TABLE 1

Effect of lethal concentration of methyl parathion on the whole animal oxygen consumption of Cyprinus carpio

	Lethal exposure (12 mg/litre)					
Normal	1 hr	3 hr	6 hr	12 hr	24 hr	48 hr
0.0968	0.0964	0.0955	0.0857	0.0672	0.0470	0.0336
±0.013	±0.014	±0.003	± 0.008	± 0.005	± 0.005	± 0.02
	−0.41%	−1.34%	−11.47%	−30.58%	−51.45%	−65.92%
	NS	NS	$P<0.05$	$P<0.001$	$P<0.001$	$P<0.001$

The value is measured as unit metabolism expressed in ml of oxygen/gm wet wt of body/hr. Values are mean ± S.D. of 6 individuals followed by % change and level of probability (P).
NS = Not significant

exposed to lethal concentration of methylparathion. Clogging of respiratory lamellae and destruction of gill epithelium observed in the gill of *Cyprinus carpio* exposed to methylparathion[6] could be responsible for the observed depression in oxygen uptake and the progressive decline in the respiratory rate is concomitant with the progressive gill damage[6]. In addition to the gill damage, decrease in haemoglobin content[7] and decreased tissue respiration[8] observed during OP intoxication may also interfere with respiratory process with resultant respiratory failure.

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ANNOUNCEMENT

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR LABORATORY ANIMALS (ICLA)

Recommendations for the specification of the animals

The husbandry and the techniques used in animal experimentation form an important part of biomedical research. Reliability and reproducibility of such experiments depend on the use of standard quality laboratory animals, correct procedures of handling, environmental control, diet, etc. Results of a recent survey conducted by the Laboratory Animals Information Service Centre of ICMR show, that many laboratories in India use substandard animals and adopt poor—often inhumane—management practices in the conduct of animal experiments. This leads to the generation of a lot of poor quality unreproducible data and confusion in the literature. One of the ways to remedy this state of affairs, is for the research journals to insist on some basic information pertaining to the source of animals, housing, diet, environmental conditions, management, etc.

Further details regarding the nature of animals, housing and care, diet and feeding, experimental set up, etc. could be had from Mahatab S. Bamji, Deputy Director, National Institute of Nutrition, Indian Council of Medical Research, Hyderabad 500 007.