

INORGANIC PLANT POISONS AND STIMULANTS

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Inorganic Plant Poisons and Stimulants by Winifred E. Brenchley

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WINIFRED E. BRENCHLEY

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POISONS AND
STIMULANTS**

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BY

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PREFACE

DURING the last century great and widespread changes have been made in agricultural practice—changes largely associated with the increase in the use of artificial fertilisers as supplements to the bulky organic manures which had hitherto been used. The value of certain chemical compounds as artificial manures is fully recognised, yet many attempts are being made to prove the value of other substances for the same purpose, with a view to increase in efficiency and decrease in cost. The interest in the matter is naturally great, and agriculturists, botanists and chemists have all approached the question from their different standpoints. In the following pages an attempt is made to correlate the work that has been done on a few inorganic substances which gave promise of proving useful in agricultural practice. Much of the evidence put forward by different workers is conflicting, and it is clear that no definite conclusions can yet be reached. Nevertheless, examination of the evidence justifies the hope that results of practical value will yet be obtained, and it is hoped that the analysis and coordination of the available data put forward in this book will aid in clearing the ground for those investigators who are following up the problem from both the academic and the practical standpoints.

W. E. B.

ROTHAMSTED.

October 1914.

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CONTENTS

CHAP.		PAGE
I.	INTRODUCTION	1
II.	METHODS OF WORKING	7
	I. Discussion of Methods	7
	1. Water cultures	7
	2. Sand cultures	8
	3. Soil cultures in pots	9
	4. Field experiments	9
	II. Details of Methods	10
III.	EFFECT OF COPPER COMPOUNDS	15
	I. Presence of Copper in Plants	15
	II. Effect of Copper on the Growth of Higher Plants	17
	1. Toxic effect	17
	(a) Toxic action of copper compounds alone in water cultures	17
	(b) Masking effect caused by addition of soluble substances to solutions of copper salts	20
	(c) Effect of adding insoluble substances to solutions of copper salts	22
	(d) Effect of copper on plant growth when present in soils	24
	(e) Mode of action of copper on plants	25
	2. Effect of copper on germination	27
	(a) Seeds	27
	(b) Spores and pollen grains	28
	3. Does copper stimulate higher plants?	28
	4. Action of copper on organs other than roots	30
	(a) Effect of copper sprays on leaves	30
	(b) Effect of solutions of copper salts on leaves	32
	III. Effect of Copper on Certain of the Lower Plants	33
	Conclusion	35

CHAP.		PAGE
IV.	EFFECT OF ZINC COMPOUNDS	38
	I. Presence of Zinc in Plants	38
	II. Effect of Zinc on the Growth of Higher Plants	38
	1. Toxic effect	38
	(a) Toxic action of zinc salts alone in water cultures	38
	(b) Effect of soluble zinc salts in the presence of nutrients	39
	(c) Effect of zinc compounds on plant growth when they are present in soils	41
	(d) Mode of action of zinc on plants	43
	2. Effect of zinc compounds on germination	43
	3. Stimulation induced by zinc compounds	45
	(a) Stimulation in water cultures	45
	(b) Stimulation in sand cultures	46
	(c) Increased growth in soil	46
	4. Direct action of zinc salts on leaves	47
	III. Effect of Zinc on Certain of the Lower Plants	48
	Conclusion	50
V.	EFFECT OF ARSENIC COMPOUNDS	51
	I. Presence of Arsenic in Plants	51
	II. Effect of Arsenic on the Growth of Higher Plants	52
	1. Toxic effect	52
	(a) Toxic action of arsenic compounds in water cultures in the presence of nutrients	52
	(b) Toxic effect of arsenic compounds in sand cultures	57
	(c) Toxic effect of arsenic when applied to soil cultures	57
	(d) Physiological considerations	59
	2. Effect of arsenic compounds on germination	60
	3. Do arsenic compounds stimulate higher plants?	61
	III. Effect of Arsenic Compounds on Certain of the Lower Plants	62
	1. Algae	62
	2. Fungi	63
	Conclusion	64
VI.	EFFECT OF BORON COMPOUNDS	65
	I. Presence of Boron in Plants	65
	II. Effect of Boron on the Growth of Higher Plants	67
	1. Toxic effect	67
	(a) Toxic action of boron compounds in water cultures	67
	(b) Toxic action of boron compounds in sand cultures	70

Contents

ix

CHAP.	PAGE
(c) Toxic action of boron compounds in soil experiments	71
2. Effect of boron compounds on germination	72
3. Does boron stimulate higher plants?	73
(a) Water cultures	73
(b) Sand cultures	73
(c) Soil cultures	74
III. Effect of Boron Compounds on Certain of the Lower Plants	76
Conclusion	77
VII. EFFECT OF MANGANESE COMPOUNDS	78
I. Presence of Manganese in Plants	78
II. Effect of Manganese on the Growth of Higher Plants	81
1. Toxic effect	81
(a) Toxic action of manganese compounds in the presence of soluble nutrients	81
(b) Toxic action of manganese compounds in sand cultures	82
(c) Toxic action of manganese compounds in soil cultures	82
2. Effect of manganese compounds on germination	84
3. Does manganese stimulate higher plants?	84
(a) Stimulation in water cultures	85
(b) Stimulation in soil cultures	86
III. Effect of Manganese Compounds on Certain of the Lower Plants	90
IV. Physiological Considerations of Manganese Stimulation	90
Conclusion	92
VIII. CONCLUSIONS	93
BIBLIOGRAPHY	97
INDEX OF PLANT-NAMES	107
GENERAL INDEX	109
LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS	x