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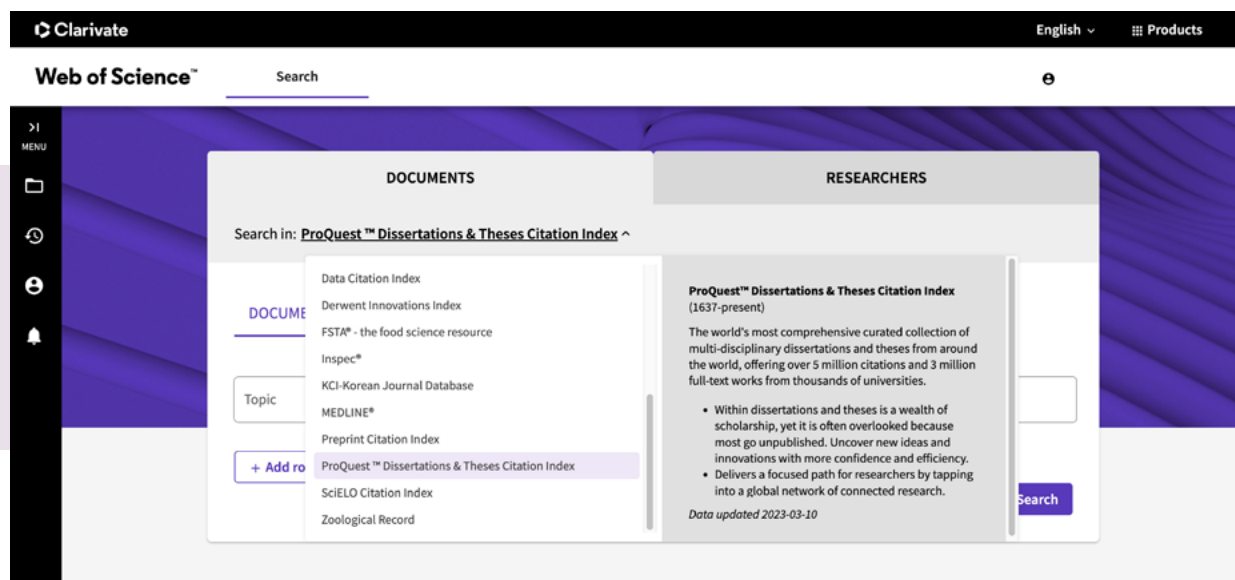


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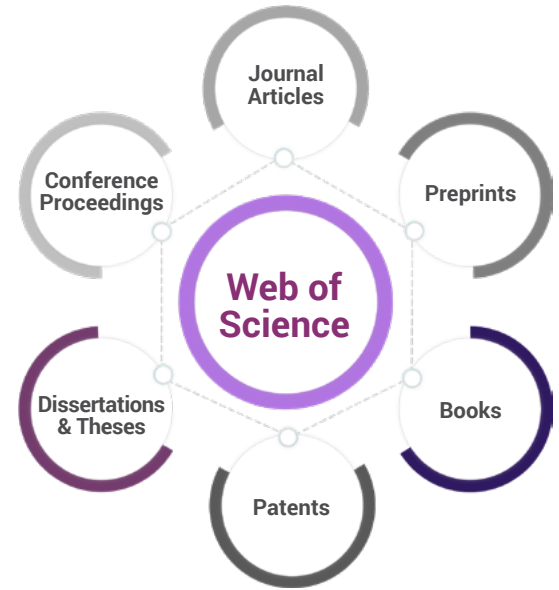
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Distribution, ontogenetic profile, and anti-tetrodotoxin in two species of blue-ringed octopuses (*Hapalochloa lunulata* and *H. fasciata*)

By: Williams, Becky Lynn (Williams, Becky Lynn)
Institution: University of California, Berkeley
Published: 2008
Indexed: 2023-09-22
Document Type: Dissertation/Thesis

Abstract: Blue-ringed octopuses possess a potent neurotoxin, tetrodotoxin (TTX), that is produced by symbiotic bacteria. I examined the distribution of TTX in posterior salivary gland (PSG), arms, mantle, and gill tissue, and the presence of TTX in the PSG of both species. However, the integumentary PSG were approximately 3 times more toxic than females. I discovered that TTX was present just beneath the epidermal layer. This suggested a TTX transport mechanism in the blood of a broader tissue, gills, and epidermis. The presence of TTX in *H. lunulata* is a transmission electron microscope, but we found that female *H. lunulata* have TTX in offspring. Offspring toxicity increases throughout development, yet, female toxicity is not explained by the fact that offspring toxicity increases when they possess 204.8 ± 33.7 ng TTX and were distributed to a new and distinct life position. I conclude that an unknown mechanism of TTX transport is present in the blood of *H. lunulata*.

Author Keywords: Anti-predator defense, Hapalochloa, Posterior salivary gland

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- Mechanisms of Tetrodotoxin Production and Resistance in the Poisonous Rough-Skinned Newt. Vuel, Faye M. Michigan State University, 2013.
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