

Accumulation features of persistent organochlorines in resident and migratory birds from Asia

Kunisue T., Watanabe M., Subramanian A., Sethuraman A., Titenko A.M., Qui V., Prudente M., Tanabe S.

Ctr. for Mar. Environmental Studies, Ehime University, Tarumi 3-5-7, Matuyama 790-8566, Japan; Ctr. of Adv. Stud. in Mar. Biology, Annamalai University, Parangipettai 608502, Tamil Nadu, India; Plague Contr. Res. Inst. Siberia F., 78 Trillsser St., Irkutsk 664047, Russian Federation; Ctr. Nat. Rsrc. and Environ. Studs., Vietnam National University, 19 Le Thanh Tong Street, Hanoi, Viet Nam; Science Education Department, De la Salle University, 2401 Taft Avenue, 1004 Manila, Philippines

Abstract: Concentrations of organochlorine contaminants including polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane and its metabolites (DDTs), hexachlorocyclohexane isomers (HCHs), chlordane compounds (CHLs), hexachlorobenzene (HCB) were determined in the resident and migratory birds, which were collected from India, Japan, Philippines, Russia (Lake Baikal) and Vietnam. Accumulation patterns of organochlorine concentrations in resident birds suggested that the predominant contaminants of each country were as follows: Japan - PCBs Philippines - PCBs and CHLs, India - HCHs and DDTs, Vietnam - DDTs, and Lake Baikal - PCBs and DDTs. The migratory birds from Philippines and Vietnam retained mostly the highest concentrations of DDTs among the organochlorines analyzed, indicating the presence of stopover and breeding grounds of those birds in China and Russia. On the other hand, migratory birds from India and Lake Baikal showed different patterns of organochlorine residues, reflecting that each species has inherent migratory routes and thus has exposure to different contaminants. Species which have breeding grounds around the Red Sea and Persian Gulf showed high levels of PCBs, indicating the presence of areas heavily polluted by PCBs in the Middle East. ?? 2003 Elsevier Science Ltd. All rights reserved.

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Correspondence Address: Tanabe, S.; Ctr. for Mar. Environmental Studies, Ehime University, Tarumi 3-5-7, Matuyama 790-8566, Japan; email: shinsuke@agr.ehime-u.ac.jp

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Authors with affiliations:

1. Kunisue, T., Ctr. for Mar. Environmental Studies, Ehime University, Tarumi 3-5-7, Matuyama 790-8566, Japan
2. Watanabe, M., Ctr. for Mar. Environmental Studies, Ehime University, Tarumi 3-5-7, Matuyama 790-8566, Japan
3. Subramanian, A., Ctr. of Adv. Stud. in Mar. Biology, Annamalai University, Parangipettai 608502, Tamil Nadu, India
4. Sethuraman, A., Ctr. of Adv. Stud. in Mar. Biology, Annamalai University, Parangipettai 608502, Tamil Nadu, India
5. Titenko, A.M., Plague Contr. Res. Inst. Siberia F., 78 Trillsser St., Irkutsk 664047, Russian Federation
6. Qui, V., Ctr. Nat. Rsrc. and Environ. Stud., Vietnam National University, 19 Le Thanh Tong Street, Hanoi, Viet Nam
7. Prudente, M., Science Education Department, De la Salle University, 2401 Taft Avenue, 1004 Manila, Philippines
8. Tanabe, S., Ctr. for Mar. Environmental Studies, Ehime University, Tarumi 3-5-7, Matuyama 790-8566, Japan

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