Table 1 Ascorbic acid turn over in the compound eyes of the housefly, Musca domestica

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Different forms of ascorbic acid</th>
<th>Concentration (mg/g)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Free form (AA)</td>
<td>0.41 ± 0.026</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bound form (ASC)</td>
<td>0.44 ± 0.218</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enzymic utilization (AAU)</td>
<td>2.1 ± 0.125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ascorbic acid-Macromolecule complex</td>
<td>0.21 ± 0.017</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Values are means of 12 experiments with standard error:

phosphoric acid at 75°C, during the determination of ascorbigen (ASG) and AA-MM complex, was checked by using 15% metaphosphoric acid in the system. Finally, the interference of substances other than ascorbic acid was checked by determining in strong acid solution.

Thus the present study provides unequivocal evidence for the occurrence of ascorbigen (ASG) and ascorbic acid-macromolecule complex (AA-MM) in the eye-homogenate of the housefly, M. domestica in addition to the occurrence of free form (AA). It was observed that a part of ascorbic acid of the aliquot incubated for studying enzymic utilization (AAU) formed some complexes presumably with macromolecules instead of getting oxidized. This complexing ability of ascorbic acid is responsible for the formation of bound form of ascorbic acid. Such complexing may lead to charge-transfer complex, which takes part in the process of energy transfer. In this context, it is worth mentioning that energy generation in vertebrate eye is greatly influenced by ascorbic acid.

Another interesting point is that rhabdome of the compound eye of arthropods contain poly-phenolic substances, and it is well established that ascorbic acid plays an important role in synthesis of poly-phenolic substances.

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ANNOUNCEMENT

XII ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM OF THE INDIAN BIOPHYSICAL SOCIETY

The Indian Biophysical Society (IBS) will be holding its XII IBS Symposium at Mysore University, Mysore on Sunday 23 December and Monday 24 December 1984. This Symposium will immediately follow the International Symposium on Biomolecular Structure that would be held the previous week at Bangalore. The dates are so arranged as to benefit from the participants of the International Symposium in Bangalore and to aid the delegates to plan their visit such that they can attend both the meetings and thus optimise the time and effort.

The broad theme of the XII IBS Symposium will be "Structure, Assembly and Function of Biomolecules". The format of the Symposium will be invited lectures, poster presentations and poster discussion sessions, in much the same way as in the previous year. The Society invites contributions and participation from all interested scientists in this Symposium.

For further information and circulars kindly contact the Convener of the XII IBS Symposium, Dr C. J. M. D'Souza, Department of Biochemistry, Mysore University, Manasagangotri, Mysore 570 006.