Ecotoxicology TP Course

Concepts, Tests & Biomarkers

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TP9 DNA Damage

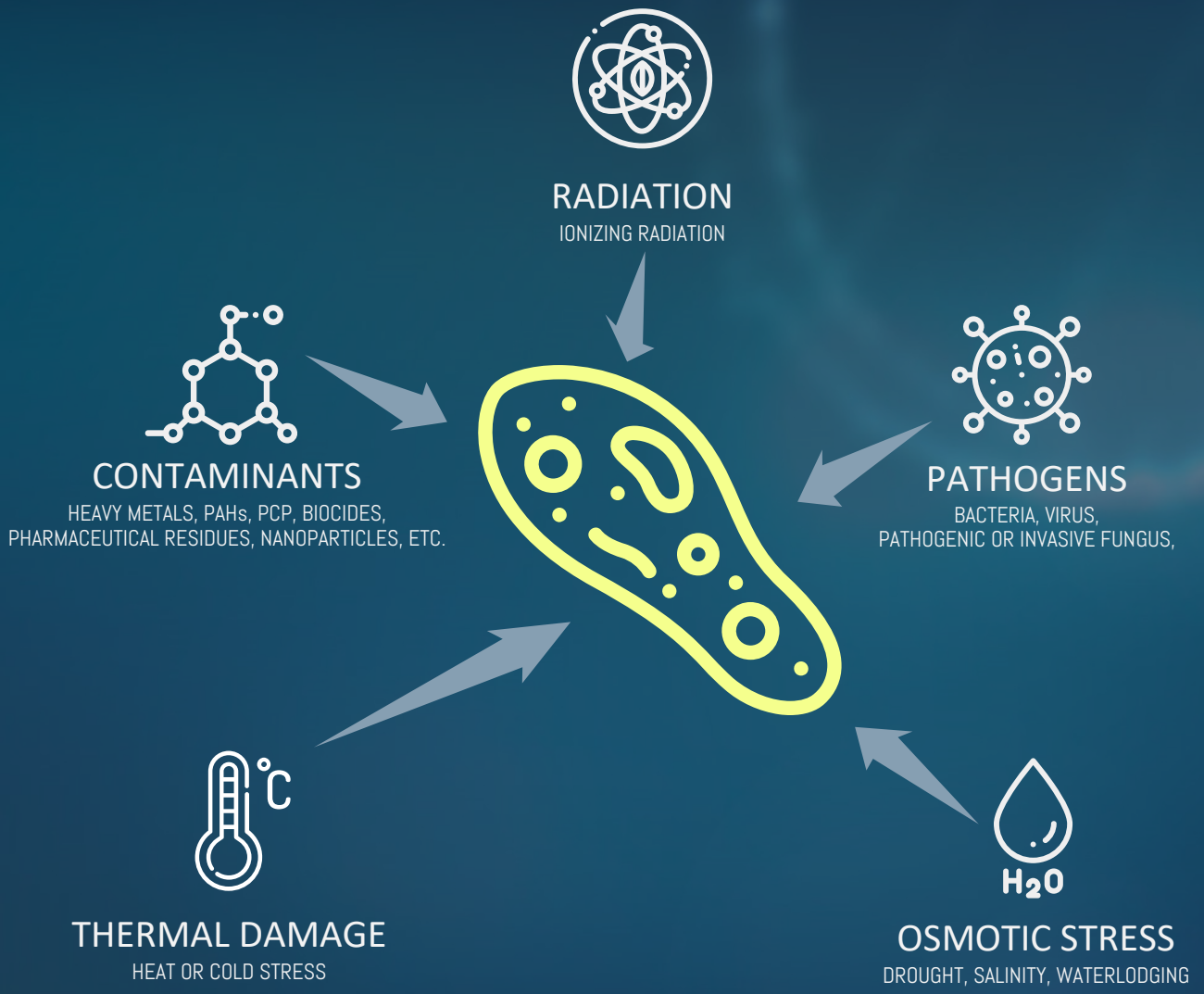
Control

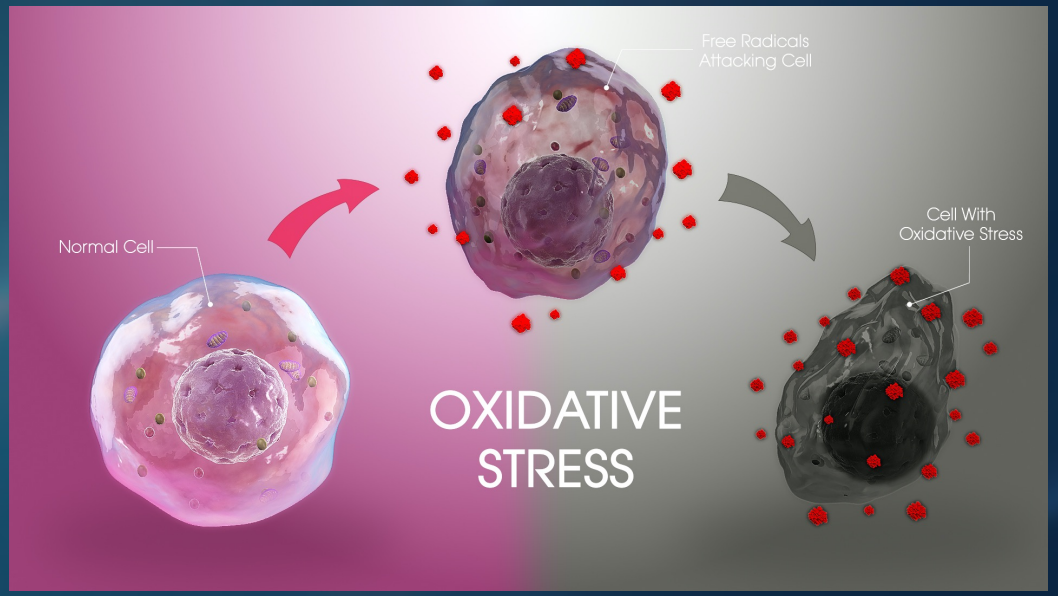
10 ug/L Glifosato

250 ug/L Glifosato

500 ug/L Glifosato

SOURCES OF OXIDATIVE STRESS





OXIDATIVE STRESS

OXIDATIVE STRESS:

- Oxidative stress reflects an **imbalance** between the systemic **manifestation of reactive oxygen species** and a **biological system's ability to readily detoxify** the reactive intermediates or to repair the resulting damage.
- Disturbances in the normal redox state of cells can cause toxic effects through the production of peroxides and free radicals that damage all components of the cell, including proteins, lipids, and DNA.
- Oxidative stress from oxidative metabolism causes base damage, as well as strand breaks in DNA. Base damage is mostly indirect and caused by reactive oxygen species (ROS) generated, e.g. O^{2-} (superoxide radical), OH (hydroxyl radical) and H_2O_2 (hydrogen peroxide).
- Further, some reactive oxidative species act as cellular messengers in redox signalling. Thus, oxidative stress can cause disruptions in normal mechanisms of cellular signalling.
- IMPORTANT: ROS are generated during the normal cell functioning thus the cells also developed anti-oxidant mechanisms to counteract the negative effects produced by ROS.
- In Ecotoxicology, the production or activity of these ROS counteractive measures as well as the ROS-biomolecules reaction products are used to evaluate the cell oxidative stress level.

BIOMARKERS : TYPES

BIOMARKER

A trait or molecular entity that can be measured experimentally and indicate the occurrence of a certain function (normal or pathological) of a certain organisms towards a specific stressor. Ideally these biomarkers should produce a dose related response towards the stressor applied.

ENZYMES

Typically oxidative stress triggered enzymes, which the activity is related to the stress level imposed.

DEGRADATION PRODUCTS

Molecules or compounds that result from the destruction of a cellular structure or metabolite in reaction to stress.

NON-ENZYMATIC ANTI-OXIDANT MOLECULES

Molecules or compounds that are produced in reaction to oxidative stress.

ANALYTICAL PROTOCOL

The DNA strand breaks are measured using the DNA alkaline precipitation assay as described by Olive, 1988. The method includes the precipitation of SDS associated nucleoproteins and genomic DNA followed by the determination of the DNA concentration that remains in the supernatant, which constitutes the damaged DNA. This damaged DNA is labelled with a fluorescent dye and the fluorescence is measured using 360:460 nm to excitation:emission wavelength filters.

SAMPLE PREPARATION

- Extract the sample with 0.5 mL Phosphate Buffer and ultrasounds.
- Centrifuge the sample (fast spin).
- Add 50 uL extract (or 50 uL PBS for the blanks) + 250 uL Reaction Mixture + KCl
- Heat the sample for 10 min at 60 ºC.
- Place on ice for 10 min.
- Centrifuge at 8000 x g for 5 min.

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SAMPLE ANALYSIS

- Add 50 uL of the reaction extract to the well.
- Add 200 uL of Hoesch dye
- Read the fluorescence with 360 nm Excitation and 460 nm Emission
- Compare with the DNA standard curve