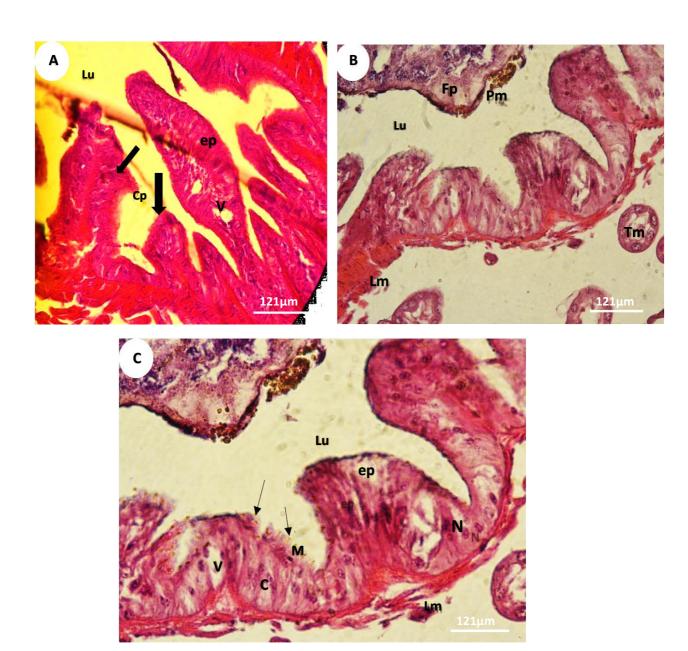


Fig. (10):Histological section through the midgut of *Vespa orientalis* (3-5μm) bar =121μm, showing effects of Lethal Dose of thiamethoxam 10% insecticide 5000mg/4 ml.(A)The Lumen (Lu)and the midgut epithelium showing cytoplasmic protrusions( Pc↓↓)with cytoplasmic vacuolization(V). (B) Peritrophic membrane (Pm) surrounding food particle (Fp) and Malpighian tubules(Tm). (C) The Lumen (Lu) and the midgut epithelium (ep) exhibit condensed cytoplasm and dislocate Nucleus (N), with microvilli (M↓↓), cytoplasmic vacuolization (V), and disorganizing cells (c). Longitudinal muscles from outside (Lm).



121µm

**Fig. (11):** Histological sections through midgut of *Vespa orientalis (3-5μm)* exposed to sub-lethal dose of thiamethoxam 10% insecticide. (A and B) Show swelled vacuolated cytoplasm (V) in epithelium cells with less midgut epithelium (ep) and the cytoplasmic protrusions (cp) in the apex of epithelium cells(ep) with no microvilli are observed, also exhibit reduction in the number of regenerative cells with very obvious fragmentation (\*) of midgut epithelium on the apical of folded regions with row of condensed nucleus (N).

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# 4. DISCUSSION

The present study results support the significance of using Toxicology bioassay joined with morphological examination of tissues and organs of oriental hornets exposed to chronic doses of commercial insecticides. Bioassay in vitro investigated that thiamethoxam 10 % dramatically decreases the lifespan of hornet workers regardless of the concen tration, while the different level of degradation and alteration between two doses has been used demonstrated by morphological data, which was more obvious in the hornets midgut. (Sumida, 2010).

In this study our results indicated that the treatment of Oriental hornet works with diet containing thiame thoxam 10% with three different Concentrations exhibit severe morpho logical and structural alterations in the midgut epithelium particularly was observed in the treatment of over lethal concentration 7500 mg /4 ml treatment followed by the concentration 5000 mg / 4ml, and less alteration in the wasps workers treated with the concentration 2500 mg / 250 ml (Sumida, 2010) and (Catae, 2014).

According to (Cruz-Landim, 2009) the midgut is responsible for most of the digestion and absorption of food which is part of digestive system and is considered the practical stomach in insects. Because the orally insecticides was conducted, therefore one of the first locations to come in the contact with the insecticides was the midgut, and the midgut suffered direct effects at the beginning of the treatment. In Vespidae midgut three kinds of enzymes can be found that play a role in the detoxification process: cytochrome P450s, glutathione S transferases, and carboxylesterases. These enzymes implement the process of biotransformation of chemical substances, so the reaction of these enzymes with insecticides produce alterations in the epithelium of midgut (Yu, et al., 1984).

The midgut cells, exhibits irregular structure, uncondensed of cytoplasm, the nucleus elongated shrinkage, blebs with appearance of nucleoli scattered and releases into the cytoplasm, in agreement with (Silva-zacarin, 2007) and. (Oliveire, 2013). The epithelium of midgut showed severe decrease in the thickness and

reduction in regenerative cells number in the epithelium, with many cytoplasmic vacuolation regions this results demonstrated in other studies (Oliveire, 2013) and (Catae, 2014).

Also Epithelium cells start swelling, ruptured and break of apical membrane from the top with release of cell contents into the lumen, and the nucleus condensing with pyknosis of nuclei are observed, similar process to that observed in the *Attas-exdensrubr-O*. (Proskuryakov, 2003), and these results agreed with an *Epilachnac f. nylanderind* (Rost-Roszkowska, 2008) and (Santorum., et al 2019).

The results of treatment Oriental hornet workers with sub-lethal dose 2500mg/4ml showed less morpho-logical alterations in the midgut epithelium than the over lethal and lethal doses of thiamethoxam 10%. Vacuolated swelled columnar cells, and many intercellular spaces between midgut cells and reduction in the number of regenerative cells with very obvious breakup of midgut epithelium at the apex of folded regions, the very similar results documented in the Africanized Aipsmellifera by (Oliveire RA., 2013). (Catae, 2014). Cyto protrusions in the apex of digestive cells with no microvilli are observed, unlike the second group treated with lethal dose which was microvilli has been seen very clear, and very locate of spherical nucleus similar to control group.

In conclusion treatment with low concentrations of the thiamethoxam 10% occur physiological effect in the midgut of hornet's workers when it is administrated for short time (24 h.) causes an the destructive effects of midgut by ultrastructural and mor-phological alterations harms to these tissues, and significantly affects the absorption and digestion processes. However, rising the concentration caused chronic histological alterations in the midgut of Oriental Hornet and this indicate that thiamethoxam is very effective, when orally administrated against wasps workers.

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کارتێکرنا هیستولوجی یا قرکهرێ10% Thiamethoxam له سهر گهدێ ناڤهراست یا کارکهریێن ستهنگێ Vespa Orientalis L.(Hymenoptera: Vespidae رو  $\Box$ ه ه لاتی

بوخته

ستەنگى روژهەلاتى ئىكە ژ ئاتاقىن سەرەكى د خودان كرنا مىشاھنىڭقى دال عىراقى وگەلەك ولاتىن دى . و تىتە ھۇمارتن وەكو ئاتاقەكە كشتوكالى. كارل سەر ستەنگى روژھەلاتى بىگەھشتى ھاتە كرن ب سى رىژىن تىتە ھۇمارتن وەكو ئاتاقەكە كشتوكالى. كارلىنان گو توركەرى %750 ئىڭ قاتە كىن ب سى رىۋىت ئەولىت ئەولىت ئەولىت ئەولىن ئىزا ئىزىك كوۋەك (2500ملغ 4 مل) ل سەر ھاتى بكارئىنان گوھورىنىن كىم لە سەر گەدى ئاقەراست ھەبون ئەو ژى: ھەبونا قالاھىيىت سايتوبلازمى ، كىم بونا شانىئت ئېيسىليومى و بلنداھىيىن سايتوبلازمى ل بەر لوتكا خانىن ئاستونى و ھەر وەسا كىم بونا خانىت نى بوى دگەل پىچ بونا شانىت ئېيسىليومى دىاركرن : ھەبونا قالاھىيىت سايتوبلازمى ، تىكچون و تىكەل بونا خانىت ئېيسىليومى ، تىكچونا ناقكى وھەروسا ل سەر بلنداھىيىن سايتوبلازمى ، تىكچون و تىكەل بونا خانىت ئېيسىليومى ، تىكچونا ناقكى وھەروسا ل سەر بلنداھىيىن ئېيسىليومى ، بەراورد دگەل ھەردوو رىۋىت دىيى : سايتوبلازمى رون ، ناقكى درىۋبويى وناڤ ئىكداچوى ، ئىسسىليومى بەراورد دگەل ھەردوو رىۋىت دىيى : سايتوبلازمى دو ، رەھەروەسا دىاربونا قالاھىيىت سايتوبلازمى و وەرمىنا خانى وتىربونا ناقكى دىناف سايتوبلازمى و تىكچونا وى بىمامى.

# التاثير الهستولوجي للمبيد الحشري **Thiamethoxam 10%** في المعي الاوسط لشغالات الزنبور الاحمر *Vespa Orientalis L.*(Hymenoptera: Vespidae).

#### الخلاصة

الدبور الشرقي هو أحد الافات الرئيسية في تربية النحل في العراق والعديد من البلدان الاخرى. وايضا تعتبر آفة زراعية. تم معاملة بالغات شغالات الزنبور الاحمر بثلاث تراكيز مختلفة ( 7500 و 7500) ملغ \ 4 مل ماء مقطر) من المبيد الحشري %Thiamethoxam 10 وأوضحت النتائج حدوث تغيرات طفيفة في المعي الاوسط لبالغات شغالات الزنبور الاحمر الذين تعرضوا لاقل تركيز 2500 ملغ / 4 مل ماء مقطر. فقد لوحظ وجود فجوات سايتوبلازمية ، والنسيج الطلائي اقل و بروزات سيتوبلازمية في قمة الخلايا العمودية والتي تفتقد الى الزغيبات ، وأيضا انخفاض في عدد الخلايا المجددة مع تفتت النسيج الطلائي في الجزء العلوي من المناطق المطوية . و العاملات المعرضين للتركيز المميت 5000 ملغ / 4 مل ماء مقطر اظهرت تغيرات شكلية أقل في النسيج الطلائي: الفجوات السايتوبلازمية ، تشوه وتداخل الخلايا الظهارية. في حين أن تعرض عاملات الدبور السايتوبلازمية والزغيبات التي لوحظت في الجزء القمي من الخلايا الظهارية. في حين أن تعرض عاملات الدبور الشرقي للتركيز المفرط الذي كان 7500 ملغ / 4 مل ماء مقر اظهرت تغيرات شديدة في خلايا النسيج الطلائي المعدة مقارنة بالجرعات السابقة: سايتوبلازم غير مكثف ، النواة متطاولة ومتقلصة، بثرات مع ظهور نوى متناثرة تطلق في السايتوبلازم ، مناطق ذات فجوات سايتوبلازمية ، لوحظ انتفاخ الخلايا و تمزقها ، اضمحلال غشاء الخلية القمى من ألاعلى مع إطلاق محتويات الخلية في التجويف ، ويلاحظ تكثف النواة مع تغلظات في النوى.