

Soil Pollution and Complication in Survival of Earthworm

Roshni Rohit, Rishabh Dev Saket*

Department of Zoology, Chhatrasal Govt. P.G. College, Panna, Madhya Pradesh, India

Research Article

Received: 26-Oct-2025, Manuscript No. JZS-25-151118; **Editor assigned:** 29-Oct-2024, Pre QC No. JZS-25-151118 (PQ); **Reviewed:** 12-Nov-2024, QC No. JZS-25-151118; **Revised:** 04-Jun-2025, Manuscript No. JZS-25-151118 (R); **Published:** 11-Jun-2025, DOI: 10.4172/2321-6190.13.2.002

***For Correspondence:** Roshni Rohit, Department of Zoology, Chhatrasal Govt. P.G. College, Panna, Madhya Pradesh, India;

E-mail: rdev47@gmail.com

Citation: Rohit R, et al. Soil Pollution and Complication in Survival of Earthworm. Res Rev J Zool Sci. 2025;13:002.

Copyright: © 2025 Rohit R, et al. This is an open-access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License, which permits unrestricted use, distribution and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited.

ABSTRACT

Earthworms are an essential element of the soil biota and their response to soil pollutants deserves to be higher understood. Although the toxicity of metallic, pesticide and herbicide contaminate of soils well-known shows many complications in survival of earthworm. Soil pollutants results in obstacle of growth and development of earthworm. The bio-accumulative capability of earthworms is widely recognized, and thus the earthworm could be a useful living organism for the bio-tracking of soil pollutants. Heavy metals get bio-accumulation in their bodies and motive major obstacle in reproduction. Soil pollution have deleterious effect on earthworms at all levels of employer, together with inhibiting enzyme sports, causing DNA damage, lowering survival, increase and cocoon production, changing conduct and decreasing total earthworm community range and biomass. These poor outcomes of soil pollutants on earthworms will have disproportionate adverse results for network balance as well as severe ecological consequences for the whole terrestrial environment. So, pollutants of soil pose a severe threat to earthworms, decreasing their pastime and posing a risk to the environment.

Keywords: Soil pollution; Earthworm; Metal; Pesticide; Herbicide

INTRODUCTION

The term earthworm refers to a particular organization of invertebrates in the taxonomic phylum Annelida ^[1]. Earthworms belong to the Oligochaetes this means that 'few bristles'. Worldwide there are over five, species described and advances in taxonomy the use of DNA are changing this, highlighting new species and new subspecies ^[2]. Earthworms are, as their call suggests, terrestrial, their skin is permeable and that they want a moist surroundings so they don't dry out ^[3]. The different species of earthworms have character requirements just as a canine has from a cat, some earthworm species stay in compost, some stay in everlasting burrows deep down inside the soil, others are content material with the center floor and make complex networks of tunnels as they discover the Earth ^[4]. Earthworms are extra than simply fish bait. They are the primary participants to enriching and enhancing soil for flora, animals and even people ^[5]. Earthworms create tunnels inside the soil by means of burrowing, which aerates the soil to permit air, water and nutrients to attain deep in the soil. Earthworms devour the soil which has natural count which includes decaying flora or leaves ^[6]. Plants cannot use this organic be counted directly. After natural matter is digested, the earthworm releases waste from their bodies known as castings. Castings comprise many vitamins that the plant can use ^[7]. Some people even use earthworm castings as garden fertilizer ^[8].

It is well known that earthworms play a vital position within the soil macro fauna biomass ^[9]. They are extremely vital in soil formation, mainly by way of eating natural rely, fragmenting it, and mixing it intimately with soil mineral particles to shape water-stable aggregates ^[10]. In unique, the bioaccumulation capacity of earthworms is crucial for a bio-monitoring organism. Therefore, the earthworm is probable to be an exceptional organism for this reason ^[11]. A bio-monitoring technique would be suitable to evaluate metallic toxicity, because of its sensitivity and availability for unknown metabolites ^[12]. Organisms along with fish, snails, and flora had been hired as bio-monitors. Although this technique is beneficial and promising, it's also quite limited, due to the fact it could be to be had handiest for a particular aggregate of a living organism with sure materials ^[13]. Hence, it's miles important to locate appropriate residing organisms as bio-monitors for each form of evaluation ^[14]. The earthworm is a candidate bio-reveal organism for soil pollutants, because it performs an important role in the soil macro fauna biomass ^[15]. The species *Eisenia fetida* is most normally utilized in eco-toxicology, and is recognized as a beneficial bio-reveal for testing the chemical toxicity of soil. In particular, this species' proximity to the soil contaminants are a merit for the evaluation ^[16].

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Earthworm

An earthworm consists of a digestive tube housed within a thick cylindrical muscular tube that bureaucracy the frame ^[17]. The frame is divided into segments, and furrows on the surface of the body mark the division between each section ^[18]. The first phase encloses the mouth, and has a fleshy, muscular lobe on the pinnacle ^[19]. This lobe can be pulled in to seal the mouth, or extended ahead to probe the immediately environment. All segments, besides the first, have eight retractable bristles which assist the earthworm to grip surfaces as it actions ^[20].

Segmented body

Earthworms are categorised in the phylum Annelida or Annelids. Annelida in Latin manner, "little earrings." The frame of the earthworm is segmented which seems like many little earrings joined or fused together. The earthworm is made of about 1-a hundred and fifty segments. The segmented body parts offer important structural capabilities. Segmentation can help the earthworm flow. Each section or phase has muscle tissues and bristles referred to as setae. The bristles or setae assist anchor and manage the worm while shifting *via* soil. The bristles maintain a phase of the Trojan horse firmly into the floor at the same time as the other part of the frame protrudes forward. The earthworm makes use of segments to both contract and relax independently to motive the body to prolong in one area or contract in other regions. Segmentation facilitates the Trojan horse to be flexible and sturdy in its motion. If every section moved together without being unbiased, the earthworm would be stationary.

Digestive system

The digestive device is partitioned into many regions, every with a positive characteristic. The digestive device consists of the pharynx, the esophagus, the crop, the intestine and the gizzard. Food which includes soil enters the earthworm's mouth in which it is swallowed with the aid of the pharynx. Then the soil passes *via* the esophagus, which has calciferous glands,

which launch calcium carbonate to rid the earthworm's body of extra calcium. After it passes thru the esophagus, the meals move into the crop wherein it is saved and then subsequently movements into the gizzard. The gizzard makes use of stones that the earthworm eats to grind the meals absolutely. The food movements into the intestines as gland cells within the gut release fluids to useful resource inside the digestive system. The intestinal wall incorporates blood vessels wherein the digested food is absorbed and transported to the rest of the frame.

Circulatory system

Another important organ system is the circulatory tool. The earthworm has a closed circulatory system. An earthworm circulates blood absolutely *via* vessels. There are 3 primary vessels that deliver the blood to organs within the earthworm. these vessels are the aortic arches, dorsal blood vessels, and ventral blood vessels. The aortic arches characteristic like a human heart. There are five pairs of aortic arches which have the duty of pumping blood into the dorsal and ventral blood vessels. The dorsal blood vessels are accountable for sporting blood to the front of the earthworm's body. The ventral blood vessels are accountable for wearing blood to the back of the earthworm's body.

Respiratory system

Earthworms do not have lungs. They breathe *via* their pores and skin. Oxygen and carbon dioxide pass *via* the earthworm's skin by using diffusion. For diffusion to occur, the earthworm's skin should be saved moist. Body fluid and mucous is launched to hold its pores and skin moist. Earthworms consequently, need to be in damp or wet soil. This is one reason why they typically floor at night when it's far possibly cooler and the "evaporating capacity of the air is low." Earthworms have evolved the capacity to come across light even though they cannot see. They have tissue placed at the earthworm's head this is touchy to mild. These tissues allow an earthworm to discover mild and not floor throughout the daytime wherein they could be laid low with the sun.

Earthworm reproduction

Earthworms are hermaphrodites in which each earthworm contains every male and lady intercourse organ. The male and girl sex organs can produce sperm and egg respectively in each earthworm. Despite the fact that earthworms are hermaphrodites, maximum need a mate to reproduce. At some stage in mating, worms line up inverted from each other so sperm can be exchanged. The earthworms each have male openings and sperm receptacles, which take inside the sperm from every different mate. The earthworms have a couple of ovaries that produce eggs. The clitellum will form a slime tube spherical it, as a manner to fill with an albuminous fluid. The earthworm will drift in advance out of the slime tube. As the earthworm passes thru the slime tube, the tube will skip over the girl pore selecting up eggs. The tube will hold to move down the earthworm and bypass over the male pore called the spermatheca which has the stored sperm referred to as the spermatozoa. The eggs will fertilize and the slime tube will near off due to the fact the computer virus moves honestly out of the tube. The slime tube will shape an "egg cocoon" and be placed into the soil. The fertilized eggs will enlarge and become younger worms.

Soil pollution

Soil pollution refers to the contamination of soil with anomalous concentrations of toxic materials. Soil pollution is described because the presence of toxic chemical substances (pollutants or contaminants) in soil, in excessive enough concentrations to pose a threat to human health and/or the environment. In the case of contaminants which arise clearly in soil, even when their degrees are not excessive sufficient to pose a danger, soil pollution is still stated to arise if the tiers of the contaminants in soil exceed the ranges that ought to clearly be gift. It is an extreme environmental problem because it harbours many health dangers. For instance, exposure to soil containing excessive concentrations of benzene will increase the threat of contracting leukaemia. A photograph detailing the discolouration of soil due to soil pollutants is provided beneath. It is critical to remember the fact that all soils incorporate compounds which might be dangerous/toxic to people and other residing organisms. However, the concentration of such substances in unpolluted soil is low enough that they do not pose any threat to the encompassing environment. When the attention of 1 or more such toxic substances is high enough to reason harm to dwelling organisms, the soil is stated to be contaminated. Some of the most hazardous soil pollutants are xenobiotics substances that aren't certainly located in nature and are synthesized through humans. The time period 'xenobiotic' has Greek roots- 'Xenos' (foreigner), and 'Bios' (lifestyles). Several xenobiotics are acknowledged to be cancer causing agents.

The distinct styles of pollution which can be discovered in contaminated soil are listed on this subsection.

Heavy metals: The presence of heavy metals (consisting of lead and mercury, in abnormally high concentrations) in soils can reason it to become quite poisonous to people. Some metals that may be labeled as soil pollutants are tabulated beneath.

These metals can originate from numerous sources which include mining sports, agricultural activities, and digital waste (e-waste), and medical waste.

Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons: Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (frequently abbreviated to PAHs) are natural compounds that:

- Contain handiest carbon and hydrogen atoms.
- Contain more than one aromatic ring of their chemical systems.

Common examples of PAHs consist of naphthalene, anthracene, and phenalene. Exposure to polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons has been linked to several types of most cancers. These organic compounds can also purpose cardiovascular illnesses in humans. Soil pollutants because of PAHs may be sourced to coke (coal) processing, car emissions, cigarette smoke, and the extraction of shale oil.

Industrial waste: The discharge of commercial waste into soils can result in soil pollution. Some common soil pollution that can be sourced from business waste are:

- Chlorinated business solvents.
- Dioxins are constituted of the manufacture of insecticides and the incineration of waste.
- Plasticizers/dispersants.
- Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs).

The petroleum industry creates many petroleum hydrocarbon waste merchandise. Some of those wastes, together with benzene and methylbenzene, are acknowledged to be carcinogenic in nature.

Pesticides: Pesticides are substances (or combinations of substances) which are used to kill or inhibit the increase of pests. Common styles of insecticides utilized in agriculture include:

- Herbicides–used to kill/manipulate weeds and other unwanted plants.
- Insecticides–used to kill insects.
- Fungicides–used to kill parasitic fungi or inhibit their boom.

However, the unintentional diffusion of insecticides into the surroundings (typically referred to as ‘pesticide drift’) poses a ramification of environmental concerns along with water pollution and soil pollutants. Some essential soil contaminants discovered in pesticides are listed under.

Herbicides: Different varieties of herbicides covered triazines, carbamates, amides, phenoxyalkyl acids, aliphatic acids.

Insecticides: Different kinds of insecticides protected organophosphates, chlorinated hydrocarbons, arsenic-containing compounds, pyrethrum.

Fungicides: Different forms of Fungicides protected Mercury-containing compounds, Thiocarbamates, Copper sulfate. These chemical compounds pose several fitness risks to human beings. Examples of health risks related to pesticides include diseases of the principal nervous device, immune system sicknesses, cancer, and beginning defects.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Effects of soil pollution

Soil pollutants isn't always simplest the trouble in India but it's far a global problem. It reasons dangerous effect at the soil and the environment at large. Contamination of soil will decrease the rural output of a land. Major soil pollutants after outcomes are:

Inferior crop quality: It can decrease the nice of the crop. Regular use of chemical fertilizers, inorganic fertilizers, insecticides will decrease the fertility of the soil at a speedy price and regulate the structure of the soil. This will cause lower in soil high-quality and poor great of crops. Over the time the soil becomes much less efficient because of the accumulation of toxic chemical compounds in big quantity.

Harmful effect on human health: It will growth the exposure to poisonous and dangerous chemicals thus growing fitness threats to humans dwelling nearby and at the degraded land. Living, working or gambling in the infected soil can cause breathing sicknesses, pores and skin sicknesses, and different diseases. Moreover, it could cause different health troubles.

Water sources contamination: The surface run-off after raining will carry the polluted soil and enter into unique water useful resource. Thus, it may motive underground water infection thereby causing water pollution. This water after infection isn't fit for human in addition to animal use due to the presence of poisonous chemical compounds.

Negative impact on ecosystem and biodiversity: Soil pollution can motive an imbalance of the atmosphere of the soil. The

soil is a crucial habitat and is the residence of various form of microorganisms, animals, reptiles, mammals, birds, and bugs. Thus, soil pollutants can negatively impact the lives of the dwelling organisms and can result in the slow death of many organisms. It can motive health threats to animals grazing inside the contaminated soil or microorganisms residing inside the soil.

Impact of soil pollution on the earthworm

Heavy metals toxicity on increase and duplicate of *Eisenia fetida* soil pollutants from heavy metallic pollution has amplified to the point that it threatens life of micro and macro plants of earth ecosystems. Numerous industries comprising electroplating, metal completing, metallurgy, tannery, chemical battery manufacturing and mining usually produce huge bulks of heavy steel containing wastewater. It has also been set up that the atmospheric input of heavy metals to agricultural structures additionally appreciably brought to metallic loading in soil. Heavy metals are very standard contaminants of the soil ecosystem as a final result of numerous industrial and agrarian activities. In comparison with hazardous organic compounds, heavy metals do now not collapse and do now not vanish from soil despite the fact that their expulsion to the environments circumscribed. Hence, the effects of heavy steel contamination on soil fauna ultimate for many years. Some major physiological features like nutrients, survival, increase and reproduction are interrupted due to publicity to heavy steel contaminants. Earthworms have been widely branded as bio-indicators to evaluate the soil ecotoxicity. *Eisenia fetida*, popularly referred to as purple wriggler is possibly the maximum extensively accepted earthworm species for vermicomposting and is likewise taken into consideration as suitable earthworm species for sporting out ecotoxicological research as in keeping with tips of OECD. The bug duplicate takes a look at may act as a critical bioindicators for assessing the sublethal consequences of soil pollutants. Hence, this observe centered on evaluation of outcomes of zinc and cadmium infection at the growth and survivability of *E. Fetida*. The gift study of 28 days turned into achieved to analyze the effects of heavy metals viz. cadmium and zinc on survivability and replica price of *E. Fetida*. The worms have been uncovered to Zn (0.2 ppm, 0.4 ppm and 0.06 ppm), Cd (0.002 ppm, 0.04 ppm and 0.06 ppm) and Cd+Zn (0.01+0.01 ppm, 0.02+0.02 ppm and 0.03+0.03 ppm). A dose established reduction in increase, survivability, cocoon manufacturing and no. Of hatchlings/ cocoon turned into discovered. Cd changed into found more poisonous than Zn and Cd in conjunction with Zn act synergistically, consequently proves extra damaging for worms. Maximum discount in growth, live earthworms, cocoon production and hatchlings were discovered in case of Cd (0.06 ppm) accompanied by using Cd (0.04 ppm). Significant discount in survivability and replica rate in case on Zn in comparison to control has also been found.

Effects of metals on earthworms

Earthworms have been indicated as a candidate bio-tracking organism for soil pollutants. Among metals, methyl mercury might be extra without difficulty absorbed through and collected in earthworms, suggesting that the earthworm is an excellent candidate for monitoring methyl mercury. Additionally, mentioned that metallic bioaccumulation via earthworms will be used as an ecological indicator of steel availability. On the opposite hand, metallic pollutants reportedly had no impact on earthworm groups. Chemicals and ecological risk tests have to be based totally on the consequences of the combination, in place of those of a single compound. In this context, the outcomes of sludge contaminated with chromium, copper, nickel, and zinc, and soils freshly spiked with the same aggregate of metals, on *Eisenia andrei*. They detected a lower inside the metallic bioavailability for earthworms, promoted via the excessive organic matter content of the sludge. The consequences of the cadmium and zinc mixtures at the mortality of *Aporrectodea caliginosa* have been mainly hostile, and the importance of the antagonism changed into dependent upon each the relative concentrations of cadmium and zinc and their attention magnitudes. The outcomes of combinations of metals and different chemical sellers, along with pesticides, on earthworms have been additionally investigated. The effects of a binary aggregate of nickel and chlorpyrifos, an organophosphate insecticide, on Lumbricid earthworms, and located that each chemical substance were rapidly amassed to equilibrium. Although the nickel uptake observed the same sample as the unmarried chemical compounds, the costs of chlorpyrifos uptake and elimination have been quicker, suggesting that a mixture of chemical substances in soil may beautify the toxicity to organisms. Taken together, an analysis using a single chemical compound does no longer necessarily mirror its toxicity for organisms within the surroundings.

Effects of pesticides on the earthworm

A more percentage (>80%) of biomass of terrestrial invertebrates is represented by means of earthworms which play a crucial function in structuring and growing the nutrient content of the soil. Therefore, they may be suitable bioindicators of chemical contamination of the soil in terrestrial ecosystems providing an early warning of degradation in soil exceptional. This is important for defensive the fitness of herbal environments and is of increasing interest in the context of defensive

human health in addition to other terrestrial vertebrates which prey upon earthworms. The suitability of earthworms as bioindicators in soil toxicity is basically due to the reality that they ingest big amount of the decomposed muddle, manure, and different natural rely deposited on soil, supporting to convert it into rich topsoil. Moreover, studies have proven that earthworm pores and skin is a large course of contaminant uptake and accordingly research of earthworm biomarkers in the Ecological Risk Evaluation (ERA) may be helpful. *Eisenia fetida* is the usual test organism used in terrestrial ecotoxicology, because it may be without difficulty bred on a ramification of natural wastes with quick era times. Its susceptibility to chemicals resembles that of proper soil organisms. Sensitivity tests of a couple of earthworm species have found out that *Eisenia fetida* is relatively much less sensitive. Although, earthworm species vary in their tolerance, reports have shown a decline in earthworm populations in reaction to large amounts of natural chemical deposition. Mortality has been the maximum often used parameter to evaluate the chemical toxicity in earthworms. It is postulated, however, that survival is much less sensitive from an ecotoxicological point of view and acute mortality assessments might no longer provide the most sensitive risk estimate for earthworms in most of the people (95%) of cases. The continual check, aiming at sublethal results, is greater sensitive and is a more realistic method for the prediction of environmental effects due to the fact inside the area, the publicity concentrations of insecticides are typically pretty low. Moreover, the lethal effect of a chemical is not an essential consequence in intoxication and sublethal consequences. Applied and environmental soil science can be produced. The acute earthworm takes a look at is a part of the basic test set, but the earthworm replica takes a look at is considered ecologically greater relevant. Therefore, growth and duplicate were advocated as beneficial sub lethal criteria.

The weight of the earthworms became a more sensitive index in comparison to the mortality in indicating poisonous outcomes of acetochlor and methamidophos. *Eisenia fetida* are handled with organophosphate insecticide malathion and the impact of exposure to business parathionon *Eisenia fetida*; each observed decrease within the body weight of dealt with worms. Weight loss has additionally been pronounced for organochlorine pesticides intoxication and for the results of fungicides and herbicides in *Eisenia fetida* and *Lumbricus terrestris*. Weight loss seems to be a precious indicator of physiological stress, related to the degree of intoxication and time of publicity. Coiling, another symptom seen in 100% of the Parathion handled worms, is associated with weight loss and is regarded because the effect of alteration in muscular characteristic elicited by way of organo-phosphoric insecticides which may additionally give an explanation for the difficulties for locomotion of the intoxicated worms and their relative lack of ability to feed themselves. Negative effect of insecticides on earthworm increase has been stated *via* diverse researchers. The growth may be seemed as touchy parameters to assess the toxicity of acetochlor on earthworms.

Numerous reproductive parameters were studied in earthworms exposed to numerous xenobiotics: Cocoon and hatchling manufacturing, viability of the worms produced, and sexual maturation. Cocoon production changed into located to be the maximum touchy parameter for paraquat, fentin, benomyl, phenmedipham, carbaryl, copper oxychloride, dieldrin, whilst cocoon hatchability turned into maximum sensitive for pentachlorophenol, parathion and carbendazim, copper oxychloride. The effect of publicity to commercial parathion on the reproductive parameters consisting of sperm and cocoon production and genotoxicity on male germ cells of *Eisenia fetida* and pronounced that changes in reproductive parameters have been conspicuous in regard to the quantity of sperm, cocoons, and worms born. Numbers of juveniles percocoon may be seemed as sensitive parameters to evaluatethe toxicity of acetochlor on earthworms. The cocoon production in Aporrectodea trapezoides was inhibited by endosulfan and fenamiphos at normal application charges and methiocarb. *Eisenia fetida* is treated with organophosphate insecticide malathion and found that malathion reduced the spermatic viability inspermatheca, altering the mobile proliferation and modifying the DNA shape of spermatogonia. Sperm matter additionally seems to be a very touchy marker, malathion could have an effect on the sperm rely, but similarly, its metabolites should affect sperm high-quality. Several scientists have stated that insecticides have an impact on the reproduction (cocoon manufacturing, a reduced imply and maximum number of hatchlings in step with cocoon, and an extended incubation time) of worms in a dose-based way, with extra effect at better concentration of chemical. The results of carbaryl, an N-methyl carbamate insecticide, on the reproductive profiles of the earthworm, *Metaphire posthuma* and found sperm head abnormalities even at the bottom test attention of 0.125 mg/kg. A 125 mg/kg carbaryl, whereas at 0.25 mg/kg and .5 mg/kg, the sperm heads became amorphous and the head nucleus turned into turned into granules deposited inside the wavy head. The acetochlor had no long time impact on the duplicate of *Eisenia fetida* at fielddose (5–1 mg/kg⁻¹). At higher concentrations, acetochlor (2–80 mg/kg) found out sublethal toxicity to *Eisenia fetida*. Chlorpyrifos had unfavourable impact on fecundity in earthworm uncovered to 5 mg/kg chlorpyrifos after 8 weeks. The reproduction of earthworms appeared to be greater severely affected through cypermethrin at juvenile stage than at person stage.

Effect of herbicides on the earthworm

Herbicides, additionally normally known as weed killers, used to kill undesirable vegetation. Selective herbicides kill unique objectives, even as leaving the favored crop noticeably unhurt. Some of those acts *via* interfering with the boom of the weed and are regularly artificial mimics of natural plant hormones. Herbicides used to clean waste ground, business web sites, railways and railway embankments are not selective and kill all plant material with which they arrive into touch. Smaller portions are used in forestry, pasture systems, and management of areas set aside as natural world habitat. Some flora produces natural herbicides, such as the genus *Juglans* (walnuts), or the tree of heaven; such motion of natural herbicides, and other related chemical interactions, is known as allelopathy. Herbicides are broadly utilized in agriculture and panorama turf control. Contact herbicides destroy handiest the plant tissue in touch with the chemical. Generally, those are the quickest performing herbicides. They are much less effective on perennial plants, which can be capable of regrow from rhizomes, roots or tubers. Systemic herbicides are translocated to the plant, both from foliar application down to the roots, or from soil software as much as the leaves. They are able to controlling perennial flowers and may be slower-acting, but in the long run extra powerful than contact herbicides.

The acute earthworm takes a look at is part of the basic check set, but the earthworm replica check is taken into consideration ecologically extra applicable. Therefore, growth and duplicate have been encouraged as useful sub-deadly standards. Mortality has been the most often used parameter to assess the chemical toxicity in earthworms. Moreover, studies have shown that earthworm's skin is a great route of contaminant uptake and as a consequence research of earthworm biomarkers in the ecological danger evaluation (ERA) can be useful. It is postulated, but, that survival is much less touchy from an Eco toxicological factor of view. The acute mortality exams would not offer the maximum sensitive threat estimate for earthworms in the general public (95%) of cases. The herbicide Phenmedipham are handled towards earthworm and found that replica to be a more sensitive end factor than mortality in *Enchytraeus albidus* and *Enchytraeus luxuriosus*. The persistent check, cautioned that sub-deadly consequences, is touchier and is a more realistic technique for the prediction of environmental results because in the discipline, the publicity concentrations of insecticides are typically pretty low.

Herbicides affect numerous ways to earthworms as the feeding behavior, which changed into contemplated within the weight loss and reproduction potential. The soil animals, specially earthworms, are one of the best bio indicators of pesticide infection. The agrochemical concentration is better in floor layers; earthworm activity is very lots decreased in the surface layer. Herbicides have widely variable toxicity. In addition to acute toxicity from high from exposure levels there may be subject of feasible carcinogenicity as well as other lengthy-term problems, consisting of contributing to Parkinson's sickness. Selective herbicides kill specific goals even as leaving the desired crop particularly unharmed. Some of those acts *via* interfering with the boom of the weed and are after artificial mimics of herbal flora hormones. Herbicides used to clean waste ground, commercial web sites, railways and railway embankments are not selective and kill all plant material with which they come into touch. The need to provide more food for ever increasing world population in particular within the growing economics calls for sizeable use of agrochemical which effect non-target soil fauna populace. The continuous use of chemical herbicides leads to loss of soil fertility and soil organism. The maximum chemical doses are poisonous to birds, mammals and worms. Earthworms at once influence the staying power of herbicides within the soil. The doses of herbicides have tremendous impact to environment and public health.

The use of particular herbicides, fungicides, pesticides within the agricultural discipline may be exceedingly toxic to earthworm population. The specific fundamental function of earthworms in paedogenesis through blending of the debris in the course of digesting, depositing their casts at some stage in the soil column, and enhancing aeration and drainage of the rural soils. Earthworms also are important members to the recycling of carbon and nitrogen within the ecosystem, so, they may be used as bioindicators. The pesticides influence the replica (cocoon manufacturing, a discounted imply and maximum wide variety of hatchlings according to cocoon and an extended incubation time) of worms in dose structured way, with more effect at higher concentration of chemical. Herbicide use has increased dramatically round the arena over the past 6 decades. Approximately 1.14 billion kilograms of herbicides had been carried out globally for the managing of undesirable plant life in agricultural, silvicultural, lawncare, aquacultural, and irrigation/recreational water management activities. The herbicides are automatically used on extra than 9% of the place special for massive industrial plants such as corn, soybeans, cotton, sugar beets, peanuts, and rice. Herbicides have augmented advances in huge-scale agricultural structures and feature in large part changed mechanical and hand-weeding manipulate mechanisms. The huge-spread use of herbicides in agriculture has ended in frequent chemical detections in floor and ground waters. The majority of herbicides used is fantastically water soluble and are consequently at risk of runoff from terrestrial environments. In addition, spray go with the flow and atmospheric deposition can make a contribution to herbicide infection of aquatic environments. Lastly,

decided on herbicides are deliberately carried out to aquatic environments for controlling nuisance aquatic flowers. Generally, herbicides happen low toxicity on the earthworms, however not directly can produce the reduction of the populations *via* decreasing the organic rely enter and weed insurance. Earthworms can contribute appreciably to soil formation *via* consumption of dead plant and animal be counted, mixing of the particles throughout digesting, depositing their casts for the duration of the soil column and enhancing aeration and drainage of the soil burrowing. Earthworms are also crucial contributors to the recycling of carbon and nitrogen in the environment. This makes them one of the maximum suitable bioindicator organisms for trying out chemical compounds inside the soil. Toxicity of chemical substances various in earthworms as different factors like temperature, concentration, contacts to earthworms, soil and soil texture and so on. Reproduction in earthworms is atypical due to but occurs cross fertilization because of protandrous circumstance for success full version. The percentage of clitellum development decreased with increasing awareness of but achlor of unique herbicides, fungicides and pesticides within the agricultural field can be tremendously toxic to earthworm and they'll suppress or nearly removed earthworm populace.

Soil environments are infected by means of the indiscriminate use of fertilizers, insecticides and herbicides, which affect the soil vegetation and fauna population. Earthworms have been used as version experimental organisms for toxicity in addition to bioaccumulation evaluation. The fungicide copper oxychloride decreased cocoon production with expanded awareness of fungicide in *Eisenia fetida*. Some herbicides are without delay poisonous to earthworms even as others have really no outcomes. Herbicides affect the feeding conduct of earthworms, which became reflected in the weight reduction and reproductive potential. Use of particular herbicides, fungicides and pesticides in the agricultural field may be surprisingly toxic to earthworms and they'll suppress or nearly get rid of earthworm populace.

CONCLUSION

Earthworms are a keystone species that make up most of the people of soil fauna. Contamination of soil is a serious danger to earthworms which reduces their hobby and consequently poses a risk to the environment. Negative outcomes on keystone species will have disproportionately damaging outcomes for community balance as well as extreme ecological results for the whole terrestrial environment. Through food chain transmission and bioaccumulation, heavy metals, pesticide and herbicide have direct and oblique results on earthworm. Therefore, it is essential to defend earthworms in opposition to pollution on the way to preserve biodiversity and sustain soil ecological features. They can also function sentinel species to decide how severe the effects of soil pollution are; as an example, if earthworm populations are harmed, it's miles a signal that infection degrees are risky to the environment.

Although all the reported studies expanded the knowledge about the heavy metal toxicity to earthworms, there are expertise gaps about numerous factors. The in addition research are had to higher apprehend the mechanism of absorption, bioaccumulation and distribution of heavy metals, the factors affecting the metabolic pathways in metallic-contaminated earthworms and the detoxification reactions of earthworms. There is need to discover some new techniques and sustainable methods to successfully overcome the heavy metal pollutants, in order that soil organisms may be blanketed from heavy metal toxicity. An endogenic earthworm plays essential function in vermicomposting and complements the soil fertility but abundant use of chemicals and herbicides have an effect on decrease earthworm population. Herbicides have deadly effect towards earthworm and decrease the populace in soil habitat. The conservation of earthworm of their habitat is better for recycling of biological wastes in to rich vitamins manure. The use of vermicomposting in agricultural fields is also beneficial to macro-organisms of soil habitat due to the fact it's far eco-pleasant and biotechnological tool for the earthworm population enhancement and right wastes management.

REFERENCES

1. Booth LH, et al. Growth development and fecundity of the earthworm *Aporrectodea caliginosa* after exposure to two organophosphates. N Z Plant Prot. 2000;53:221-225.
2. Chen J, et al. Individual and combined effects of herbicide tribenuron-methyl and fungicide tebuconazole on soil earthworm *Eisenia fetida*. Sci Rep. 2018;8:2967.
3. Correia FV, et al. Effects of glyphosate and 2, 4-D on earthworms (*Eisenia foetida*) in laboratory tests. Bull Environ Contam Toxicol. 2010;85:264-268.
4. Farrukh S, et al. Effects of dichlorovos organophosphate on growth, reproduction, and avoidance behavior of earthworm *Eisenia foetida*. Iran J Toxicol. 2011;5:495-451.

5. Garcia-Gomez C, et al. Joint effects of zinc oxide nanoparticles and chlorpyrifos on the reproduction and cellular stress responses of the earthworm *Eisenia andrei*. *Sci Total Environ*. 2019;688:199-207.
6. Garcia-Perez JA, et al. Interactive effect of glyphosate-based herbicides and organic soil layer thickness on growth and reproduction of the tropical earthworm *Pontoscolex corethrurus* (Müller, 1857). *Appl Soil Ecol*. 2020;155:103648.
7. Hattab S, et al. Transcriptional expression levels and biochemical markers of oxidative stress in the earthworm *Eisenia andrei* after exposure to 2,4-dichlorophenoxyacetic acid (2,4-D). *Ecotoxicol Environ Saf*. 2015;122:76-82.
8. Jordaan MS, et al. Acute and sublethal effects of sequential exposure to the pesticide azinphos-methyl on juvenile earthworms (*Eisenia andrei*). *Ecotoxicology*. 2012;21:649-661.
9. Santadino M, et al. Glyphosate sublethal effects on the population dynamics of the earthworm *Eisenia fetida* (Savigny, 1826). *Water Air Soil Pollut*. 2014;225:1-8.
10. Santos MJ, et al. Pesticide application to agricultural fields: Effects on the reproduction and avoidance behaviour of *Folsomia candida* and *Eisenia andrei*. *Ecotoxicology*. 2012;21:2113-2122.
11. Sorour J, et al. Toxic effects of benomyl on the ultrastructure during spermatogenesis of the earthworm *Eisenia fetida*. *Ecotoxicol Environ Saf*. 2001;50:180-188.
12. Zhou S, et al. Toxicity assessment for chlorpyrifos-contaminated soil with three different earthworm test methods. *J Environ Sci*. 2007;19:854-858.
13. Zhou S, et al. Individual and combined toxic effects of cypermethrin and chlorpyrifos on earthworm. *J Environ Sci*. 2011;23:676-680.
14. Richardson JB, et al. Exotic earthworms decrease Cd, Hg, and Pb pools in upland forest soils of Vermont and New Hampshire USA. *Bull Environ Contam Toxicol*. 2017;99:428-432.
15. Richardson JB, et al Trace metals and metalloids in forest soils and exotic earthworms in northern New England, USA. *Soil Biol Biochem*. 2015;85:190-198.
16. Richardson JB, et al. Synthesis of earthworm trace metal uptake and bioaccumulation data: Role of soil concentration, earthworm ecophysiology, and experimental design. *Environ Pollut*. 2020;262:114126.
17. Rinklebe J, et al. Health risk assessment of potentially toxic elements in soils along the Central Elbe River, Germany. *Environ Int*. 2019;126:76-88.
18. Šrut M, et al. Earthworms and cadmium-heavy metal resistant gut bacteria as indicators for heavy metal pollution in soils?. *Ecotoxicol Environ Saf*. 2019;171:843-853.
19. Suleiman H, et al. Determination of the performance of vermicomposting process applied to sewage sludge by monitoring of the compost quality and immune responses in three earthworm species: *Eisenia fetida*, *Eisenia andrei* and *Dendrobaena veneta*. *Bioresour Technol*. 2017;241:103-112.
20. Suthar S, et al. Metal remediation from partially composted distillery sludge using composting earthworm *Eisenia fetida*. *J Environ Monit*. 2008;10:1099-1106.