# Measurement the natural radioactivity of fertilizer paradigms by utilizing (HPGe) detector

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#### Abstract

The specific activity in 10 fertilizer paradigm in five types of fertilizer (M.F), paradigm (O.N.), paradigm (T.S.P), paradigm (S.S.P) and paradigm Urea }, then found the specific activity by utilizing (HPGe) detector. The results obtained have shown that the max value  $A_U$  and  $A_{Th}$  in (T.S.P), Lebanese origin, which was equivalent (28.660, 30.470) Bq/kg, respectively.

**Keywords**: fertilizer paradigms, specific activity, (HPGe) detector.

قياس النشاط الإشعاعي الطبيعي لعينات السماد باستخدام كاشف (HPGe)

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#### الخلاصة

في العمل الحالي، قمنا بقياس الفعالية الاشعاعية في عشر عينات سماد في خمسة أنواع من السماد العينة (MF)، والعينة (ON) والعينة (TSP)، والعينة (SSP) العينة يوريا، ثم وجدنا الفعالية الاشعاعية باستخدام كاشف الجرمانيوم عالي النقاوة أظهرت النتائج التي تم الحصول عليها أنه تم العثور على أعلى تقدير لـ  $A_{Th}$  و  $A_{Th}$  في عينة (TSP)، من أصل لبناني، والتي كانت تساوي ( $B_{T}$ , ۲۸.٦٦،  $B_{T}$  على التوالي.  $B_{T}$  على التوالي. (HPGe)

#### Introduction

Radioactivity in natural fertilizers, whether in Organic or Organic, is just too vulnerable is just too vulnerable but it can not be ignored, while in chemical fertilizers the radioactivity varies according to the constituent elements of these fertilizers. Most chemical fertilizers include of substances containing nitrogen, <sup>40</sup>K and phosphorus. Nitrogen includes radioactivity that may be not noted. Phosphorus consists of concentrations of <sup>232</sup>Th and <sup>238</sup>U decay products. Most of phosphate rocks almost (80%–90%) are considered the raw source of phosphate fertilizer manufacture [1]. The last element, K-40, contains small amounts of <sup>40</sup>K. The <sup>238</sup>U is a phosphate companion, therefore phosphate fertilizers contain high

concentrations of uranium compared to other types of fertilizers [2]. These radionuclides may be absorb by plants and transported to their edible parts, which become a supply of inner exposure to the organism [3]. Fertilizers are hugely used to enhance yield of the crop by means of helping nutrient reserves in soil, however, these fertilizers interfere with chemical, biological and physical properties of the soil [4].

## 1. Collection and Preparation of the paradigm

Ten paradigms of inorganic and organic fertilizers are collected from different Iraqi agricultural offices. The fertilizer paradigms were squashed to little pieces (fine powder) by utilizing electrical mill, then about of (750g) and  $(300\mu m)$ .

#### **Determination of some Gamma Radiation Parameters**

# 1-Activity Concentration [5]:

$$A = \frac{NET}{\varepsilon^* I_*^* m^* t} \qquad \dots (1)$$

## 2- Radium Equivalent (Raeq)[5]:

$$Ra_{eq} = (0.077A_K) + (1.43A_{Th}) + (A_U)$$

Where:

 $A_K$ ,  $A_U$  and  $A_{Th}$  are the concentrations specific activity of  $^{40}K$ ,  $^{238}U$  and  $^{232}Th$  respectively.

## 3- Absorbed Dose Rate (Dy) [6]:

$$D_v (nGy/h) = 0.0417A_K + 0.604A_{Th} + 0.462A_U$$

# 4-Annual Effective Dose Equivalent [7]:

(AED) 
$$_{in} = D_v \times 10^{-6} \times 0.80 \times 0.7 \times 8760 \text{ h/y}$$

$$(AED)_{out} = D_v \times 10^{-6} \times 0.20 \times 0.7 \times 8760 \,h/y$$

#### 5-External (Hex) and Internal (Hin) Hazard Indices [8]:

$$H_{in} = \left(\frac{A_u}{185}\right) + \left(\frac{A_{Th}}{259}\right) + \left(\frac{A_K}{4810}\right)$$

$$H_{ex} = \left(\frac{A_u}{370}\right) + \left(\frac{A_{Th}}{259}\right) + \left(\frac{A_k}{4810}\right)$$
6-Activity gamma Index (I<sub>V</sub>) [9]:

$$I_y = \frac{A_y}{300} + \frac{A_{yy}}{200} + \frac{A_y}{3000}$$

#### **Outcomes and Discussion**

Ten paradigm from various types of fertilizer was available in the local emporium, the countries like, (Lebanon, Iran, Jordan and Iraq) in the five types of fertilizer {Urea, mixed fertilizer (M.F),organic nitrogenous(O.N.), ,single super phosphate (S.S.P) and triple super phosphate (T.S.P)}, then found the specific activity by utilizing (HPGe detector).

In Table (1) and Fig.(1) see that: The  $A_{Th}$  and  $A_{U}$  was in paradigm triple super phosphate (T.S.P), Lebanese origin, was equivalent (28.660  $^{Bq/kg}$ , 30.470  $^{Bq/kg}$ ), while the least estimation of  $A_{U}$  and  $A_{Th}$  was found in paradigm organic nitrogenous (O.N.), Jordanian origin,which was equivalent (13.470  $^{Bq/kg}$ , 17.550  $^{Bq/kg}$ ), with a rate estimation of (20.785±3.6  $^{Bq/kg}$ ) and 24.695±3.3  $^{Bq/kg}$ ), respectively. The present outcomes have demonstrated that estimations of  $A_{U}$  and  $A_{Th}$  in fertilizer paradigms were value of (35  $^{Bq/kg}$ ) and 30  $^{Bq/kg}$ ), respectively[10].

The highest value of  $A_k$  was found in paradigm (T.S.P), Jordanian origin which was equivalent (276.820  $^{Bq/kg}$ ), while the least estimation of  $A_k$  was found in paradigm Urea Iraqi origin which was equivalent (133.820  $^{Bq/kg}$ ), with a rate estimation of (210.336±42.8  $^{Bq/kg}$ ). were value of (400  $^{Bq/kg}$ ) [10].

The parameters [Ra<sub>eq</sub>,D<sub>\gamma\$</sub>, (AED)  $_{in}$ , (AED)  $_{out}$ , H $_{in}$ , H $_{ex}$  and I $_{g}$ ] was found in paradigms triple super phosphate (T.S.P), Lebanese origin which was equivalent (90.985 Bq/kg, 41.800 Bq/kg, 0.205 Bq/kg, 0.051 Bq/kg, 0.323 Bq/kg, 0.246 Bq/kg and 0.329 Bq/kg),,while the parameters [Ra<sub>eq</sub>,D<sub>\gamma\$</sub>, (AED)  $_{in}$ , (AED)  $_{out}$ , H $_{in}$  and I $_{g}$ ] was found in paradigms Urea Iraqi origin which was equivalent (55.249 Bq/kg, 25.176 Bq/kg, 0.124 Bq/kg,0.031 Bq/kg, 0.149 Bq/kg and 0.199 Bq/kg), while the least estimation of parameter H $_{ex}$  found in paradigm organic nitrogenous (O.N.),Jordanian origin, which was equivalent to (0.188 Bq/kg), with a rate estimation of (72.295±10.4 Bq/kg, 33.289±4.7 Bq/kg,0.163±0.02 Bq/kg, 0.041±0.006 Bq/kg,0.251±0.03 Bq/kg,0.195±0.02 Bq/kg and 0.263±0.03 Bq/kg). The (T.S.P) it has more radioactivity than other types of fertilizers because phosphate rocks have a large amount of natural  $^{238}$ U.

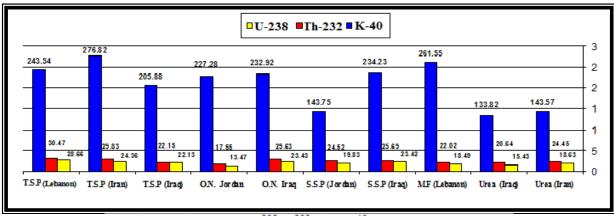


Fig.(1) specific activity of (238U, 232 Th and 40K) in all fertilizer samples.

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Table (1) specific activities of U-238, Th-232 and K-40 with some other parameters [Raeq,D $\gamma$ , (AED) in ,(AED) out, Hin, Hex and I $\gamma$ ] in fertilizer samples.

Paradi gm type	Origin	<sup>238</sup> U	<sup>232</sup> Th	<sup>40</sup> K	Ra <sub>eq</sub>	Dy	(A. E. D)				
							Indoor E <sub>in</sub>	Outdoor E <sub>out</sub>	H <sub>in</sub>	H <sub>ex</sub>	Ιγ
Urea	Iran	18.630	24.450	143.570	64.648	29.362	0.144	0.036	0.225	0.175	0.232
Urea	Iraq	15.430	20.640	133.820	55.249	25.176	0.124	0.031	0.191	0.149	0.199
(M.F)	Lebanon	18.490	22.020	261.550	70.118	32.749	0.161	0.040	0.239	0.189	0.259
S.S.P	Iraq	23.420	25.690	234.230	78.192	36.104	0.177	0.044	0.274	0.211	0.285
S.S.P	Jordan	19.830	24.520	143.750	65.962	29.966	0.147	0.037	0.232	0.178	0.237
O.N.	Iraq	23.430	29.630	232.920	83.736	38.434	0.189	0.047	0.289	0.226	0.304
O.N.	Jordan	13.470	17.550	227.280	56.067	26.301	0.129	0.032	0.188	0.151	0.208

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T.S.P	Iraq	22.130	22.150	205.880	69.657	32.188	0.158	0.039	0.248	0.188	0.253
T.S.P	Iran	24.360	29.830	276.820	88.332	40.815	0.200	0.050	0.304	0.239	0.323
T.S.P	Lebanon	28.660	30.470	243.540	90.985	41.800	0.205	0.051	0.323	0.246	0.329
Avr.		20.785±3.6	24.695 ±3.3	210.336 ±42.8	72.295± 10.4	33.289± 4.7	0.163 ±0.02	0.041 ±0.006	0.251 ±0.03	0.195 ±0.02	0.263 ±0.03
Min.		13.470	17.550	133.820	55.249	25.176	0.124	0.031	0.188	0.149	0.199
Max.		28.660	30.470	276.820	90.985	41.800	0.205	0.051	0.323	0.246	0.329
World wide rate [10]		35.00	30.00	400.00	370.00	55	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0

#### 2. Conclusions

The values of specific activity for (<sup>232</sup>Th, <sup>40</sup>K and <sup>238</sup>U) and determination the parameters ,all were found to be minimum than the corresponding allowed, and hence will be pose relatively none the health risk.

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