



Abstract Book

SETAC Latin America 14th Biennial Meeting

 ${\bf Latin\,America, Diversity of\,Knowledge\,for\,a\,Sustainable\,Future}$

26-29 SEPTEMBER 2021 • VIRTUAL

Abstract Book

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This book comprises the abstracts of the presentations for the platform and poster sessions of the Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry (SETAC) Latin America 14th Biennial Meeting, conducted virtually from 26–29 September 2021. The abstracts are reproduced as accepted by the Scientific Program Committee and appear in numerical order. In each abstract, the presenting author's name is underlined. The author index cross-references the corresponding abstract numbers.

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About SETAC

The Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry (SETAC), with offices in North America and Europe, is a nonprofit, professional society established to provide a forum for individuals and institutions engaged in the study, analysis and solution of environmental problems, the management and regulation of natural resources, environmental education, and research and development.

Specific goals of the society are:

- Promote research, education and training in the environmental sciences
- Promote the systematic application of all relevant scientific disciplines to the evaluation of chemical hazards
- Participate in the scientific interpretation of issues concerned with hazard assessment and risk analysis
- Support the development of ecologically acceptable practices and principles
- Provide a forum (meetings and publications) for communication among professionals in government, business, academia and other segments of society involved in the use, protection and management of our environment

These goals are pursued through the conduct of numerous activities, which include:

- Conduct meetings with study and workshop sessions, platform and poster presentations, and achievement and merit awards
- Publish scientific journals, a newsletter and special technical publications
- Provide funds for education and training through the SETAC Scholarship/Fellowship Program
- Organize and sponsor chapters and branches to provide a forum for the presentation of scientific data and for the interchange and study of information about local and regional concerns
- Provide advice and counsel to technical and nontechnical persons through a number of standing and ad hoc committees

SETAC membership currently comprises about 5,300 individuals from government, academia, business and nongovernmental organizations with backgrounds in chemistry, toxicology, biology, ecology, atmospheric sciences, health sciences, earth sciences, environmental engineering, hazard and risk assessment, and life cycle assessment.

If you have training in these or related disciplines and are engaged in the study, use or management of environmental resources, SETAC can fulfill your professional affiliation needs.

All members receive the SETAC Globe newsletter highlighting environmental topics and SETAC activities, reduced fees for meetings and discounts on SETAC books. All members receive online access to *Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry* (ET&C) and *Integrated Environmental Assessment and Management* (IEAM), the peer-reviewed journals of the society. Members may hold office and, with the Emeritus Members, constitute the voting membership.

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Environmental Quality Through Science

7. Ecotoxicology of Birds and Mammals: Novelty and Challenges

7.01 Assessment of Erythrocyte Nuclear Abnormalities in Oiled Spheniscus Magellanicus As a Suitable Biomarker of Genotoxicity. New Tools for Rehabilitation Centers

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Genome stability could be influenced by environmental factors; therefore, it can be used as index for an individual's response on environmental impact and stress, such as pollutants. When birds are exposed to less than acutely lethal dosages, oil can cause a wide range of adverse effects, including hemolytic anemia, decreased nutrient absorption and decreased immune function. Evaluation of gene and cytotoxicity is an interesting field and valuable tool in environmental toxicology, although few studies have been conducted in wild birds. Among the methods for the estimation of genome instability is the evaluation of erythrocyte nuclear abnormalities (ENAs), which may be useful in field research of birds. The aim was to evaluate ENAs frequency in oiled Magellanic penguin (Spheniscus magellanicus) as biomarkers of genotoxicity. In addition, we assessed levels of ENAs in penguins during rehabilitation process. Peripheral blood samples of oiled (n=29) and rehabilitation (n=21) Magellanic penguins were taken during 2011 and 2013 in Buenos Aires Province, Argentina. The number of ENAs was scored for each blood smear in relation to 1000 mature erythrocytes. Considering the total of ENAs, oiled penguins (25.38 ± 12.16) presented significantly higher levels than rehabilitation animals (9.43 \pm 5.71). In particular, oiled penguins presented higher values of the following ENAs: tailed nucleus, budding nucleus, kidneyshaped nucleus, nucleus with cavity and unknown nuclear malformation. No significant differences (p>0.05) were found between groups for micronucleus and lobed nucleus. The present study represents the first approach on assessing not only the frequency of MN but also other ENAs in S. magellanicus. The micronucleus is the most widely used genotoxicity marker in birds. However, micronuclei were found in low frequency (range: 0-4) in all Magellanic penguins, indicating that the evaluation of other ENAs is a better biomarker to evaluate genotoxicity for the species. The results show that oiling below lethal dosages produces genotoxicity in Magellanic penguin, and that the rehabilitation process is adequate to reverse this damage. However, although the number of ENAs decreases during rehabilitation, it is not known what the long-term damage could be. Therefore, it is important to record the effects of stressors such as oil for long-term comparisons.

7.02 Behavioral and Physiological Response of the Wild Grayish Baywing (Agelaioides badius) After Chronic Exposure to Imidacloprid Treated Seeds

<u>M.B. Poliserpi</u>, Instituto Nacional de Tecnología Agropecuaria (INTA) / Biodiversidad Ecologia y gestion ambiental; J. Brodeur, CONICET -INTA The imidacloprid (IMI) is a neonicotinoid insecticide largely used in seed treatment in many countries, including the Argentinean Pampa Region. The consumption of IMI treated seeds is a hazard for farmland birds, even if only a part of the bird's diet is composed of treated seeds. In this context, the objective of the present study was to characterize the effects of IMI in the wild gravish baywing (Ageliaioides badius) in a realistic scenario in which birds feed chronically on treated seeds as a portion of their daily diet. To address this issue, baywings were fed for 32 days with IMI treated seeds with 2.5 and 15 % of a regularly used concentration (3 g IMI/ kg seed), simulating the consumption of the 2.5 or 15% of their daily diet as treated seeds. Seeds were sprayed with the product Confidor® OD, and treatment concentrations were 0.075 g IMI/kg seed (Low dose) and 0.45 g IMI/kg seed (High dose). The effects exerted by IMI on birds were evaluated in a variety of behavioral, physiological, hematological, genotoxic, and biochemical parameters during and after exposure. In both treatments, delayed mortality was observed: 60% (N=7) of individuals died in the High-dose group within 15 days, and 8% (N=1) in the Low-dose group after 30 days. The mean survival time for the High-dose group was 12,5 days. High-dose birds significantly decreased their feed intake rate by 20% the first three days, compared to the other groups. High-dose birds also decreased their body weight the first week (p< 0.05). Birds treated with the High dose had lower escape reactions and lower response to a predator's sound (p < 0.05). Birds exposed to the higher IMI treatment, experienced reduced mobility in the cage the first two weeks, while the Lower-dose group experienced reduced mobility in the fourth week of exposure (p < 0.05). No alterations in the hematological or genotoxicity parameters were observed in treated birds after 32 days of exposure. After the 32 days of exposure, glutathione S transferase activity in the plasma of treated birds decreased, and the cholinesterases activity increased in the liver of treated birds (p < 0.05). This study highlights that consumption of only 2.5% of bird's daily diet as IMI treated seeds, is sufficient to generate sublethal effects and death. In the field, these effects may have consequences on wild birds affecting their capacity to search for refuge or escape from a predator, representing a risk to farmland bird populations.

7.03 Bottlenose Dolphins, Galapagos Sea Lions and Galapagos Fur Seals As Sentinels of Mercury Contamination in the Southeastern Tropical Pacific

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Anthropogenic mercury is a global pollutant of great concern and highly toxic to top predators, including marine mammals. It can biomagnify in foodwebs reaching exposure concentrations above threshold health effects. Bottlenose dolphins (*Tursiops truncatus*) are the most common cetacean found in the coastal waters, estuaries and mangroves of Ecuador. Galapagos sea lions (GSL, *Zalophus wollebaeki*), and Galapagos fur seal (GFS, *Arctocephalus galapagoensis*) are endemic and endangered marine mammals of the Galapagos islands. These species serve as sentinels of ecosystem health to assess and monitor the exposure to and impact of pollutants in tropical marine and estuarine environments. This research aimed to investigate total mercury (THg) bioaccumulation in marine mammals and assess these species as