

one of those relatively less affected by the treatment. This differential reaction was more clearly observed in another group of 8% cells in which chromosome 2 alone, or together with one other bivalent, could be seen with Feulgen staining, although in a disorganized state, while all other pairs were so completely degenerated that, except for a few small thread-like fragments, they could not be stained at all (Figure 3). The rest of the pollen mother cells were relatively free from nuclear damage, although many of them showed such irregularities as failure of pairing or differential condensation of their chromosomes.

In general, chromosome 2, and some others which could not be identified, were found to survive the treatment better than others.

The drastic effect of hydroxylamine on tomato chromosomes can probably be attributed to the high concentration used in the course of the present study (SOMERS and Hsu⁴). The differential response of some of the chromosomes may possibly point to inhomogeneity in the concentration of G-C base pairs in the different members of the complement. Alternatively, the different chromosomes may be so organized in their structure that not all of them permit an equally free reaction with the chemical. It is proposed to obtain further evidence in relation to possible concentration differences of the bases by studying the incorporation of their tritium labelled precursors in the different chromosomes, although the unfavourable nature of mitotic preparations in tomato makes this difficult.

The interchromosome base composition differences, if proved, may have interesting genetical implications. The distribution of the known genes in the tomato complement is known to be highly asymmetrical; a number of chromosomes, particularly chromosome 2, have a disproportionately and unaccountably large number of genes located on them⁵. A further discussion of this aspect, however, is not considered advisable at this stage in the absence of more definite evidence¹⁰.

Zusammenfassung. Hydroxylamin, welches spezifisch mit Cytosin reagiert, stört die Struktur der verschiedenen Chromosomen in Pollenmutterzellen der Tomate unterschiedlich stark. Das Chromosomenpaar Nr. 2 wird wesentlich weniger stark geschädigt als die übrigen. Die Bedeutung dieses Befundes wird kurz angedeutet.

H. K. JAIN and R. N. RAUT

Botany Division, Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi (India), September 3, 1964.

⁵ C. M. RICK, Proc. Nat. Acad. Sci. US 45, 1515 (1959).

¹⁰ We thank Dr. B. P. PAL and Dr. M. S. SWAMINATHAN for their interest and encouragement.

Halbe haploide Chromosomenzahl im Hoden von *Myrmica sulcinodis* Nyl. (Formicidae)

Bei allen bisher untersuchten Formiciden zeigten die Männchen die haploide Chromosomenzahl gegenüber den Weibchen (SMITH und PEACOCK¹, HAUSCHTECK²⁻⁴). Ältere, hier nicht zitierte Arbeiten sind bei HAUSCHTECK^{2,3} besprochen.

Myrmica sulcinodis wurde im Inntal bei Ramosch gesammelt. Aus Kopfganglien und Gonaden von Vorpuppen beider Geschlechter wurden Quetschpräparate hergestellt.

In Ovarien von Weibchen kamen Chromosomenzahlen zwischen 48 und 57 vor. Zwischen diesen Grenzen muss also die diploide Zahl liegen. Sie ist mit 56 anzunehmen, da in zwei Männchen 28 Chromosomen im Hoden einwandfrei zu ermitteln waren.

Die genaue Untersuchung der Hoden dieser beiden Männchen ergab einen unerwarteten Befund: Viele Kerne zeigten eine Chromosomenzahl, die noch um die Hälfte niedriger war als die haploide Zahl 28. Zusätzlich wurden diploide Kerne gefunden. Die Häufigkeiten der einzelnen Kerntypen sind in Tabelle I wiedergegeben.

Die haploiden Kerne mit 28 Chromosomen stellen den erwarteten Typ dar. Die Zahl solcher Kerne in den beiden Männchen ist jedoch viel zu gering, um für die Spermienproduktion bedeutsam zu sein. Die diploiden, vermutlich nicht generativen Kerne sind bei Ameisen im Hoden keine Seltenheit. Ihre Bedeutung wurde nicht verfolgt. Die grosse Masse der Kerne enthält 14 Chromosomen. Die naheliegende Bezeichnung «n/2» für diesen Chromosomensatz darf möglicherweise nicht benutzt werden, denn bisher ist nicht bekannt, ob alle Chromosomensätze mit 14

Chromosomen einander homolog sind. Falls ein Beweis für die Homologie erbracht werden kann, wäre der Chromosomensatz der Weibchen nicht diploid sondern tetraploid. Das vorliegende Material gibt keinen Aufschluss darüber, ob aus diesen «n/2»-Kernen funktionstüchtige Spermien gebildet werden. Es wäre immerhin möglich, dass beide Geschlechter parthenogenetisch entstehen.

Die Figur zeigt zwei Kerne desselben Hodens. Dem cytologischen Bild ist nicht sicher zu entnehmen, ob es

Tabelle I. Häufigkeiten verschiedener Chromosomenzahlen in den Hoden zweier Männchen von *Myrmica sulcinodis*. Beim Auszählen der Häufigkeiten wurden auch solche Kerne berücksichtigt, deren Chromosomenzahl nur geschätzt werden konnte.

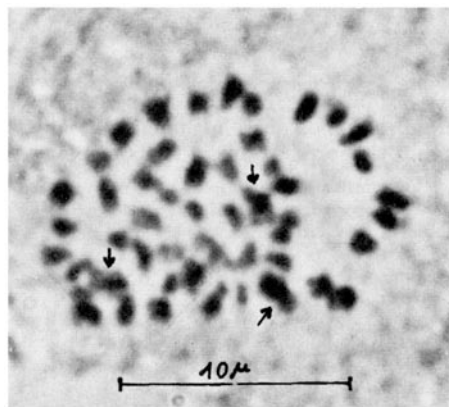
♂ No.	Anzahl der Kerne mit den Chromosomenzahlen		
	«n/2» = 14	n = 28	2n = 56
1	210	27	11
2	390	8	8

¹ I. C. SMITH und A. D. PEACOCK, Proc. Roy. Soc., Edinb. B 66, 235 (1957).

² ELISABETH HAUSCHTECK, Rev. Suisse Zool. 68, 218 (1961).

³ ELISABETH HAUSCHTECK, Vjschr. Naturforsch. Ges. Zürich 107, 213 (1962).

⁴ ELISABETH HAUSCHTECK, Proc. 11, Intern. Congr. Genetics (1963).



Species der Gattung	Anzahl Kernteilungen mit folgenden Chromosomenzahlen																				Anzahl Kernteilungen in				Anzahl untersuchter Individuen
<i>Myrmica</i>	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24...40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	Gehirn ♀ + ♂	Gonade ♀ ♂				
<i>M. leavinodis</i> Nyl.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	1	1	1	-	-	4	6	23	3	1	3	-	40	-	
<i>M. ruginodis</i> Nyl.	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	5	-	-	1	-	-	-	3	2	-	-	-	6	-	-	7	4
<i>M. scabrinodis</i> Nyl.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	6	3	5	4	2	1	-	-	-	-	18	-	7	-	9
<i>M. sabuleti</i> Mein.	2	-	3	-	1	5	1	2	1	-	-	2	1	1	1	7	-	-	-	-	12	14	-	1	11
<i>M. lobicornis</i> Nyl.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	3	-	-	-	1
<i>M. rubida</i> Latr.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	2	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	1	4
<i>M. sulcinodis</i> Nyl.	siehe Tabelle I								Angaben im Text																

Die cytologischen Daten von *M. sulcinodis* sind deutlich unterschieden von denen der anderen Vertreter der Gattung. Dieser Befund gewinnt an Interesse, da die taxonomische Unterteilung der Gattung *Myrmica* in die beiden Untergattungen *Neomyrma* und *Myrmica* von den cytologischen Befunden nicht unterstützt wird. *M. rubida*, die einzige Art der Untergattung *Neomyrma*, ähnelt cytologisch den Arten der Untergattung *Myrmica*, während *Myrmica (Myrmica) sulcinodis* von den Vertretern der eigenen Untergattung abweicht⁵.

Summary. In the testes of *Myrmica sulcinodis* there are not only haploid and some diploid cells to be found, as in

the testes of *M. ruginodis*, *M. sabuleti* and *M. rubida*, but a large mass of cells that have only half the haploid chromosome number. The diploid chromosome number of *M. sulcinodis* is 56, those of six other *Myrmica* species are between 42 and 48.

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⁵ Die Untersuchung wurde mit Unterstützung der Karl Hescheler-Stiftung und der Antoine Claraz-Stiftung durchgeführt.

The Isolation of Mossy Fibre Endings from the Granular Layer of the Cerebellar Cortex

When brain tissue is homogenized under carefully controlled conditions, the presynaptic nerve terminals resist disruption and are torn away from their attachments to form discrete particles for which the name 'synaptosomes' has recently been proposed¹⁻⁵. These retain all the morphological characteristics of the intact ending and also account for most of the bound transmitter substances present in the homogenate. The synaptosomes may be isolated by conventional subcellular fractionation procedures and are usually sedimented in the crude mitochondrial fraction.

With cerebellar cortex, the application of these techniques gives rise to two kinds of synaptosomes: (a) large synaptosomes 2-5 μ in diameter⁶ derived from the large mossy fibre endings which make synaptic contact with the granule cells of the granular layer⁷; (b) small (0.5 μ diameter) synaptosomes, many of which are believed to be derived from the axo-dendritic endings of the molecular layer, which are the presynaptic terminals of granule cells making synaptic contact with dendrites of Purkinje cells. Such endings can be recognized by the small dendritic spines embedded in their cytoplasm⁸. The large synaptosomes sediment in the crude nuclear fraction (P_1), the smaller synaptosomes in the crude mitochondrial fraction (P_2). The Table shows that although both particulate fractions contain acetylcholine in all four species examined, the distribution of acetylcholine between the fractions shows species variations. In the guinea-pig and rat, fraction P_1 is relatively rich in acetylcholine, whereas in the cat and pigeon this fraction contains much less acetylcholine. The presence of acetylcholine in the large synaptosomes from the guinea-pig was confirmed using a purified preparation obtained from fraction P_1 by a density gradient procedure. Fraction P_1 (prepared as described in the footnote to the Table) was washed once more with 0.32M sucrose and was then suspended in 24% w/v Ficoll in 0.32M sucrose. On centrifuging at 7700 g for 40 min, nuclei and cell debris were sedimented, leaving the large synaptosomes, myelin fragments, and a few mitochondria still in suspension. These were sedimented by diluting the supernatant with an equal volume of 0.32M sucrose and centrifuging at 20,200 g for 40 min. The synaptosomes were separated from most of the myelin and the mitochondria by centrifuging into a discontinuous density gradient consisting of equal volumes

of 1.0M and 1.4M sucrose. The intermediate fraction floating between the two layers of sucrose consisted mainly of large synaptosomes, and contained nearly 70% of the acetylcholine of the parent fraction.

This finding suggests that a proportion, at least, of the mossy fibre endings of the guinea-pig and rat are cholinergic, whereas in the cat and pigeon, the cholinergic endings may be largely confined to the population of smaller endings derived from the molecular layer. For the

Distribution of acetylcholine in subcellular fractions of cerebellar cortex of different species

Species	Acetylcholine content					P_1/P_2
	Total recovered (m μ moles/g)	Homogenate (as % of total recovered in fractions)	P_1	P_2	S_2	
Guinea-pig (3)	4.7	102	41	29	23	1.41
Rat (1)	1.4	140	53	24	23	2.21
Cat (2)	1.9	99	19	45	36	0.42
Pigeon (3)	1.9	88	24	50	26	0.48

Numbers in brackets relate to the number of experiments averaged. The homogenate (10% w/v in 0.32M sucrose) was centrifuged at 1000 g for 10 min to give a pellet (P_1) which was washed once with 0.32M sucrose. The combined supernatants were further centrifuged at 100,000 g for 60 min to give a pellet (P_2) and a supernatant (S_2). Acetylcholine was assayed on a small strip of the dorsal muscle of the leech.

¹ V. P. WHITTAKER, Proc. Fourth Internat. Neurochem. Symp., Varenna, June 12-17 (1960), in *Regional Neurochemistry* (Ed. S. KETY and J. ELKES; Pergamon Press, Oxford), p. 259.

² E. G. GRAY and V. P. WHITTAKER, J. Physiol. 153, 35 P (1960).

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⁵ V. P. WHITTAKER, I. A. MICHAELSON, and R. J. A. KIRKLAND, Biochem. J. 90, 293 (1964).

⁶ V. P. WHITTAKER, in *Separation of Subcellular Structural Components*, Biochem. Soc. Symp. No. 23 (Ed. J. K. GRANT; University Press, Cambridge 1963), p. 109.

⁷ E. G. GRAY, J. Anat., Lond. 95, 345 (1961).