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Susceptibility of the bird cherry-oat aphid, *Rhopalosiphum padi* (Hemiptera: Aphididae), to four insecticides

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25 **Abstract**

26 The bird-cherry oat aphid (*Rhopalosiphumpadi*) is a global pest, attacking most cereal crops
27 including barley, wheat, oats and triticale. The aphids cause yield losses through direct
28 feeding damage and the transmission of plant viruses. In Australia, feeding injury can reduce
29 cereal yields by 6%, with the damage caused by aphid-vectored viruses reducing the yield of
30 cereal crops by up to 30%. Aphid control in these crops is achieved almost exclusively with
31 insecticides, and there is growing concern surrounding insecticide resistance evolution in
32 multiple aphid species. In this study, nine field populations of *R. Padi* were collected from
33 localities representing the major grain growing regions of Australia. Toxicity data against four
34 insecticides (dimethoate, alpha-cypermethrin, pirimicarb, imidacloprid) was generated for each
35 aphid population. This revealed little differences in population responses for three of these
36 insecticides. For alpha-cypermethrin, a widely used insecticide in Australia, there
37 were significant differences between several populations. These data will be important for
38 future monitoring of insecticide responses of *R. Padi* and highlight the impending pest
39 management challenges growers could encounter in Australia.

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43 *Key words: toxicity data, oat aphid, insecticides, resistance monitoring*

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54 **Introduction**

55 The bird cherry-oat aphid, *Rhopalosiphumpadi*(Linnaeus, 1758), is one of the most important
56 cereal pests worldwide. While it can be found feeding on ~20 plant families, it is a pest mainly
57 on Poaceae(particularly wheat, barley, corn, oats and triticale) and to a lesser extent Rosaceae
58 crops(Blackman and Eastop 2000). In Australia, *R. Padi* is present throughout all major grain
59 growing regions and can cause damage through both direct feeding and by transmitting more
60 than a dozen plant viruses, including Barley yellow dwarf virus (BYDV)(Lucio-Zavaleta *et al.*
61 2001; Bailey 2007; Edwards *et al.* 2008; Schliephake *et al.* 2013). Both types of damage
62 significantly reduce the quality and yield of cereal crops. Direct feeding by *R. Padi* and other
63 cereal aphids can reduce yield by 6%, while damage from aphid-vectored viruses can reduce
64 yield by up to 30% in cereal crops such as barley, oats and wheat (Valenzuela & Hoffmann
65 2015).

66 In Australian cereals, insecticides are the most commonly used management tool to
67 control *R. padi*, with growers largely relying on foliar applications of organophosphates,
68 synthetic pyrethroids and carbamates, as well as neonicotinoids applied as a seed treatment
69 prior to sowing (Edwards *et al.* 2008; GRDC 2010; Kirkland *et al.* 2018; APVMA 2020).
70 Synthetic pyrethroids and organophosphates are estimated to account for >85% of insecticide
71 use in cereal crops in Australia (Umina *et al.* 2019). Pyrethroids in particular are widely used
72 prophylactically in cereals to reduce the transmission of aphid-vectored diseases
73 including BYDV (Edwards *et al.* 2008). Neonicotinoids, predominantly imidacloprid, have
74 become commonplace in many cereal-growing regions, particularly in areas where virus risk is
75 deemed high and/or Russian wheat aphid, *Diuraphis noxia*(Mordvilko, 1913), is present
76 (Yazdani *et al.* 2018; Umina *et al.* 2019). Pirimicarb, a carbamate insecticide that is highly
77 effective against aphids (Xiao *et al.* 2015), is also registered and used (although to a lesser
78 extent) against *R. padi* and other cereal aphids (APVMA 2020; Umina *et al.* 2019).

79 *Rhopalosiphumpadi* is thought to have been introduced to Australia more than 100
80 years ago and is now widespread and very abundant across the country (Valenzuela *et al.*
81 2010; Macfadyen & Kriticos, 2012). In many parts of the world, *R. padi* is
82 heteroecious holocyclic, whereby its lifecycle alternates between a sexual and asexual phase
83 on a primary and a secondary host, respectively (Halkett *et al.* 2006). Although males are
84 present in Australia, the primary host essential for mating is rare and population genetic
85 studies have shown *R. padi* to be anholocyclic, with parthenogenetic females reproducing
86 only by viviparity. There is also evidence of a very low proportion of androcyclic clones

87 (where males and viviparous females are produced) (Hughes *et al.* 1964; Simon *et al.* 1996;
88 Delmotte *et al.* 2003; Valenzuela *et al.* 2010). In addition to cereal crops, grasses play a
89 critical role in the lifecycle and biology of *R. padi*. Perennial grass pastures in particular are
90 thought to be an important refuge for *R. padi* in some parts of Australia. de Barro *et al.* (1992)
91 demonstrated irrigated pastures are capable of producing very large numbers of alates during
92 late autumn, placing nearby cereal crops at risk from infestation of migrating aphids;
93 importantly this coincides with the early establishment stage of winter cereals. Annual grasses
94 are also considered important as they have the potential to link aphids in perennial grass
95 pastures with cereal crops and/or by allowing low numbers of *R. padi* to persist between
96 cropping seasons over summer (de Barro & Wallwork 1992). These grasses (and volunteer
97 cereals) often persist during summer months interspersed within fields, in headlands and
98 along roadside verges.

99 There is some conjecture regarding insecticide resistance in *R. padi*. There are
100 currently no documented cases of field-evolved resistance captured in the Arthropod Pesticide
101 Resistance Database, a global resource that captures insecticide resistance cases from 1914 to
102 present (Mota-Sanchez & Wise 2020). However, there are multiple publications that claim
103 low-level resistance is evolving in China (Cheng *et al.* 2004; Zhang *et al.* 2016; Zuo *et al.*
104 2016). There are also several studies that have selected for high-level resistance through
105 repeated insecticide exposure in the laboratory (e.g. Chen *et al.* 2007; Wang *et al.* 2016; Wang
106 *et al.* 2018), demonstrating the evolutionary capacity for resistance to evolve in *R. padi*.
107 Furthermore, a recent analysis conducted on Australian grain pests which considered the
108 evolutionary potential of resistance, targeted and off-target insecticide pressure, and the
109 availability of pest refuges, identified *R. padi* as a species at risk of evolving resistance within
110 Australia (McDonald *et al.* 2019).

111 An insecticide study conducted four years ago found that Australian *R. Padi*
112 populations had relatively low sensitivity across a range of insecticides commonly applied to
113 grain crops (Clouston *et al.* 2016). Importantly, Clouston *et al.* (2016) identified *R. padi* as
114 one of two species (the other being *Aphis craccivora* Koch, 1854) that should be the focus of
115 continued monitoring for insecticide resistance to strengthen future risk-mitigation tactics.
116 The generation of regular toxicity data for high risk pests is paramount if growers are to
117 implement proactive and long-term insecticide management strategies (Umina *et al.*
118 2019). Here, we conduct a comprehensive study to establish current insecticide toxicity data
119 for field populations of *R. Padi* collected from all major grain growing regions of Australia.

120

121 **Materials and Methods**

122 *Aphid collections and culturing*

123 Between January and December 2017, *R.padi* were collected from agricultural regions of
124 New South Wales (NSW), Victoria (Vic.), South Australia (SA) and Western Australia (WA).
125 At each location, global positioning system (GPS) coordinates and plant host were recorded.
126 Aphids at each location were sampled from multiple plants to increase the likelihood of
127 collecting multiple clonal types. Aphids were collected from wheat, barley, oats or grass
128 weeds (Table 1). As with most invasive aphid populations (Figueroa *et al.* 2018), *R. padi* in
129 Australia has limited clonal variability and populations tend to be characterised by a small
130 number of dominant clonal lineages, which show no clear geographic or host-related
131 distributions (Valenzuela *et al.* 2010).

132 Field populations were isolated in the laboratory to ensure the absence of parasitoid
133 wasps, using the method described in Umina *et al.* (2014), except we used oat (*Avenasativa*)
134 leaf sections instead of sprouting radish. Individual aphid populations were then maintained in
135 55mm petri dishes containing 10 g/L agar inserted with excised *A. sativa* leaf sections. Petri
136 dishes were kept in a Controlled Temperature (CT) cabinet set at 10°C, with a L14:D10h
137 photoperiod; these conditions are ideal for maintaining healthy aphid populations but
138 minimising the number of generations that occur in the laboratory. Aphids were transferred to
139 new petri dishes every 14 days.

140 To produce sufficient numbers for bioassays, aphids were transferred to wheat plants
141 (*Triticumaestivum*) grown in potting mix in 900mL pots. Both oat and wheat are recognised as
142 highly suitable host plants for *R. padi*, which is considered to be polyphagous on C3 grasses
143 and crops. Both species are routinely used as *R. Padi* hosts in laboratory rearing and
144 insecticide assays. Additionally, these hosts do not differentially affect insecticide efficacy
145 (Araya & Foster 1987). Pots containing wheat plants were placed inside insect-proof cages
146 (45cm H, 28cm W, 38cm L) and kept under natural light at approximately 20°C until aphid
147 numbers were sufficient (typically 21 days). Under these unconstrained growth conditions,
148 there is unlikely to be strong selection against tolerant (or resistant) aphid lineages. We have
149 not observed any phenotypic or genetic changes over time in colonies of other aphid species
150 maintained this way and repeatedly assayed as known resistant or susceptible controls (e.g. de
151 Little & Umina 2017; Umina *et al.* 2014).

152

153 *Insecticides tested*

154 Aphid populations were screened against insecticides representing four chemical modes of
155 action: neonicotinoids (Group 4A) represented by imidacloprid, carbamates (Group 1B)
156 represented by pirimicarb, organophosphates (Group 1A) represented by dimethoate, and
157 synthetic pyrethroids (Group 3A) represented by alpha-cypermethrin (Table 2). A stock
158 solution of the recommended field rate of each chemical product was prepared in water, and
159 serially diluted to represent five concentrations ranging from 1 to 10^{-4} times the field rate. The
160 recommended field rates were based on recommendations for aphid control, assuming an
161 application in 100L water/ha. These equate to 525 mg a.i./L imidacloprid, 5000mg a.i./L
162 pirimicarb, 2000mg a.i./L dimethoate and 125 mg a.i./L alpha-cypermethrin.

163

164 *Bioassay procedures*

165 The laboratory bioassays undertaken closely followed those described by Umina *et al.*
166 (2014), Clouston *et al.* (2016) and the Insecticide Resistance Action Committee (IRAC)
167 Susceptibility Test Method No. 019 (IRAC 2016). The plant host of *T.aestivum* was used to
168 emulate insecticide contact in a leaf dip bioassay for each chemical product. For imidacloprid,
169 a single excised *T.aestivum* leaf section (~25mm in length) was submerged for 10s in 0.0525
170 mg a.i./L solution, placed abaxial side up on 10 g/L agar in a 35mm petri dish and air
171 dried. This was performed a further four times, resulting in five replicate petri dishes, each
172 containing a single treated leaf. This was then repeated for each of the remaining imidacloprid
173 solutions (moving sequentially from the lowest concentrations to the field rate). Five
174 untreated control replicates were established in the same manner, except water was used in
175 place of the chemical solution. Once dry, apterous aphids from a single population were
176 transferred to each petri dish using a fine-haired paintbrush. Between eight and 10 adult aphids
177 were added to each dish. Lids were then placed on the petri dish plates and the dishes inverted
178 to simulate natural aphid feeding on the underside of leaves. These were placed at 20°C with a
179 L14:D10h photoperiod for 48 h, after which aphids were scored visually as dead (not moving
180 over 5s period), incapacitated (inhibited movement), or alive (moving freely). The above
181 procedure was repeated for the remaining insecticides, with three populations tested
182 simultaneously on the same day. In all cases, insecticide stock solutions were made fresh on

183 each bioassay day, and these were then serially diluted to generate fresh chemical
184 concentrations for each bioassay.

185 Bioassays were performed for pirimicarb, dimethoate and alpha-cypermethrin using the same
186 procedure described above, except excised *T. aestivum* leaf sections were submerged in each
187 chemical solution for 1 seach (not 10 s).

188

189 *Statistical analysis*

190 As incapacitated individuals invariably die and therefore do not contribute to the next
191 generation, we pooled incapacitated individuals with dead individuals for data analysis across
192 all bioassays. Aphid mortality in each bioassay Y was modelled as a binomial response
193 variable $Y \sim \text{Binomial}(p, n)$, where p is the probability of mortality, and n is the number of
194 aphids in each replicate. The probability of mortality was related to linear covariates with a
195 logistic link function $\text{logit}(p) = a_i + b_i \ln(x)$, where x is chemical dose (mg a.i./L) and a_i
196 and b_i are intercepts and slope coefficients respectively for each population i (Robertson *et al.*
197 2017; Venables & Ripley 2002). Variance was robustly estimated by allowing for dispersion
198 (McCullagh & Nelder 1989).

199 Each chemical product was analysed separately, with differences in population effects
200 (intercepts) assessed using an analysis of variance (ANOVA). They were then examined in
201 pairwise comparisons using Tukey's Honest Significant Difference (HSD) method at the 0.05
202 significance level, which corrects for Type I errors when performing multiple hypotheses tests
203 (Hsu 1996). For each bioassay, LC_{50} values (with 95% confidence intervals) and slope
204 coefficient estimates of dose-response slopes were computed. To test differences in mortality
205 responses between products, an additional model was fitted that included chemical product as a
206 model factor, which was similarly contrasted using Tukey's HSD method.

207 All analyses were performed using the R language for statistical computing (R Core
208 Team 2018).

209

210 **Results**

211 χ^2 tests indicated the models adequately fitted the data at the 0.05 significance level across
212 all populations for each insecticide tested. Importantly, the mortality of the untreated control

213 aphids was very low across all bioassays; there was no mortality in 32 of the bioassays, 2%
214 mortality in three bioassays and 4% mortality in one bioassay.

215 The dose-responses of *R. padi* were significantly different between the four chemical
216 products ($\chi^2 = 74.7$, $df = 3$, $p < 0.001$). Imidacloprid and alpha-cypermethrin were the most
217 toxic chemical products to *R. padi*, but were not significantly different to one another ($p =$
218 0.97), with average LC_{50} values (\pm s.e.) across all nine populations of $8.72 (\pm 1.86)$ mg a.i./L
219 and $9.94 (\pm 2.56)$ mg a.i./L, respectively. Dimethoate (34.42 ± 3.04 mg a.i./L) was significantly
220 less toxic when compared with imidacloprid ($p < 0.001$) and alpha-cypermethrin ($p < 0.001$),
221 while pirimicarb (103.99 ± 14.71 mg a.i./L) was significantly less toxic than imidacloprid ($p <$
222 0.001), alpha-cypermethrin ($p < 0.001$), and dimethoate ($p = 0.005$). When averaged across
223 populations, the slopes for alpha-cypermethrin (0.94 ± 0.07) than slopes for imidacloprid
224 (1.23 ± 0.09), dimethoate (1.52 ± 0.17) and pirimicarb (3.73 ± 1.19), however, only
225 differences between alpha-cypermethrin and pirimicarb were statistically significant ($p =$
226 0.019).

227

228 *Imidacloprid*

229 There was no significant difference in the response of the nine populations to imidacloprid (χ^2
230 $= 13.33$, $df = 8$, $p = 0.10$), indicating all populations have a similar sensitivity to this
231 chemical product. Further, there were no differences when comparing LC_{50} values and 95%
232 confidence intervals (Table 3). The estimated LC_{50} values for imidacloprid across the nine
233 populations ranged from 3.77 to 21.81 mg a.i./L. Unique regression slopes for
234 population exposed to imidacloprid did not significantly improve the model ($\chi^2 = 2.87$, $df = 8$,
235 $p = 0.94$).

236 For eight of the nine populations, the imidacloprid field rate (525 mg a.i./L) was
237 adequate in suppressing 100% of aphid individuals. Five aphids (from a total of 44) from the
238 ADE population were still alive at the field rate after 48 h exposure.

239

240 *Pirimicarb*

241 There was no significant difference in responses of the nine populations to pirimicarb (χ^2
242 $= 1.17$, $df = 8$, $p = 0.99$), indicating all populations have a similar sensitivity to this chemical
243 product. There were also no differences when comparing LC_{50} values and 95% confidence

244 intervals (Table 4). The estimated LC₅₀ values across all populations ranged from 38.19 to
245 172.08 mg a.i./L.

246 Unique regression slopes for populations exposed to pirimicarb did not significantly
247 improve the model ($\chi^2 = 1.69$, df = 8, p = 0.99). However, regression slope coefficients could
248 not be estimated for two populations: ADE and BKV, due to the partial-separation of the
249 response variable (e.g. 96% of individuals from ADE survived at 50 mg a.i./L whereas 0%
250 survived at the subsequent dose of 500 mg a.i./L). This indicates that the biological response
251 of *R. padi* to pirimicarb varies and the doses we tested were appropriate for some, but not all,
252 populations. Regardless, the removal of ADE and BKV from the analysis did not affect the
253 conclusion for the remaining seven populations (data not shown).

254 For all nine populations, the highest rate of pirimicarb (5000 mg a.i./L) was adequate
255 in suppressing 100% of individuals after 48 h.

256

257 *Dimethoate*

258 There was no significant difference in the response of the nine populations to dimethoate (χ^2
259 = 2.01, df = 8, p = 0.98) and there were also no differences when comparing LC₅₀ values and
260 95% confidence intervals (Table 5). This indicates dimethoate sensitivity was similar across all
261 populations. Similarly, unique regression slopes for each population exposed to dimethoate
262 did not significantly improve the model ($\chi^2 = 2.15$, df = 8, p = 0.97).

263 For all nine populations, the dimethoate field rate (2000 mg a.i./L) was more than
264 adequate in suppressing 100% of individuals after 48 h. LC₅₀ values across all populations
265 ranged from 14.68 to 48.20 mg a.i./L (Table 5).

266

267 *Alpha-cypermethrin*

268 Noticeable differences in dose-response curves were detected between populations exposed to
269 alpha-cypermethrin, which were found to be statistically significant ($\chi^2 = 23.92$, df = 8, p
270 = 0.002). These differences are further supported by non-overlapping 95% confidence intervals
271 of LC₅₀ values (Table 6). Aphids from KAT were significantly more sensitive to alpha-
272 cypermethrin than aphids from TMW (p = 0.006), MNJ (p = 0.03) and PIC (p = 0.02). Unique
273 regression slopes for populations exposed to alpha-cypermethrin did not significantly improve
274 the model ($\chi^2 = 3.16$, df = 8, p = 0.92).

275 LC₅₀ values across all nine populations ranged from 0.6 to 24.57 mg a.i./L (Table
276 6). The field rate of alpha-cypermethrin (125 mg a.i./L) controlled 98%, 93% and 91% of
277 aphids from ADE, MNJ and TMW, respectively. For the remaining six populations, the field
278 rate was adequate in suppressing 100% of individuals after 48 h (Table 6).

279

280 **Discussion**

281 Our results provide toxicity data for nine populations of *R. padi* against four insecticides
282 widely used for aphid control in cereal crops within Australia. It is worth noting that the
283 mortality responses quantified in our study represent variation between individual aphids and
284 populations taken at a point in time, while other sources of variation may exist, e.g. the same
285 populations exposed to different seasonal conditions may behave differently (see Robertson *et al.*
286 *2017*). Monitoring insecticide susceptibility is an important part of pest management
287 strategies, particularly for species with a history of insecticide resistance. Insecticide toxicity
288 data not only provides an indication of the level of insecticide susceptibility in the field, but
289 also allows researchers to accurately assess if population responses to insecticide products are
290 increasing or decreasing through time (Roush & Miller 1986). Resistance to neonicotinoids,
291 carbamates and organophosphates has been selected under laboratory conditions (Chen *et al.*
292 *2007*; Wang *et al.* 2018), demonstrating *R. padi* could evolve field resistance if selection
293 pressures were sufficiently strong, which highlights the value of the toxicity data we have
294 generated.

295 Recently, *R. Padi* sourced from populations across Australia were shown to have
296 lower insecticide sensitivity compared with several other grain aphids (Clouston *et al.* 2016).
297 Further, at two locations in Queensland and South Australia, some *R. padi* populations were
298 observed to survive field rates of alpha-cypermethrin when tested using laboratory bioassays
299 (Clouston *et al.* 2016). Our study provides a broader survey of insecticide responses among *R.*
300 *padi* populations and identified differences in sensitivity levels to alpha-cypermethrin, but not
301 to other insecticides. Interestingly, out of the four insecticides tested, the estimated slopes
302 from the dose-response curves were lowest for alpha-cypermethrin. Typically, a lower slope
303 value indicates a more heterogeneous response to the insecticide within a population
304 (Chilcuit & Tabashnik 1995), and thus a greater likelihood that the population will evolve more
305 quickly to insecticide selection pressure.

306 Clouston *et al.* (2016) estimated LC₅₀ values for alpha-cypermethrin in the range of
307 15.36 – 72.10 mg a.i./L for *R. padi*, with an average LC₅₀ of 33.83 (± 8.14) mg a.i./L across
308 six populations. This is considerably higher than the average LC₅₀ value calculated from the
309 nine populations we tested of 9.94 (± 2.56) mg a.i./L, which followed the same bioassay
310 methodology and tested the same formulated chemical product. At a finer level, two
311 populations from our study (one each from WA and Vic.) were collected in close proximity
312 (<20km) to populations from the Clouston *et al.* (2016) study, allowing a provisional
313 comparison of how sensitivity levels may have shifted. In the four years since the Clouston *et*
314 *al.* (2016) study, the LC₅₀ value for alpha-cypermethrin has dropped from 24.88 to 9.90 mg
315 a.i./L at the two Vic. populations (Pimpinio and Natimuk) and from 30.84 to 0.60 mg a.i./L
316 for the two WA populations (Katanning and Woodanilling). These shifts in sensitivity through
317 time may be a consequence of changes in insecticide selection pressure. This could be linked
318 to a reduced risk of early-season BYDV infections (vectored by *R. padi*), which is known to
319 be influenced by changing rainfall patterns (Thackray *et al.* 2009). Like many other countries,
320 Australia has also seen a considerable shift in the adoption of neonicotinoid seed treatments,
321 which has reduced the reliance on foliar applications of synthetic pyrethroids and other broad-
322 spectrum insecticides for early season aphid/virus control (Bass *et al.* 2015; Attwood &
323 Paisley 2019; Umina *et al.* 2019).

324 In our study, the several *R. padi* populations were not fully controlled by alpha-
325 cypermethrin applied at the recommended field rate of 125 mg a.i./L. However, insecticide
326 rates applied in laboratory bioassays do not necessarily indicate that these populations are
327 resistant under field conditions; laboratory conditions provide a standardised environment
328 while field populations are typically under more stress, which can impact both survival and
329 chemical responses (Cahill *et al.* 1996; Iwasaki *et al.* 2018; Heye *et al.* 2019). Furthermore,
330 exposure to insecticides when applied in the field will be considerably different to what
331 aphids experience when tested through laboratory bioassays. For example, aphid mortality was
332 assessed 48 h after chemical exposure in our experiments. However, products like alpha-
333 cypermethrin can persist in the environment for many weeks and thus the exposure period for
334 aphids is likely to be substantially longer in the field. For the remaining insecticides, our
335 findings are similar to those reported by Clouston *et al.* (2016). We found little variation in *R.*
336 *Padi* sensitivity to dimethoate, pirimicarb and imidacloprid among populations, and the
337 overall LC₅₀ values are comparable between studies. The imidacloprid results, in particular,

338 were very similar between those we found (8.72 ± 1.86 mg a.i./L) and those estimated by
339 Clouston *et al.* (2016) (9.56 ± 1.73 mg a.i./L).

340 There was considerable variation in responses of *R. padi* to alpha-cypermethrin, with
341 reduced sensitivity to this chemical product identified in three populations. Aphids from MNJ,
342 PIC and TMW had LC₅₀ values 26-, 27- and 41-fold (respectively) greater than aphids from
343 the most sensitive population, KAT. Despite this, it appears there has been an overall increase
344 in sensitivity to alpha-cypermethrin across Australia, which may reflect changes in insecticide
345 use. For the other products, we found a relatively consistent level of insecticide toxicity
346 across *R. padi* field populations. The toxicity data we have generated are now available for
347 comparison to those obtained in any future monitoring activities. Importantly, they have been
348 established before field resistance has evolved, allowing for insecticide resistance
349 management strategies to be developed and implemented before resistance frequencies
350 become too high (see Roush 1998; Sudo *et al.* 2018). Field surveillance can now be prioritised
351 to focus on alpha-cypermethrin and other pyrethroid chemicals, and in regions of Australia
352 where toxicity responses in aphid populations are approaching levels that may impact the
353 efficacy of chemical applications in the field.

354

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Table 1. Sampling information of Australian *R.padi* populations used in study.

Location	State	Code	Date collected	Host plant	Latitude	Longitude
Tamworth	NSW	TMW	January 2017	<i>Triticumaestivum</i>	-31.18	150.91
Picola	Vic	PIC	March 2017	<i>Triticumaestivum</i>	-35.99	145.09
Dookie	Vic	DOK	June 2017	<i>Triticumaestivum</i>	-36.39	145.69
Pimpinio	Vic	PIM	June 2017	<i>Hordeum vulgare</i>	-36.62	142.03
Back Valley	SA	BKV	September 2017	Unknown	-35.52	138.51
Adelaide	SA	ADE	December 2017	Grass weeds	-34.97	138.63
Manjimup	WA	MNJ	August 2017	<i>Avenasativa</i>	-34.31	116.17
Capel	WA	CAP	August 2017	Grass weeds	-33.58	115.66
Katanning	WA	KAT	August 2017	<i>Avenasativa</i>	-33.70	117.57

Table 2. Insecticides tested in this study against *R.padi*.

Trade Name	Active ingredient	Chemical group	Formulation	Supplier
Nuprid [®] 200SC insecticide	imidacloprid	Neonicotinoid	200 g/L SC	NuFarm Australia
Pirimor [®] WGaphicide	pirimicarb	Carbamate	500 g/L WG	Syngenta Australia
Dimethoate 400SC [®]	dimethoate	Organophosphate	400 g/L SC	NuFarm Australia
Astound [®] Duo insecticide	alpha- cypermethrin	Synthetic pyrethroid	100 g/L EC	NuFarm Australia

SC = suspension concentrate, EC = emulsifiable concentrate, WG = water-dispersible granule.

Table 3. Toxicity data for *R.padi* after exposure to imidacloprid for 48 h.

Population	No. aphids tested	Regression slope coefficient (\pmSE)	LC₅₀ (mg a.i./L)	Lower-upper 95% CIs (mg a.i./L)
TMW ^a	259	1.39 (0.65)	3.77	1.22 – 11.65
PIC ^a	263	0.78 (0.29)	5.57	1.21 – 25.68
DOK ^a	258	1.31 (0.58)	8.06	2.46 – 26.37
PIM ^a	266	1.15 (0.47)	6.81	1.97 – 23.44
BKV ^a	266	1.54 (0.75)	7.40	2.65 – 20.68
ADE ^a	255	0.86 (0.34)	21.81	5.00 – 95.16
MNJ ^a	254	1.35 (0.63)	4.20	1.29 – 13.66
CAP ^a	259	1.56 (0.70)	12.83	4.19 – 39.31
KAT ^a	257	1.16 (0.49)	8.02	2.29 – 28.08

Different letters indicate significant differences between populations ($p < 0.05$).

Table 4. Toxicity data for *R.padi* after exposure to pirimicarb for 48 h.

Population	No. aphids tested	Regression slope coefficient (\pmSE)	LC₅₀ (mg a.i./L)	Lower-upper 95% CIs (mg a.i./L)
TMW ^a	266	1.42 (0.83)	134.50	27.78 – 651.26
PIC ^a	265	1.43 (0.87)	98.67	20.35 – 478.42
DOK ^a	266	2.55 (1.97)	113.01	25.33 – 504.14
PIM ^a	269	1.69 (1.03)	139.52	30.89 – 630.17
BKV ^a	261	9.66 (7702)	51.93	NC
ADE ^a	270	10.32 (4909)	67.59	NC
MNJ ^a	258	1.99 (1.80)	38.19	10.73 – 135.82
CAP ^a	266	1.93 (1.21)	172.08	39.10 – 757.16
KAT ^a	263	2.65 (2.02)	120.47	25.82 – 562.02

Different letters indicate significant differences between populations ($p < 0.05$). NC indicates 95% confidence intervals could not be computed.

Table 5. Toxicity data for *R.padi* after exposure to dimethoate for 48 h.

Population	No. aphids tested	Regression slope coefficient (\pmSE)	LC₅₀ (mg a.i./L)	Lower-upper 95% CIs (mg a.i./L)
TMW ^a	270	1.82 (1.52)	33.59	7.15 – 157.70
PIC ^a	272	1.26 (0.84)	40.36	6.00 – 271.12
DOK ^a	278	2.37 (2.17)	39.53	8.36 – 186.90
PIM ^a	268	1.54 (1.08)	48.20	8.31 – 279.45
BKV ^a	262	1.42 (1.05)	31.65	5.34 – 187.39
ADE ^a	261	2.09 (2.10)	30.77	6.86 – 137.93
MNJ ^a	258	1.36 (0.97)	36.49	5.96 – 223.29
CAP ^a	277	1.11 (0.70)	34.50	4.86 – 244.57
KAT ^a	266	0.73 (0.43)	14.68	1.24 – 173.70

Different letters indicate significant differences between populations ($p < 0.05$).

Table 6. Toxicity data for *R.padi* after exposure to alpha-cypermethrin for 48 h.

Population ¹	No. aphids tested	Regression slope coefficient (\pm SE)	LC ₅₀ (mg a.i./L)	Lower-upper 95% CIs (mg a.i./L)	Mortality at registered rate ²	RF ³
TMW ^a	260	1.16 (0.50)	24.57	7.51 – 80.47	91%	41.0
PIC ^a	285	1.31 (0.54)	16.22	5.74 – 45.80	100%	27.0
DOK ^{ab}	273	1.06 (0.38)	3.84	1.16 – 12.68	100%	-
PIM ^{ab}	253	0.64 (0.24)	9.90	1.88 – 52.01	100%	-
BKV ^{ab}	257	0.92 (0.33)	2.34	0.63 – 8.61	100%	-
ADE ^{ab}	279	0.66 (0.23)	7.34	1.51 – 35.64	98%	-
MNJ ^a	265	0.95 (0.37)	15.34	4.08 – 57.68	93%	25.6
CAP ^{ab}	261	0.98 (0.37)	9.31	2.67 – 32.39	100%	-
KAT ^b	247	0.85 (0.31)	0.60	0.14 – 2.43	100%	-

¹Different letters indicate significant differences between the populations ($p < 0.05$).

²Registered field rate equates to 125 mg a.i./L alpha-cypermethrin.

³Resistance Factors (RF) were calculated by dividing the population LC₅₀ value by 0.60 (the lowest LC₅₀ value estimated from KAT).