When pollen springs into life... : Rynacrom : disodium cromoglycate for hay fever.

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When pollen springs into life...

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.

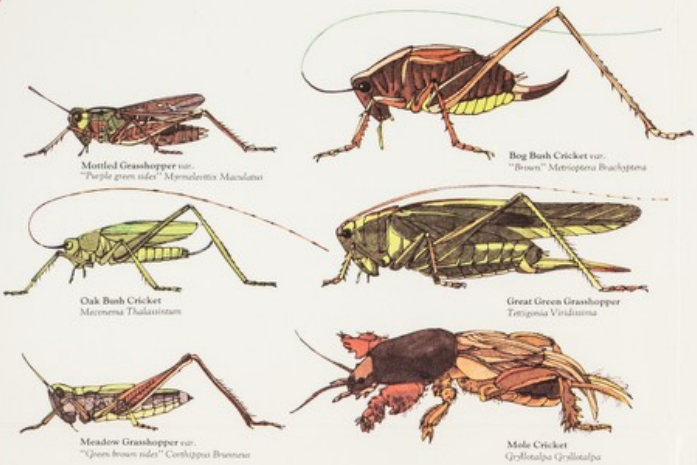
References: 1. Altounyan REC, and Howell JBL, Treatment of Asthma with Sodium Cromoglycate (FPL 670, 'Intal'). *Respiration*, 1969, **26,** 131 (Suppl).

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.

GRASSHOPPERS OF THE BRITISH ISLES



Mottled Grasshopper var.
"Purple green sides" Myrmeleottix Maculatus

Bog Bush Cricket var.
"Brown" Metrioptera Brachyptera

Oak Bush Cricket
Meconema Thalassinum

Great Green Grasshopper
Tettigonia Viridissima

Meadow Grasshopper var.
"Green brown sides" Corthippus Brunneus

Mole Cricket
Gryllotalpa Gryllotalpa

Of the many interesting features of British grasshoppers and crickets, the most familiar must surely be their 'language' or 'stridulation' to give it its technical term. These sounds are characteristic of each species and most of our grasshoppers and crickets make different sounds for different occasions. They have a symbolic language.

The grasshopper produces sound by rubbing the hind legs against the flexed fore wings. On the inner side of the femur of each hind leg there is a row of minute pegs. These come into contact with the more prominent veins of the fore wing, which is thus caused to vibrate. Sometimes some of the areas of the fore wing are expanded so as to set a greater volume of air into vibration and produce a louder sound. The hearing organ is situated on the first segment of the abdomen.

The crickets' method of sound-reproduction is quite different. Crickets have a tooth-bearing rib formed by a vein in the left fore wing which is rubbed against the hind edge of the right fore wing. The hearing organ of the cricket is in the forelegs immediately below the knee.

Although sound-production is generally confined to the males, in many grasshoppers the females also chirp in certain circumstances.

With the possible exception of the Field Cricket, the Great Green Bush Cricket has the loudest song. In suitable conditions it may be heard from a distance of 200 yards. The jumping habit is particularly characteristic of these insects, and the enlarged hind legs may be looked upon as a hall-mark. It is by the sudden extension of these limbs that they are able to fling themselves into the air, sometimes covering distances over 100 times their own length. These jumps are often extended by a flight of several yards in hot weather, but none can be regarded as strong fliers.
Crickets are more prone to crawl or run.

Common Field Grasshopper var.
"Green brown sides" Chorthippus Brunneus

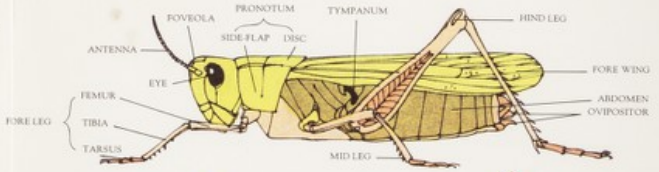
Grasshoppers lay their eggs in batches which they bury in the soil. This action is called 'ovipositing'.
Most Crickets, unlike Grasshoppers, lay eggs singly depositing them on or in various forms of vegetation. A sharp, laterally flattened ovipositor is adapted for the purpose and the eggs are well concealed.
Soon after they are laid the eggs enter a resting stage of the same type as grasshopper eggs.
They do not hatch during the year in which they are laid but remain dormant through the winter.
The usual months for hatching are May and June, and most species reach maturity in July or August.

Eggs of the Field-Cricket, Mole-cricket and groundhopper do not have a resting phase and hatch soon after they are laid. The Field-cricket and Mole-cricket hibernate in the nymphal stage and the groundhoppers spend the winter as a mixture of nymphs and immature adults.

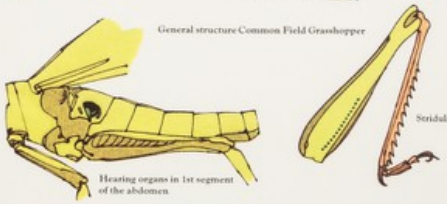
The worm-like creatures of 'larvae', which emerge from the eggs wriggle into the open air and then shed their skins to become true nymphs which have the remarkable ability to regenerate lost limbs or antennae. However, once the insect has become adult a new limb can never be grown to replace one that has been lost. There are usually 5 or 6 further moults before the adult stage is reached. The Great Green Bush Cricket has as many as 9 moults.

Grasshoppers and Bush Crickets reach maturity by midsummer and die off in the autumn of the year in which they were hatched. Only their eggs remain in winter.

Egg-laying : Grasshopper



General structure Common Field Grasshopper



Hearing organs in 1st segment of the abdomen

Stridulatory Peg

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.

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