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Naruse, Hidetoshi Laboratory of Pesticide Chemistry, Faculty of Agriculture, Kyushu University

Maekawa, Kazuyuki Laboratory of Pesticide Chemistry, Faculty of Agriculture, Kyushu University

https://doi.org/10.5109/23491

出版情報:九州大学大学院農学研究院紀要. 21 (2/3), pp.107-116, 1977-03. Kyushu University

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# **Controlled-Release Pesticides**

#### 1. Dithiocarbamate Derivatives

#### Hidetoshi Naruse and Kazuyuki Maekawa

Laboratory of Pesticide Chemistry, Faculty of Agriculture, Kyushu University 46-02, Fukuoka 812 (Received November 24, 1976)

Poly(ethyleneimine S-alkyldithiocarbamate)s were prepared from poly(ethyleneimine sodium dithiocarbamate) and alkyl chlorides, aralkyl chlorides, substituted alkyl esters of chloroacetic acid,  $\beta$ -chloroethyl esters of carbamic and carboxylic acids, and N-substituted chlorocarboxamides, respectively. The poly(ethyleneimine) derivatives thus obtained were decomposed physically and chemically to release sulfur and sulfur-containing substances, and acted as controlled-release herbicides or fungicides.

#### INTRODUCTION

There are a lot of papers on the chemical modification of synthetic and natural polymers in the medicinal field (Ascoli et al., 1967; Bichowsky-Slomnicki et al., 1956; Cornel and Donaruma, 1965; Dumitru et al., 1973). But, pesticidal polymers for controlled-release have not been studied well. Lately, roach tape (Plant, 1974), and others containing insecticides such as diazinon or chlorpyrifos in synthetic polymers were manufactured as controlled-release insecticides. On the other hand, controlled-release pesticides which can release active substances by chemical decomposition have been investigated by Allan et al. (1971) and others (Volkober and Varga, 1963). Beasley and Collins (1970) prepared controlled-release pesticide with a salt linkage. The authors prepared poly(ethylene-imine S-alkyldithiocarbamate)s which might be gradually decomposed in the field to give pesticidally active substances. To our knowledge, this is the first report on controlled-release pesticides which are polymers bound covalently with bioactive group.

# MATERIALS AND METHODS

# Preparation of alkyl chloride derivatives

 $\beta$ -Chloroethyl derivatives shown in Table 1 were synthesized by known methods.  $\beta$ -Chloroethyl N-alkyl or arylcarbamate was obtained from the reaction of alkyl or aryl isocyanate and ethylene chlorohydrin in dry tetrahydrofuran. The  $\beta$ -chloroethyl ester of 1,1-dichloropropionic acid and that of 2,4-dichlorophenoxyacetic acid were prepared from 1,1-dichloropropionyl or 2,4-dichlorophenoxyacetyl chloride and ethylene chlorohydrin in a dry tetrahydrofuran-pyridine mixture. N-(3',4'-dichlorophenyl)chloropropionamide was prepared from 3,4-

Compd. No.	R	Yield (%)	M.p.,b.p.* ("C) Recryst. Solvent	UVλ <sup>MeOH</sup> nm(ε)	IR	CHC13(	cm <sup>-1</sup> )	References
1	NHC00-	83	47/THF	280(120) 234(3310)	<del>3420,</del> 990,	1730; 690	1906;	Sprinson (1941)
2	C1 -NHCOO-	90	46/THF	276(220) 239(3360)	3400; 1270,	2950; 1090,	1730; 640	McKey and Braun (1.951)
3	<b>8</b> -NHCOO-	68	$101/C_6H_6$	290(1410) 223(11490)	3400 _1530' 1190,	3050 1490; 1110	1730 1340:	McKey and Braun (1951)
4	сн <del>з</del> инсоо-	31	108/7mm*	205(80)	<b>3450</b> ; 1030,	<b>1240</b> ; 630	1230;	Sprinson (1941)
5	CI_NHCO-	76	$92/C_6H_6$	253(3840)	3400 1580; 650	3000 1519;	1680 1 <b>480</b> ;	Good(1961)
6	с1 _0сн <sub>2</sub> с00_	16	171-6/7mm*	283(2270) 228(8490) 222(8440)	2900, 1430, 1100,	1760, 1300, 1090,	1480, 1180, 870,	McNew and Hoffmann (1950)
7	сн <sub>3</sub> сс1 <sub>2</sub> соо-	21	60-1/35 <b>mm</b> *	206(443)	<b>1240</b> ; 1000,	17 <b>50</b> ; 900,	1440; 650	Scheuerer et al. (1960)

Table 1. β-Chloroethyl derivatives RCH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-Cl<sub>2</sub>

dichloroaniline and  $\beta$ -chloropropionyl chloride at the molar ratio of 2:1 in dry benzene.

Chloromethyl derivatives shown in Table 2 were obtained on usual processes. N-(3',4'-dichlorophenyl) or alkyl chloroacetamide was synthesized from chloroacetyl chloride and 3,4-dichloroaniline or alkylamine at the molar ratio of 1: 2 in dry benzene. 2.4-Dinitro-5-methyl-6-phenyl chloroacetate was prepared from sodium 2,4-dinitro-5-methyl-6-phenolate and chloroacetyl chloride in dry acetone.

2-(p-Chlorophenoxy)ethyl chloroacetate was synthesized as follows; sodium 2-(p-chlorophenoxy)ethylate was prepared from 25 g of 2-(p-chlorophenoxy)ethanol and 3.3 g of metallic sodium in 200ml of dry benzene. Then, 16.2 g of chloroacetyl chloride was gradually added to the ethylate suspension at 0°--5°C, and the mixture was further stirred for 7 hours at room temperature avoiding moisture. Colorless precipitates formed were removed from the reaction mixture. The filtrate treated with activated carbon was evaporated under reduced pressure to give two oily layers. The lower layer was separated, washed with n-hexane and distilled at 160°-164°C (0. 2 mm Hg) to give yellow oil. Anal. Found (%): C, 49.00; H, 4.13. Calcd. (%) for  $C_{10}H_{10}O_3Cl_3$ : C, 48.88; H, 4.08. Yield 31 %.

Compd.	R	Yield (%)	M.p.,b.p.* (°C) Recryst. Solvent	$\frac{\text{UV}_{\lambda_{\max}^{\text{MeOH}}}}{\text{nm}(\varepsilon)}$	IRv <sub>max</sub> <sup>CHCl3</sup> (cm <sup>-1</sup> )	References
8	(сн <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> снин-	70	82/4mm*	207(1370)	3400, 2950, 1660, 1520, 1470, 1410, 1260. 600	Fu and Birnbaum (1953)
9	(CH3CH2)2N-	57	132/2.8mm*	219(4130)	2950, 1640, 1470, 1440, 1240, 1120, 650	Hannah(1955)
10	02N — NO2-	49	112/MeOH	242(6200)	3050, 1790, <b>1600</b> , 1540, 1860,	Bates <i>et al.</i> (1962)
11	C1-CH2CH20-	30	160-4/0.2mm	278(1550) 1* 224(9270) 210(5180)	2950, 1760, 1600, 1490, 1280, 1240, 1170, 1090, 970, 820, 660	Clark <i>et al.</i> (1958)
12	C1——NH-	41	$106/C_6H_6$	253(3460) 214(450)	3350, 1690, 1580, 1510, 1480, 1130, 1020, 810, 610	Hofer(1959)

Table 2. Chloromethyl derivatives RCOCH2-Cl.

# Synthesis of poly(ethyleneimine S-alkyldithiocarbamate) s

Twenty two poly(ethyleneimine S-alkyldithiocarbamate)s were prepared, as shown in Scheme 1, from poly(ethyleneimine sodium dithiocarbamate) and alkyl chlorides, benzyl chlorides, alkyl chloroacetates, and chloromethyl or  $\beta$ -chloroethyl derivatives containing pesticidal groups listed in Table 1 and 2, respectively. The reaction were carried out by heating the starting materials in dimethylformamide for several hours at 50°C with stirring. The isolation of the modified polymers was performed by precipitation (by adopting dimethylformamide-methanol, tetrahydrofuran, chloroform, ether and so on) in the addition of a small amount of saturated sodium chloride solution. The properties of these polymers obtained were shown in Table 3.

Scheme 1. General synthetic methods of polymers.

Table 3. Poly(ethyleneimine S-alkvldithiocarbamate)  $-\begin{pmatrix} -N-CH_2-CH_2- \\ | \\ CSSR \end{pmatrix}_n$ .

			CDDIC	
Compd., No.	– R	$UV \lambda_{\max}^{DMF}(nm)$	ν <sup>KBT</sup> IR γ <sup>KBT</sup> (cm <sup>-1</sup> )	Analysis (%) Found
		/max(mm)	V max (cm )	N Ash
13	(сн <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> сн⊶	281	3350, 2900, 1670, 1480, 1360, 1220, 1110, 980	11.99
14	сн <sub>2</sub> =снсн <sub>2</sub>	282	3050, 2900, 1480, 1470, 1400, 1210, 1130, 980	11.67
15	носн <sub>2</sub> сн <sub>2</sub>	281	3150, 2950, 1630, 1480, 1460, 1350, 1120, 980	11.19 +
16	сн <sub>3</sub> сн <sub>2</sub> ооссн <sub>2</sub>	288	3359, 2950, 1730, 1480, 1440, 1360, 1290, 1210, 1150, 1020	9.67
17	сн <sub>2</sub> ≖снсн <sub>2</sub> ооссн <sub>2</sub>	288	3350, 2900, 1720, 1630, 1480, 1400, 1320, 1210, 1130, 980	9.70
38	$0_2$ N— $\bigcirc$ -CH $_{\overline{2}}$	279	2950, 1600, 1510, 1480, 1400, 1340, 1110, 990, 860	9.73
1.9	C1————————————————————————————————————	280	3150, 1480, 1400, 1210, 1090, 1020, 830	7.96
20	C1 →−CH <sub>2</sub>	279	3150, 2900, 1470, 1460, 1400, 1210, 1120, 3030, 990	8.02
21	н <sub>3</sub> с-Ф-сн <sub>2</sub>	275	3150, 2900, 1480, 1400, 1220, 1110, 1030, 990, 820	8.44
22	CocH <sub>2</sub>	281	3050, 2900, <b>168</b> 0, 1600, 1480, 1450, 1280, 1200, 980	7.98
23	$ \bigvee_{\mathrm{OH}}^{\mathrm{NO_2}} \mathrm{CH}_{\overline{2}} $	281	3200, 2900, 1580, 1490, 1370, 1280, 1130, 1080, 820	12.09
34	NHCOOCH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub>	284	3350, 2900, 1720, 1660, 3570, 1510, 1480, 1350, 1290, 1140, 990, 800	15.20
25		279	3250, 2950, 1720, 1650, 1600, 1480, 1440, 1310, 1070	15.81 - <del> </del>

Table 3. (continued)

Comp No.	d. R	UV $\lambda_{max}^{DMF}(nm)$	IR  y <sub>max</sub> (cm <sup>-1</sup> )	Fo	is (%) und
110.		Amax(IIII)	V max (OIII )	N	Ash
26	8-nhcooch <sub>2</sub> ch <sub>2</sub>	278	3200, 2900, 1720, 1660, 1590, 1480, 1210, 1160, 770	16.23	
27	СН <sub>З</sub> NHCOOCH <sub>Z</sub> CH <sub>Z</sub>	283	3300, 2950, 1710, 1480, 1440, 1240, 1120, 980	16.22	#
28	(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> CHNHCOCH <sub>2</sub>	281	3250, 2950, 2100, 1640, 1530, 1360, 1160, 980	13.57	
29	(сн <sub>3</sub> сн <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> мсосн <sub>2</sub>	283	3150, 2900, 2010, 1660, 1600, 1480, 1440, 1350, 1220. 980	13.81	
30	C1—NHCOCH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub>	282	3200, 2900, 1650, 1580, 1480, 1370, 1230, 1120, 1020, 870	12.97	
31	$O_2N - O_2 O_2$ $O_2N - O_2 O_2$	283	3200, 2900, 2100, 1710, 1650, 1480, 1320, 1210, 1130, 980, 880	13.03	
32	с1 <b>-</b> —Осн <sub>2</sub> сн <sub>2</sub> ооссн <sub>2</sub>	285	2950, 1730, 1600, 1480, 1410, 1290, 1240, 1150, 1060, 990, 820	7.81	
33	C1 ——OCH <sub>2</sub> C00CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub>	288	3200, 2900, 1650, 1480, 1430, 1210, 1110, 1010, 830	13. 88	ì
34	сн <sub>3</sub> сс1 <sub>3</sub> соосн <sub>3</sub> сн <sub>3</sub>	280	3300, 2950, 1720, 1480, 1400, 1220, 1210, 3140, 1010	13.22	

Poly(ethyleneimine sodium dithiocarbamate) was prepared from poly(ethyleneimine) (Tokyokasei Organic Chemicals), sodium hydroxide, and carbon disulfide (Okawara *et al.*, 1966).  $\eta_{sp}/c$  (0.5 % aq. soln., 20°C)=0. 3830. Anal. Found (%): C, 26.40; H, 5.21; N, 10.44. UV  $\lambda_{\max}^{\text{HgO}}(\text{nm})$ : 292 (=N- $\dot{\text{C}}$ =S), 257(-CSSNa), UV  $\lambda_{\max}^{\text{DMF}}(\text{nm})$ : 298 (=N- $\dot{\text{C}}$ =S). IR  $\nu_{\max}^{\text{KBF}}(\text{cm}^{-1})$ : 3400-3000 (-NH-, hydrate -OH), 2900 (-CH<sub>2</sub>-), 1630 (hydrate -OH), 1460 (=N- $\dot{\text{C}}$ =S), 1120 (C=S) (Fig. 1-B).

The content of dithiocarbamoyl group was determined by LJV spectrometry (12.4 mole %) and by the method of Clark *et al.* (Clark *et al.*, 1951) (14.3 mole %) or A. O. A. C.'s method (Horwitz, 1975) (17.5 mole %).

Poly (ethyleneimine S-[2-(p-chlorophenoxy)ethoxycarboxymethyl]dithiocarbamate] was synthesized as follows; when 50 ml of 10 % 2-(p-chlorophenoxy)ethyl chloroacetate solution in dimethylformamide were added to 100 ml of 5 %

poly(ethyleneimine sodium dithiocarbamate) dimethylformamide solution, the mixture reacted exothermally resulting an orange solution (Braun und Engelbertz, 1923; Okawara *et al.*, 1966). The colored solution was stirred for 6 hours at 60°C to deposit sodium chloride and others. The reaction mixture cooled to room temperature was filtered off to separate the insoluble substances. The filtrate poured into 1.51 of methanol was salted out with 10 ml of saturated sodium chloride aqueous solution to give orange precipitates. The precipitates were washed with water, methanol, and ether, then dried under reduced pressure. Yield 4.2 g. UV  $\lambda_{\rm max}^{\rm DMF}({\rm nm}):285(={\rm N-\dot{C}}={\rm S}),~{\rm IR}~\nu_{\rm max}^{\rm KBT}({\rm cm}^{-1}):3350(-{\rm NH}-),$  2900,  $1410(-{\rm CH}_2-),1720(-{\rm COOCH}_2-),~1490,~1470~(-{\rm CH}={\rm CH}-,={\rm N-\dot{C}}={\rm S}),~1280~-1240~(Cl-<=>-{\rm OCH}_2-),~1150~(-{\rm COOCH}_2-),~1110~(C={\rm S}),~$20~(2~{\rm substituted}-{\rm Cl}-</a> (Cl-<=>-(-{\rm CO}-)~({\rm Fig.}~1-{\rm A}).$ 

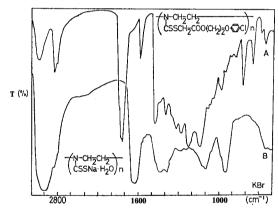


Fig. 1. IR spectra of poly(ethyleneimine S- [2-(p-chlorophenoxy)ethoxy-carbonylmethyl] dithiocarbamate) (A) and poly(ethyleneimine sodium dithiocarbamate) (B).

#### Degradation of poly(ethyleneimine sodium or S-alkyldithiocarbamate)s by natural light

Dimethylformamide solution of poly(ethyleneimine sodium dithiocarbamate) and poly(ethyleneimine S-alkyldithiocarbamate)s were exposed to natural light in the door at room temperature for about 20 days to give a turbid solution and precipitates, and to release sulfur, some sulfur-containing substances and others. The decomposition products of p-methylbenzyl compound (21), for example, were detected by TLC (silicagel G, acetone, PdCl<sub>2</sub> or I<sub>2</sub>) as 7 spots.

# PESTICIDAL BIOASSAY

#### Herbicidal test

Forty grams of soil (weak acidic upland soil of Kyushu University Farm, pH 6.2) and 10 ml of water were mixed with a 0.2 % poly(ethyleneimine S-alkyldi-

thiocarbamate). Twenty seeds of radish (**Raphanus** sativus L. var. **radicular** Dc.) and barnyard millet (**Panicum** crusgalli L.) were respectively put in the treated soil. These plants grew under light keeping wet. The temperature was kept at  $25^{\circ}$ — $28^{\circ}$ C for radish and  $30^{\circ}$ — $34^{\circ}$ C for barnyard millet at 70-80 % humidity. The medium of barnyard millet was made wetter after germination. The herbicidal activity was defined as the average of growth damage (%) and germination (%) (Blackman, 1951; Ready and Grant, 1947; Sugawara and Koyama, 1971). The results are shown in Table 4.

Table 4.	Herbicidal	activities	of	poly(ethyleneimine	S-alkyldithiocarbamate)s
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		Radish		Barn	yard millet	
Compd. No.	Germi-	Dama	ıge (%)	Germi-	Damage (%)	
	nation (%)	19 <b>d</b>	22d	nation (%)	19 d	22d
Control	85	U	6	95	32	63
Positive control #	0	100		0	100	
13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34	50 40 85** 60* 85 65 85 100 85 85 80 90 55 45 35 70 75 50 5	20 13 0 5 0 8 6 20 0 6 6 18 11 57 14 7 U 0 79 100 46	20 13 0 33 6 46 12 25 6 6 13 11 18 11 57 14 7 0 93 100 67	95 90 85 95 95 95 95 85 95 85 95 100 100 90 95 75 90	26 28 94 0 5 21 0 18 6 11 6 79 95 89 25 20 0 83 63 20 61 100	73 72 100 0 10 26 5 18 12 11 12 94 100 65 75 11 100 100 53 78

# CH<sub>3</sub>-CCl<sub>2</sub>-COOC H<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-Cl Seedling growth: \* repression, \*\* elongation.

# Antifungal test

Disc paper method using the filter papers (Toyokagaku Qualitative No. 2) with 6 mm diameter was employed for the fungicidal test of the polymer (0.5% dimethylformamide solution) or their light-decomposed materials on Aspergillus niger, Trichoderma viride and Pythium debaryanum. Asp. niger, T. viride and P. debaryanum were cultured on 3% Czapek-agar and potato-sucrose-agar, respectively at 28°C. The antifungal activity shown in Table 5 was qualitatively evaluated from the ratio of sporulation, inhibiting zone and inhibitory persistence (Golden and Oster, 1947; Sugawara and Koyama, 1971).

Compd. No.	Aspergillus <b>nige</b> r			choderma viride	Pythium debaryanum		
NO.	Intact	Decompd.*	Intact	Decompd.*	Intact	Decompd.*	
DMF	±		<u>+</u>		±		
CH <sub>3</sub> -NHCSSNa	##		#		#		
13 14 16 18 20 21 22 23 24 28 29 30 32 33 34 35		±++++++	+++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++	#++++  ##  #######	################	+++++++	

**Table 5.** Antifungal activity of poly(ethyleneimine S-alkyldithiocarbamate)s and their decomposed products by light.

Inhibition zone was determined at five to eleven days after inoculation.

#### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Judging from these experimental data, poly(ethyleneimine sodium or S-alkyl-dithiocarbamate) is thought to be a copolymer with about 15 mole % of dithiocarbamate which decomposes easily to release some substances of lower molecular weight.

S-ethane-2-ol (15) damaged strongly the growth of barnyard millet for 19 days and S-arylcarbamates (24, 25, 26) also showed a considerable inhibition on barnyard millet growth. S-(3',4'-dichlorophenyl)carbamoylethyl (30) and 2,4-dinitro-5-methyl-6-phenyl S-acetate (31) exhibited remarkable selective activity on barnyard millet for a relatively long period. On the other hand, 2-(p-chlorophenoxy)ethyl S-acetate (32) and S-ethyl 2,4-dichlorophenoxyacetate (33) depressed the growth of radish seedling. S-ethyl 1,1-dichloropropionate (34) was herbicidally effective on the growth of barnyard millet. Considering from these data, some derivatives of poly(ethyleneimine S-alkyldithiocarbamate) whose carbon-sulfur and nitrogen-carbon linkages of dithiocarbamate group can be cleaved by hydrolysis and light might be useful as a controlled-release herbicide.

<sup>##</sup> zone of inhibition was more than 2 cm,

<sup>#</sup> zone of inhibition was more than 1 cm,

<sup>#</sup> zone of inhibition was less than 1 cm,

<sup>+</sup> organism failed to grow on disc,

<sup>±</sup> slight growth of organism on disc,

no inhibition.

<sup>(35)</sup> poly(ethyleneimine sodium dithiocarbamate)

<sup>\*</sup> Conditions, see text.

Poly(ethyleneimine) inhibited the growth of *Asp. niger* and *T. viride*. In addition, water-soluble poly(ethyleneimine sodium dithiocarbamate) (35) was more effective for the inhibition of the growth than poly(ethyleneimine) was. The poly(ethyleneimine sodium dithiocarbamate) decomposed by natural light at room temperature had more inhibitory effect on *Asp. niger* than that of the intact polymer and sodium methyldithiocarbamate. In this case, the lower molecular antifungal compounds released from poly(ethyleneimine sodium dithiocarbamate) were assumed to be sulfur, sodium hydrosulfide, and carbonyl sulfide.

The poly(ethyleneimine S-alkyldithiocarbamate)s could not suppress the fungus growth in the dark for several days. But, the poly(ethyleneimine S-alkyldithiocarbamate)s (solution of dimethylformamide) decomposed by natural light were effective antifungally as shown in S-allyl(14), S-acetate (16), S-m-chlorobenzyl (20), and others. The released substances are still unknown except sulfur, but some sulfur-containing compounds like mono or disulfide derivatives are to be thought. On the whole, these facts suggested that the poly-(ethyleneimine sodium dithiocarbamate) and poly(ethyleneimine S-alkyldithiocarbamate)s were chemically and physically decomposed to release antifungal substances.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We wish to express our gratitude to Associate Professor Dr. Morifusa Eto, for helpful discussions.

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