

Heteropneustes and *Channa* on exposure to pesticides and aminoazodyes respectively^{9,11}.

An increase in the activity of GOT and GPT points to the liver damage and possible myocardial damage under the chemical stress of alachlor.

An increase in blood urea in the experimental fish is due possibly to the inability of toxicated kidney to filter urea in adequate amounts.

Decrease in blood cholesterol is not so well-defined but hypocholesterimic conditions are frequently obtained in anaemia and similar decrease is seen in cases of acute infections¹².

The significant changes in the blood parameters studied indicate that the fish body is under stress on exposure to alachlor. Macrocytic anaemia points to respiratory stress and leukocytosis may suggest inflammation in tissues. The blood urea observations indicate anomalies in kidney functioning. The altered pattern of serum enzymology indicates distorted metabolism resulting from liver dysfunction or from cellular injuries in different tissues of experimental fish.

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NEWS

A SCIENTISTS'S ELAPSED EXPECTATIONS

... "Why do scientists peak sooner than most other professionals? No one knows for sure. I suspect it has something to do with the single focus and detachment of the subject. A handiness for visualizing in six dimensions or for abstracting the motion of a pendulum favours a nimble mind but apparently has little to do with anything else. In contrast, the arts and humanities require experience with life, experience that accumulates and deepens with age. In science, you're ultimately trying to connect with the clean logic of mathematics and the physical world, in the humanities with people. Even within science itself, a telling trend is evident progressing from the more pure and self-contained of sciences to the less tidy, the seminal

contributions spring forth later and later in life. The average age of election to England's Royal Society is lowest in mathematics. In physics, the average age at which Nobel prize winners do their prize-winning work is 36; in chemistry it is 39, and so on. Another factor is the enormous pressure to take on administrative and advisory tasks, descending on you in your mid-30's and leaving time for little else. Such pressures also occur in other professions, of course, but it seems to me they arrive sooner in a discipline where talent flowers in relative youth." (Reproduced with permission from *Press Digest, Current Contents*®, No. 28, July 9, 1984. Copyright by the Institute for Scientific Information®, Philadelphia, PA, USA)