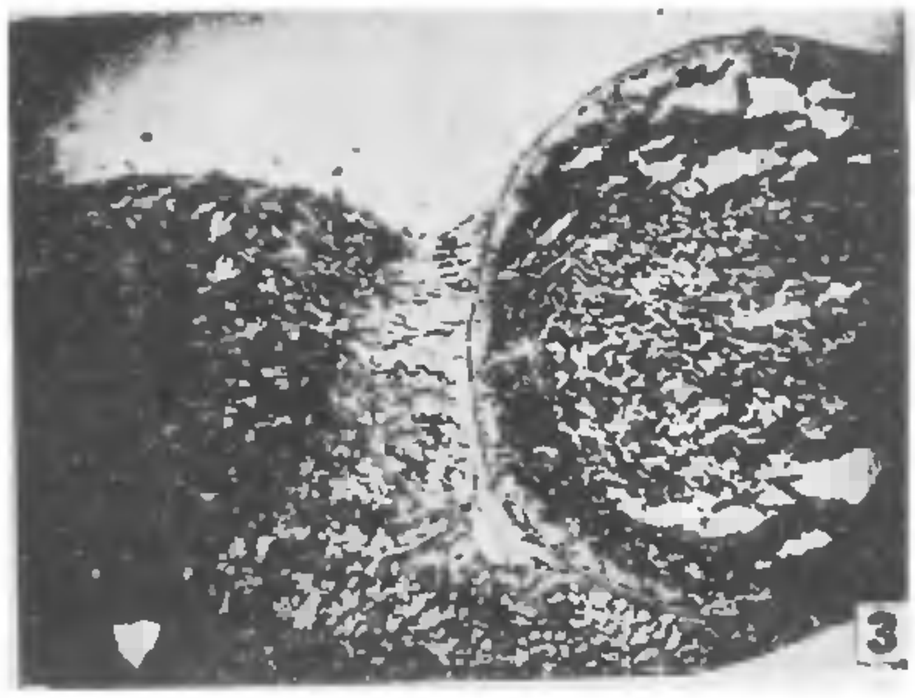

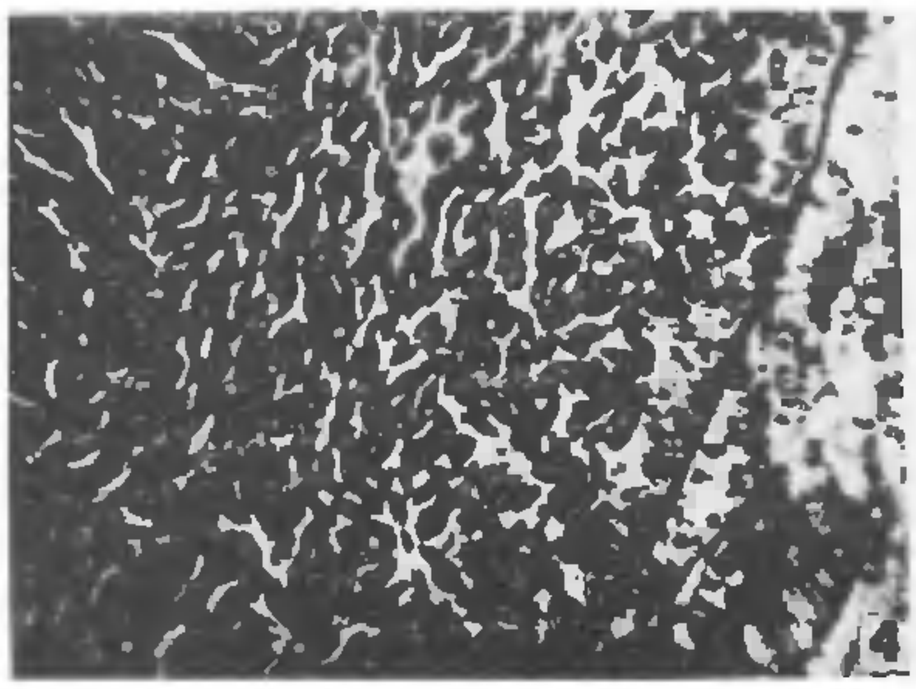

FIGS. 3–4. Fig. 3. Encapsulated and developing tumors. PAS, × 40. Fig. 4. Encapsulated tumor showing spindle cells PAS, × 600.

adjacent tissue. These findings are also supported by Duijn[2].

The present findings are of utmost importance since these indicate the carcinogenicity of alloxan which is till now regarded as diabetogen.

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DOMINANT LETHALS INDUCED BY CADMIUM CHLORIDE IN *DROSOPHILA MELANOGASTER*

CADMIUM pollution is a serious environmental problem due to its extensive use in industries. It has been reported that cadmium is teratogenic in mouse[1,2], rat[3], and hamster[4]. In *Drosophila* Vasudev and Krishnamurthy[5] and Sorsa and Pfeifer[6] have shown that at a concentration of 50 ppm it could cause delay in the rate of development. Cadmium chloride is also found to induce infertility in male mice[7]; in consistent with this, Kar *et al.*[8] and Parizek[9] have reported the "cytotoxic" effects on spermatogenic cells. The effect on the chromosomes of *Poekilocerus pictus* has also been investigated[10]. Thus there is some evidence to support the possible drastic effects of cadmium on cell and hence the present studies were undertaken to study this chemical in relation to its ability to induce dominant lethals in *D. melanogaster*.

Male flies emerged out of media mixed with 5, 10 and 20 ppm of cadmium chloride, were aged for five days and used in the present experiments. The tests for the induction of dominant lethals were carried out according to the methods described by Sankaranarayanan[11]. The results are presented in Table I.

TABLE I

Induction of dominant lethals by cadmium chloride in Drosophila melanogaster

Concentration	No. of eggs counted	No. of eggs unhatched	% dominant lethals
Control	1076	52	4·83
5 ppm	1244	147	11·8*
10 ppm	1375	196	14·3*
20 ppm	1390	199	14·3*

* Significant at 5% level.

A dominant lethal mutation indicates a major genetic damage, which kills an individual heterozygous to it. Perusal of Table I indicates that all the concentrations of cadmium chloride tested induced significant percentage of dominant lethals. There is also a dose dependent relationship in the production of dominant lethals. These results are similar to those of Shiraishi *et al.*[12], Shiraishi and Yoshida[13] and Bauchinger *et al.*[14] where they have shown the chromosome breaking ability in human lympocytes. In

Allium cepa[13], it has been shown to induce c-mitosis. Contrary to the above findings, Suter[16] has demonstrated that cadmium chloride is unable to induce dominant lethals in mice.

The present results support the view of possible mutagenic effects of cadmium chloride as suggested by Shimada *et al.*[17], Bui *et al.*[18], Shiraishi *et al.*[12] and Shiraishi[19]. Though drastic changes are known to be caused by cadmium chloride in certain test systems, yet more data on its mutagenicity are necessary before a generalised inference is made.

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THE FAMILY OF CATFISHES OF THE GENUS *ARIUS* (SILURIFORMES)

REGAN[1] proposed for the first time the name Ariidae for the fishes of the genera *Pimelodus*, *Silurus*, *Arius*, *Pogonathus*. Subsequently Fowler[2] changed it to Tachysuridae.

The generic name *Tachysurus* with *Tachysurus sinensis* as the type species was proposed by Lacépède[3] in the year 1803. In 1804 he[4] published an illustration of this fish based on a picture displayed in the Natural History Museum, Paris. Valenciennes[5] in 1840 proposed the name *Arius* with *Pimelodus arius* as the type species. He considered Lacépède's *Tachysurus* as invalid since it was based only on a picture of an unidentifiable fish.

Inasmuch as the name *Tachysurus* was proposed earlier by Lacépède with a valid type designation, it has precedence over the name *Arius* under the provisions of the law of priority, *Article* 23 *of the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature*. Moreover, rules under the *Articles* 11*C* (*ii*) and 16*a* (*ii*) of the *International Code of Zoological Nomenclature* provide that even when a species is based on a picture, it has validity so long the author has adopted consistent binominal nomenclature. Further, the code states that the discovery of an earlier valid homonym for the generic name need not necessarily effect a change in the family name also.

On the same analogy the family name Ariidae remains valid and the generic name *Tachysurus* Lacépède replaces *Arius* Valenciennes.

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FIRST RECORD OF *ALLOXYSTA* SP., A HYPERPARASITOID OF *TRIOXYS* (*BINODOXYS*) *INDICUS* SUBBA RAO AND SHARMA (APHIDIIDAE: HYMENOPTERA)

DURING a survey for hymenopteran parasitoids of crop pests in 1976–79 in eastern Uttar Pradesh, extensive collection of the pigeon pea aphid, *Aphis craccivora*