

转 Bt 基因作物 Bt 毒素在土壤中的环境去向及其生态效应

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摘要:综述了转 Bt 基因作物的 Bt 毒素在土壤中的环境去向及其生态效应的研究进展。重点阐述了:①Bt 毒素与土壤表面活性颗粒结合及其与土壤理化性质的关系;②Bt 毒素微生物利用与降解;③Bt 毒素的杀虫活性;④后茬作物和土壤动物对 Bt 毒素的吸收与利用;⑤Bt 毒素的垂直运移;⑥Bt 毒素对土壤生物和生态过程的影响。转 Bt 基因作物的 Bt 毒素对土壤生态系统的影响急需在生态系统水平进行深入细致的长期定位研究。

关键词:转 Bt 基因作物; Bt 毒素; 环境去向; 土壤生物; 土壤生态系统

Environmental fate and ecological effects of Bt toxin from transgenic Bt crops in soil

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Abstract: There is controversy about the means of environmental risk assessment and management of transgenic crops because of the speed and quantity of these crops being planted, particularly those containing genes to produce the insecticidal toxin from *Bacillus thuringiensis* (Bt). Most research on Bt crops has focused on invasiveness, gene flow to indigenous organisms, development of resistance in target pests, and direct or indirect effects on non-target organisms and ecosystems. However, after the commercially usable portion of Bt crops has been harvested, the remainder of plant biomass containing the toxins is usually incorporated into soil. The toxin is also introduced into soil in root exudates and from pollen during tasseling. This is raising concern about the effects of residual Bt toxins on the soil ecosystem.

This review summarizes current research in six important areas related to the environmental fate of Bt toxin from Bt crops and its ecological effects in soil. (1) Bt toxins absorb rapidly onto mined clay minerals

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and the clay-size fraction of soil. Rapid adsorption and binding of Bt from root exudates and Bt corn biomass onto surface-active particles in soil has been demonstrated in both *in vitro* and *in situ* studies. (2) Binding of the toxin on surface-active particles can reduce their availability to microbes and hence biodegradation, which is probably responsible for their persistence in soil. Free Bt toxin is readily utilized as sole sources of carbon and nitrogen by pure and mixed cultures of microbes, whereas the bound toxins are not utilized as a source of carbon and only slightly as a source of nitrogen. The literature estimates the length of toxin persistence based on half-life' values range from 8~17 d for purified toxin and from 2~41 d for transgenic corn, cotton, and potato biomass. (3) The toxin released from biomass or in root exudates of Bt corn, however, remains larvicidal for at least 180 d. Insect bioassays indicate that the Cry 1Ab protein of Bt corn tissue has an estimated DT_{50} of 1.6 d and a DT_{90} of 15 d. (4) The toxin from Bt corn remaining in soil is not taken up by subsequent non-Bt crops, such as corn, carrot and radish. The toxin has been found in the guts and casts of earthworms in soil planted with Bt corn or amended with Bt corn biomass, but it is cleared from the guts within 2~3 d after transfer into fresh soil. (5) Accumulated and persistent Bt toxin in soil can subsequently be leached into groundwater or move horizontally into surface waters by rain, irrigation, snow melts, etc., as has been observed with heavy metals. (6) The Bt corn toxin has no apparent affect on total numbers of culturable bacteria, fungi, protozoa and nematodes. Bt cotton lines 247 and 249 did produce a transient but significant increase in number of culturable aerobic bacteria and fungi. The populations of culturable, aerobic bacteria and fungi, and the species of fungi on Bt potato plants differed minimally from non-Bt potato. The nematode populations in the soil surrounding Bt tobacco litterbags were greater and had a different trophic group composition than in soil surrounding the parental tobacco. There are few studies that emphasize soil ecological processes.

Binding of Bt toxin onto surface-active particles can result in its accumulation in the environment to concentration levels that may enhance the control of target pests but may also constitute a hazard to non-target organisms. There are many interactions that can occur between organisms in soil including, predation, competition, antagonism, and mutualism. Therefore it is important that risk assessment procedures should be targeted not only to specific organisms, but also organismal functions and soil processes. We suggest that risk assessment studies should begin by evaluating the effects of Bt crops on both microbial communities and processes. The studies should be of sufficient duration so that the persistence or accumulation of compound detrimental to microorganisms can be detected.

Key words: Bt crops; Bt toxin protein; environmental fate; soil organisms; soil ecosystem

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转 Bt 基因作物是全球商品化程度最快的抗虫转基因作物。2001 年,全球共种植转 Bt 基因作物 $7.8 \times 10^6 \text{ hm}^2$, Bt 抗虫与除草剂耐性集合性状转基因作物 $4.2 \times 10^6 \text{ hm}^2$, 分别占转基因作物总播种面积的 15% 和 8%, 尤其是转 Bt 基因玉米面积最大, 达 $5.9 \times 10^6 \text{ hm}^2$, 占转基因作物总面积的 11%^[1]。转 Bt 基因作物大规模商品化种植的潜在生态风险始终是争论的焦点^[2~13]。

土壤是生态系统中物质循环和能量转化过程的重要场所, 转 Bt 基因作物的 Bt 毒素可通过根系分泌物^[14~16]、残茬分解或秸秆还田^[17~22]以及花粉飘落^[23]进入土壤生态系统, Bt 毒素可快速吸附在土壤活性颗粒表面, 与之紧密结合而避免了生物降解^[24~30], 并至少保持 8 个月的杀虫活性^[25]。转 Bt 作物的长期种植, 可能使 Bt 毒素在土壤生态系统中富集, 影响土壤的特异生物种群、功能类群以及土壤生物多样性和土壤生态学过程^[31]。富集在土壤中的 Bt 毒素可能通过淋溶作用污染地下水, 或通过降雨、灌溉的冲刷污染地表水^[32]。转 Bt 作物对土壤生态系统的影响是继其与近源物种基因流^[33,34]、对非目标生物影响^[35~38]和目标害虫抗性^[40,42]之后的又一个热点问题。2000 年, 美国 EPA 将转 Bt 基因作物对土壤生态系统的影响

列为风险评价的重要组成部分^[43]。本文系统评述了转 Bt 基因作物释放的 Bt 毒素在土壤中的环境去向及其生态效应的研究进展,旨在为转 Bt 基因作物的生态风险评价提供参考。

1 Bt 毒素在土壤中的环境去向

1.1 Bt 毒素与土壤表面活性颗粒的结合

纯化 *B. thuringiensis* 的亚孢菌 *kurstaki* (Btk;66kDa)和 *tenebrionis* (Btt;68kDa)可被粘土矿物(蒙脱石和高岭石^[24]、腐殖酸^[28]和有机矿物聚合物^[29]等土壤表面活性颗粒快速吸附,并与之紧密结合,但不会与粉粒和砂粒结合^[30]。土壤平衡态上清液 SDS-PAGE 电泳和 ELISA 检测,以及解吸附液傅里叶转化红外光谱分析和昆虫生测均证实,纯化 Bt 毒素与土壤表面活性颗粒的结合并没有改变其蛋白结构^[25,30]。X 射线衍射分析证实,毒素部分嵌入到蒙脱石中,Btt 比 Btk 嵌入的更多^[25,30]。结合到土壤中的 Btt 和 Btk 可用昆虫生测 (insect bioassays)^[44]、斑点印迹 ELISA (dot-blot ELISA)^[45]和流式细胞光度法 (flow cytometry)^[26]检测到。

粘土矿物在 30min 内快速吸附 70% 以上的 Bt 毒素,6 h 后达到吸附平衡^[24]。蒙脱石对 Bt 毒素的吸附作用明显高于高岭石,其最大吸附量分别为 790 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mg}$ 和 280 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mg}$ (分别占加入毒素量的 38% 和 13.5%)^[24]。当粘土矿物含量一定时,吸附作用与 Bt 毒素的浓度成正比,蒙脱石与高岭石的饱和吸附量分别为 287 $\mu\text{g}/100\mu\text{g}$ 和 26 $\mu\text{g}/100\mu\text{g}$ ^[24]。pH 在 4.4 到 10.0 范围内,蒙脱石对毒素的吸附量随 pH 的增加线形降低。高岭石的吸附量虽然也随 pH 的增加而降低,但其最大吸附量与调节 pH 的缓冲液的离子类型和悬浮基的强度相关^[24,30]。蒙脱石与高岭石对毒素的吸附作用强度与温度无关。高岭石的结合态毒素蛋白能被 ddH₂O 和 0.2% NaCO₃ 解吸附,蒙脱石的结合态毒素只能被 0.2% Tris 缓冲液解吸附^[24]。

75%~85% 的纯化 Btt 和 Btk 可被腐殖酸吸附,并迅速达到平衡。森林土壤腐殖酸与耕作土壤腐殖酸达到吸附平衡的时间分别为 1~2h 和 4~8 h,森林土壤腐殖酸因聚合作用程度高而较快达到吸附平衡^[28]。Bt 毒素的浓度一定时,吸附量与腐殖酸含量成正比,但单位重量腐殖酸的相对吸附率随毒素含量的升高而下降。当腐殖酸含量一定时,腐殖酸的吸附量与 Bt 毒素的浓度成正比^[28,30]。解吸附实验证明^[28],与腐殖酸紧密结合的 Bt 毒素约占吸附总量的 45%~80%。腐殖酸的吸附能力与其各种功能基的含量相关,酸度较高和酚基含量高的腐殖酸吸附能力较高,羟基的含量和聚合作用的强度与其吸附能力无关^[30]。

为了模拟自然土壤,Crecchio 和 Stotzky^[29]研究了纯化的 Bt 毒素与蒙脱石-腐殖酸-羟基铝聚合物的吸附结合。约 70% 的毒素可在 1h 内结合在聚合物上,不到 8 h 就达到最大吸附量。毒素蛋白的等电点为 pH=5.5, pH 接近等电点时,中性蛋白排斥力最小,有机矿物聚合体的碰撞力最大,所以聚合物的吸附作用在 pH 值为 5~6 时最大,并随着 pH 值的升高而减弱。有机矿物聚合物的吸附量与 Bt 毒素的量成正比。ddH₂O 冲洗 5 次、1 mol/L NaCl 冲洗 3 h 后,只有不足 2% 的毒素解吸附,与蒙脱石、高岭石和腐殖酸相比,毒素与聚合物的结合十分牢固,其结合强度并不受有机矿物聚合物的理化特性的影响。

代表 3 种不同转化作用 (transformation events) 的 12 种转 Bt 基因玉米 (Bt11, Mon810 和 event 176) 盆栽与大田实验证明,根系分泌的 Bt 毒素很快被土壤中的表面活性颗粒吸附,并保持杀虫活性 180d 以上^[15]。转 Bt 基因玉米^[18,22]、棉花^[17,19]、马铃薯^[20] 秸秆分解都可以释放 Bt 毒素,杀虫活性可保持数周以上。

1.2 Bt 毒素的微生物利用与降解

自由态纯化 Btt 和 Btk 毒素能被蛋白质丰富的土壤泥浆中可培养混合微生物作为碳源和氮源利用,胃蛋白酶与 Btt 和 Btk 的浓度不影响微生物的生长^[45]。与土壤粘粒、腐殖酸、蒙脱石-腐殖酸-高分子氢氧化铝聚合物结合的 Bt 毒素不能作为碳源被微生物利用,只有极少部分可被作为氮源利用,但当外来碳源缺乏时,结合态的毒素不能维持微生物生长^[30]。微生物在加入自由态 Bt 毒素的腐殖酸上培养,4~6h 后,微生物生长的数量与在自由的 Bt 毒素上单独培养相比较低,这说明自由态毒素被腐殖酸吸附,微生物的利用率降低^[45]。可见,与土壤表面活性颗粒结合的纯化 Bt 毒素避免了微生物降解。

Tapp 和 Stotzky^[27]用生测法估算的结合态纯化 Btt 和 Btk 毒素 (CryIAb 蛋白) 在土壤中的降解时间大于 234d,而用序数据估算的转 Bt 基因玉米^[18,21]、棉花^[17,22] 和马铃薯^[20] 中 CryIAb、CryIAc、CryIF 以及 CryIIA 蛋白纯化毒素的降解时间为 8~17d,其秸秆分解的降解时间为 2~41d (表 1)。目前,杀虫晶体蛋白

在土壤中降解时间的报道差异较大,可见杀虫晶体蛋白类型与浓度、转 Bt 基因作物品种、土壤类型、土壤微生物组成、土壤水分等均可能影响土壤中 Bt 毒素的降解速度,另外,毒素检测方法的不同也影响结果的一致性^[22]。不同转 Bt 基因作物 Bt 毒素在不同土壤环境下的降解时间需要更深入细致的研究。

1.3 土壤中 Bt 毒素的杀虫活性

土壤粘土矿物(蒙脱石和高岭石)、腐质酸以及有机矿物聚合体吸附的结合态 Bt 毒素都具有杀虫活性,其活性的大小与表面活性颗粒类型、土壤 pH 值、结合的时间、土壤含水量等密切相关。烟草螟虫(*Manduca Sexta*)幼虫生测实验表明,粘土矿物、腐质酸和有机矿物聚合体中自由态毒素的 LC_{50} 分别为 90.4、304.1 和 35.2 ng/100 μ l,结合态毒素的 LC_{50} 随活性颗粒含量不同而不同,分别为 18.0~22.0、215.1~271.7 和 14.3~17.3 ng /100 μ l^[24~30]。结合态 Bt 毒素的杀虫活性高于自由态毒素,可见 Bt 毒素与表面活性颗粒的结合不仅避免了生物降解,而且 Bt 毒素在其颗粒表面富集了。结合态毒素杀虫活性的持续时间与粘粒含量成正比,而与土壤 pH 值成反比^[30]。土壤被交替冷冻,解冻,湿润和干燥 40d 后,仍保持杀虫活性^[29]。Bt 毒素的杀虫活性随高岭石含量的增加而明显降低^[24]。pH 值为 4.9~5.1 时,杀虫活性没有显著差异,但在 5.8~7.3 范围内,杀虫活性随 pH 值的升高明显降低^[27],高 pH 土壤中,微生物活性大,大多数毒素被微生物分解。Bt 毒素的杀虫活性与土壤含水量无关,表明 Bt 毒素的活性在有氧和厌氧条件下相似^[27]。

转 Bt 基因玉米根系分泌和秸秆分解释放到土壤中的 Bt 毒素都具有杀虫活性,烟草螟虫(*Manduca Sexta*)幼虫 7d 的死亡率分别高达 92.5%和 97.5%(对照分别为 5%和 2.5%),存活幼虫个体单重也明显低于对照^[15,16]。砂壤土和粘壤土中,转 CryIAb 基因棉花叶片和茎秆分解释放毒素的高活性状态可分别持续 28d 和 40d^[19]。转 CryIIA 基因棉花秸秆室内或田间分解 40d 后的杀虫活性一致,120d 其杀虫活性均下降到初始活性的 25%以下^[22]。可见,无论转 Bt 基因作物根系分泌或秸秆分解释放的 Bt 毒素,并没有完全降解,结合态 Bt 毒素可保持数周或数月的杀虫活性。

1.4 后茬作物和土壤动物对土壤中 Bt 毒素的吸收与利用

加入纯化的 Bt 毒素、种植转 Bt 基因玉米或加入其秸秆 120~180d 后的土壤无论种植常规玉米、胡萝卜、萝卜或甘蓝,在后茬作物组织中用 ELISA 检测或幼虫生测均没有发现 Bt 毒素,但其土壤仍有活性的 Bt 毒素,因此,土壤中已经存在的 Bt 毒素不会被后茬常规作物吸收和利用^[47]。蚯蚓在被 Bt 毒素污染的土壤中培养 45d,其肠道物和粪便中均含有 Bt 毒素,但蚯蚓实验种群的数量和生长状况正常;将蚯蚓转移到新鲜无污染土壤中 2~3 d 后,肠道物中的 Bt 毒素消失^[48],说明结合态 Bt 毒素只是经过了蚯蚓的消化系统,并没有被其消化系统的酶降解,也不影响其正常生长。

1.5 土壤中 Bt 毒素的垂直运移^[32]

转 Bt 基因玉米的 CryIAb 蛋白在土壤中的垂直运移量与粘粒矿物含量和 Bt 毒素浓度有关。运移量随粘粒矿物含量的增加而降低。12%蒙脱石与高岭石改良的砂壤土中 Bt 毒素的淋洗量为 16%,不加粘粒矿物改良的砂壤土中的淋洗量为 75%。土壤中高岭石和蒙脱石的含量由 3%增加到 12%,淋洗量分别由 55 和 63%下降到 23 和 20%。粘粒矿物含量高(>9%)的土壤中,加入 Bt 毒素 0.1h 内,淋洗液中 Bt 毒素免疫检测为阴性,1~3h 后免疫检测为阳性,12~24h 之后免疫检测又为阴性,这说明,在 0.1h 内,粘粒含量高的土壤可以完全吸附 Bt 毒素,部分吸附态毒素在 1~3h 后被淋洗液解吸附,12~24h 后剩余的 Bt 毒素与粘粒紧密结合。粘粒含量高的土壤中,Bt 毒素的淋洗量少、垂直运移距离短,毒素富集在土壤表面,可能会因地表径流或降雨数据地表水。粘粒含量少的土壤中的 Bt 毒素容易被淋溶污染地下水。土壤中结合态 Bt 毒素的运移与对地表水和地下水的潜在污染取决于降水量和强度、Bt 毒素的含量、土壤特性、耕作措施等

表 1 Bt 毒素在土壤中的半衰期(DT_{50} ,d)^[17~22]

Table 1 Half-lives period(DT_{50}) of Bt toxin protein in soil (d)

蛋白类型 Protien Type	纯化 Bt 毒素 Purified Bt toxin	转 Bt 基因作物秸秆分解 Decomposition of Bt crops tissues			
		室内分解 Lab. Experiments		田间分解 Field Experiments	
		棉花 Cotton	玉米 Corn	棉花 Cotton	玉米 Corn
CryIA(b)	17		25.6	4	1.6
CryIA(c)	9.3~20.2			7	
CryIF	3.13				
CryIIA		15.5		31.7	

多种因素。

2 土壤中 Bt 毒素的生态效应

2.1 对土壤非目标生物的影响

纯化的 BTT 和 BTK 自由态或结合态杀虫蛋白,对细菌(革兰氏阳性)、真菌(酵母菌,丝状体)和藻类(绿藻,硅藻)的原位生长没有影响^[30]。Donegan^[19]发现美国 247 和 249 系 Bt(CryIAc 基因)抗虫棉土壤中的微生物数量、种类和组成与常规棉差异显著,土壤中好氧细菌和真菌的数量显著增加,优势种为芽孢杆菌和链球菌;但 81 系 Bt(CryIAb 基因)抗虫棉及其纯化蛋白 HD-1、247 和 249 系的纯化蛋白 HD-73 对土壤细菌和真菌没有显著影响,她认为这种差异并不是 Bt 毒素本身引起的,可能是基因操作改变了植物分泌物和化学成分^[19]。81 系(CryIAb 基因)、247 和 249 系 Bt(CryIAc 基因)抗虫棉土壤中变形虫、纤毛虫、鞭毛虫的数量没有显著差异^[19]。转 Bt 基因马铃薯对土壤微生物没有影响^[49]。转 Bt 基因玉米根系分泌、残茬分解释放的 Bt 毒素与对照相比,盆栽和大田土壤中可培养的细菌、放线菌和真菌数量和种类没有统计学上的显著差异,根际土壤线虫和原生动物也没有差异^[48]。但种植转 Bt 基因烟草土壤中线虫数量增加明显^[50]。Bt 棉和 Bt 马铃薯的杀虫蛋白对土壤中一种弹尾虫(*Folsomia candida*)和一种奥甲螨(*Oppia nitens*)没有产生负面影响^[51]。

2.2 土壤中 Bt 毒素对土壤生态功能的影响

目前,有关转 Bt 基因作物对土壤生态功能影响的报道极少。转 Bt 基因作物的种植可能改变尿酶、脱氢酶、磷酸酶的活性^[5]。转 Bt 基因玉米和水稻的秸秆分解使土壤的总代谢活性降低,但对酸性磷酸酶、碱性磷酸酶、脱氢酶、蛋白酶和芳香基硫酸脂酶的活性没有影响^[30]。

富集在土壤中的 Bt 毒素,对土壤中非目标的微生物、有益昆虫(传粉者、害虫的捕食者和寄生者)和其它动物的潜在影响不容忽视,它的垂直运移也可能污染地下水 and 地表水,并威胁水生生物。

3 结语

转 Bt 基因作物不同途径(秸秆分解、根系分泌或花粉飘落)释放的杀虫晶体蛋白会与土壤表面活性颗粒快速结合,其杀虫活性会保持数周或数月,这已是被众多的室内和大田试验验证了的事实。土壤生态系统是一个复杂的系统,Bt 毒素进入土壤后引起的土壤生物变化的程度依赖于许多因素,但最重要的因素是生态系统的复杂性和稳定性,农业生态系统相对简单,稳定性差,它们对干扰较敏感,可能会产生较大影响^[4]。目前,国内外对土壤中 Bt 毒素生态效应的研究明显不足,评价的物种单一、周期短,对土壤中最敏感的微生物的研究仅局限在占土壤微生物不到 1% 种类的可人工培养种类上,尚未有对土壤生物群落,生物多样性及功能的长期定位研究^[5]。由于土壤微生物在土壤过程中的重要性及其复杂性,评价转基因作物对土壤微生物和过程影响时,在实验设计、研究方法、结果解释方面都存在一定难度,迫切需要完善评价方法,尤其是需要加强分子生物学方法 ERIC-PCR^[52]、DGGE^[53,54]和 T-RFLP^[55]等的应用,以便了解整个土壤微生物群落的变化。

土壤中的生物体通过捕食、竞争、对抗或共生相互影响,敏感生物的快速反应达到一定程度后,会引起其它生物的连锁反应,从而影响整个土壤生态系统^[56]。转 Bt 基因产物对土壤生物的影响,不仅包括初级基因产品,也包括来自生物和微生物所产生的次级产品^[57]。在监测可能接触到转基因材料的敏感目标生物和非目标生物物种变化的同时,更要重视整个土壤生态系统的健康。如果个别生物种类的变化在土壤生态系统自我调节与适应的范围之内,且没有引起土壤健康或功能的改变,这些生物的变化并不值得担忧;反之,如果某些关键物种的改变,将超出土壤生态系统的自我调节能力,影响土壤生态系统健康和功能,这种变化正是风险评价的关键所在。所以,转 Bt 基因植物对土壤生态系统影响评价的重点应该是生态系统的结构与功能。

转 Bt 基因作物对土壤生态系统的影响与导入的外源基因特性和土壤生态环境条件,以及耕作管理措施相关,纯化毒素的模拟实验不能完全反映大田商品化种植的实际,田间实验观测到不同转 Bt 基因作物对土壤生物影响数据不同,目前仍然无法确定转 Bt 基因作物引起土壤微生物变化的原因是 Bt 毒素本身,还是外源基因的插入导致受体植物生理特性的改变。Saxena 和 Stotzky^[58]报道,10 个转 Bt 基因玉米品

种中木质素的含量 tt 受体亲本高 33%~97%, 转 Bt 基因玉米的秸秆很难分解; 我国 Bt 抗虫棉可溶性过氧化物酶活性显著高于常规棉, 脂酶的活性和酶谱也存在差异^[59], 这些差异也可能影响土壤生物多样性和土壤肥力^[60]。对转 Bt 基因作物的研究不仅需要关注其与近源物种之间的基因流、害虫抗性以及对非目标生物和生态系统的影响等问题, 也要重视转 Bt 基因作物本身生理生态特性的变化。

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