When pollen's hovering... : Rynacrom : disodium cromoglycate for hay fever.

Contributors

Fisons Limited

Publication/Creation

[approximately 1971]

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When pollen's hovering...

RYNACROM

sodium cromoglycate for hay fever

At the first sneeze of summer

In the form of Intal, Sodium Cromoglycate BP is already proven as a valuable anti-allergic therapy.[1,2] The introduction of Rynacrom now makes sodium cromoglycate available for the control of symptoms of hay fever. Administration is by a specially designed nasal insufflator that is recharged with a Rynacrom capsule at each application.

Clinical trial results show that Rynacrom significantly reduces rhinorrhoea and nasal obstruction in hay fever and that the treatment is easy and well accepted by patients.[3,4] A characteristic feature of SCG therapy is the extremely low incidence of side effects.[1,2,3] For this reason many of the problems of conventional hay fever therapy do not arise with Rynacrom.

Rynacrom is supplied as capsules containing Sodium Cromoglycate BP 10 mg together with an inert carrier (Lactose BP 10 mg), for use in a specially designed Rynacrom insufflator.

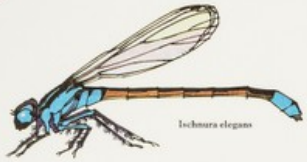
References: 1. Altounyan REC, and Howell JBL, Treatment of Asthma with Sodium Cromoglycate (FPL 670, 'Intal'). *Respiration*, 1969, **26,** 131 (Suppl).

2. Kennedy MCS, Sodium Cromoglycate in the Control of Asthma. A Double-Blind Trial. *Brit J Dis Chest*, 1969, **63,** 96.

3. Backman A, Holopainen E, and Salo OP, Effect of Sodium Cromoglycate on Seasonal Allergic Rhinitis. Lancet, 1971, **i,** 55.

4. Capel LH, and McKelvie P, Sodium Cromoglycate in Hayfever. Lancet, 1971, **i,** 575.

DRAGONFLIES OF THE BRITISH ISLES


Ischnura elegans


Pyrrhosoma nymphula


Agrion virgo

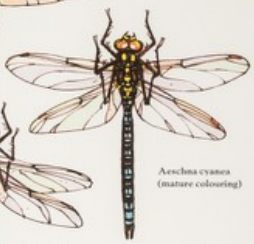

Conagrion pulchellum


Damsel fly nymph


Dragonfly nymph


Catching prey by extension of labium


Libellula quadrimaculata


Aeschna cyanea
(mature colouring)


Aeshna juncea

The dragonfly's method of mating is unique in the animal kingdom. The sequence is as shown in the accompanying illustrations.

1. The male pursues the female.
2. Male grasps the head of the female by means of the anal claspers.
3. Male swings female downwards and female begins to bend abdomen.
4. Having achieved the mating position in flight the pair settle and complete the mating procedure.
5. Male still clasps the head of the female and the pair return to the water.
6. Male makes dipping movements causing the end of the female's abdomen to touch the water. The eggs are washed off and sink to the bottom.

Damsel flies may descend to a depth of a foot or more below the surface of the water to disappear from sight, sometimes for as long as 15 minutes. The female lays her eggs as the pair rise to the surface.
The eggs may settle in underwater plants, floating debris or in the mud. They hatch after about 3 or 4 weeks, although in some dragonflies the eggs spend the summer and the succeeding winter without hatching.
After the egg hatches the larva or 'nymph' undergoes a series of 'moults' to allow for growth. And this process of development may continue for as long as two years.

The greatly enlarged labium or 'lower lip' of the dragonfly nymph is armed with hooks and distinguishes dragonflies from all other insects. Catching prey is accomplished by an extremely rapid extension of the labium brought about by a kind of hydraulic mechanism involving controlled blood pressure. The prey is then drawn back to the mouth.

Dragonflies are incorrigible cannibals. Not only will they eat other smaller species, but often younger individuals of their own species.

The dragonfly larva also has a unique breathing mechanism. Unlike the damsel fly larva it does not possess caudal gills but breathes entirely through the rectum. This rectal pumping mechanism also provides the larva with a means of escape. The damsel fly larva propels itself by means of 'paddles'.

When the nymph has reached the final stage of metamorphosis it moves to shallower, shaded regions. About 2 days before emergence it selects an upright stick or other support which it will use to climb out of the water.

A larva wastes little time in emerging and, having done so, wriggles its abdomen violently from side to side. It then remains motionless for about three quarters of an hour after which time the larval skin splits and the emerging dragonfly extracts its head thorax and legs. Following a further resting period the wings and abdomen emerge and reach their full size. The wings expand so rapidly that they may attain their full size in only 26 minutes. The wings then dry out and harden ready for flight.

Damsel flies are distinguishable from dragonflies by their widely separated eyes, and their wings, which are partially or completely folded together over the back when resting.

RYNACROM® for hay fever

Sodium Cromoglycate BP

Description : Rynacrom is a presentation for insufflation of Sodium Cromoglycate BP, 10 mg in powder form, together with an inert carrier (Lactose BP 10 mg).
Sodium cromoglycate has no anti-inflammatory or decongestant activity. Its principle action is to inhibit the release of inflammatory agents (such as histamine, bradykinin) from sensitised cells in the nose. This property offers a new approach to the management of seasonal allergic rhinitis – prophylactic rather than symptomatic therapy.

Indication : Seasonal allergic rhinitis.

Administration : Rynacrom is presented in a single dose hard gelatin capsule for use in a specially developed nasal insufflator.

Dosage : 2 capsules 4 times daily.

Since sodium cromoglycate therapy is prophylactic, it is important that the patient be instructed to maintain regular dosage, as distinct from insufflating the drug intermittently to relieve symptoms.

Concomitant therapy : Concomitant antihistamine therapy can often be reduced or discontinued when the allergic rhinitis has been brought under control.

Withdrawal of Rynacrom therapy : As the action of sodium cromoglycate is prophylactic rather than curative, continuity of therapy is important in patients who have gained benefit. It should be borne in mind that symptoms of allergic rhinitis may recur when Rynacrom is discontinued.

Contra-indications : There are no specific contra-indications. As with all new drugs, it is advisable, where possible, to avoid use during pregnancy, especially in the first trimester.

Side effects : No serious side effects attributable to sodium cromoglycate have so far been reported. Occasionally, slight irritation of the nose may occur on insufflation of the powder.

Pack and Price : Rynacrom is presented as capsules, supplied in packs of 100*. Basic NHS cost £3.15.
Rynacrom insufflators are supplied in individual containers.* Basic NHS cost 47p.

*Instructions are supplied with each pack.

FISONS

Further information is available from :
FISONS LIMITED – PHARMACEUTICAL DIVISION
Loughborough, Leicestershire, England.

RYA 12 March 1972