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## Acta Medica Iranica

2009;47(4) : 103-108

Evaluation of butachlor for control of some submerged macrophytes along with its impact on biotic components of freshwater system

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### Abstract:

In this investigation, the efficacy of the herbicide butachlor, (N-butoxymethyl-2 chloro-21, 61 diethyl acetanilide) was tested against few common submerged macrophytes namely Hydrilla (*Hydrilla verticillata* (L.) Royale), Najas (*Najas minor* All.), Nechamandra (*Nechamandra alternifolia* (Roxb.) Thwaites) and Ottelia (*Ottelia alismoides* (L.) Pers.) of freshwater fish ponds. Almost complete decay of Hydrilla, Nechamandra and Ottelia was achieved at 7.5 L of active ingredient/ha/m butachlor within 15 days while the herbicide showed no negative effect on Najas. However at the same concentration of butachlor, total mortality of zooplankton and water fern Azolla (*Azolla caroliniana* Lamarck) occurred within seven days. In case of few freshwater fish species like Rohu (*Labeo rohita*), Channa (*Channa punctatus*), Anabas (*Anabas testitudineus*) and Heteropneustes (*Heteropneustes fossilis*), total mortality occurred upto 90 days after application of the same dose of butachlor but fish survived beyond 120 days of herbicide application indicating degradation of the herbicides.

### Keywords:

[Hydrilla verticillata](#) . [Najas minor](#) . [Nechamandra alternifolia](#) . [Ottelia alismoides](#) . [Azolla caroliniana](#) . [butachlor](#)

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