Report on Standardization of Rhinomanometry criteria and using 3 allergen dilutions (0.01, 0.1 and 1 mg/ml) (Fidelis-Aristegui, Spain) in randomized patients with positive prick test (10 mg/ml).

We performed a personal symptom-score (nasal discharge, pruritus and sneezes) questionnaire.

**Results.** The Agg (mg protein/ml) values found were: Ricinus c. 7.2, Zygophyllum fabago 930, Mercurialis annua 3570, Betula verrucosa 2720, Olea europea 1900, Helianthus annus 1000, Lolium perenne 5.800. Rhinomanometry: 34 SPT-positive-patients. 15 (44.1%) were discarded (inspecific nasal hyperreactivity). 8 (42.1%) out of the other 19; positive criteria and 11 (59.87%) negative. Negative control 12 non atopic subjects. 6 of the 8 positive (75%) showed specific RAST ≥ class 1. 2 (18.2%) negative patients had RAST ≥ class 1.

**Conclusions.** Ricinus communis pollen is an allergen causing respiratory (mainly nasal) symptoms. Found in mild climate areas, it can play an important role in Mediterranean countries patients. It is surprising the higher figures of nasal hyperreactivity. Further studies about this fact are going on.

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**IMPORTANCE OF TROPONYOSIN IN THE ALLERGY TO HOUSEHOLD ARTHROPODS. CROSS-REACTIVITY WITH OTHER INVERTEBRATE EXTRACTS**

A. Martinez, J. Martinez, R. Palacios, R. Panzani; Bilbao, Spain and Marseille1, France

The aim of the study was to investigate the involvement of the actin binding protein tropomyosin in the allergic sensitization of patients to household arthropods, as well as to study its panallergenic character in relation to other invertebrate extracts.

Three arthropod extracts were prepared, namely fly (Musca domestica), moth (Euphestia spp.) and spider (Tegenaria spp.), and used to evaluate by cutaneous and RAST tests a population of 100 household arthropods allergic patients. Twenty-nine sera were selected for the subsequent SDS-PAGE Immunoblotting assays. Tropomyosin was purified by electrophoresis and used for production of a polyclonal antiserum.

The antiserum was used for tropomyosin identification, together with the exclusive change in mobility of the protein under 6M urea SDS-PAGE conditions.

IgE binding bands at 36, 34, 31, 27 and 17 kDa were detected in the fly extract by more than 50% of tested sera. In moth and spider extracts, the more relevant allergens were found at 34, 31, 24 and 110, 38, 35, 26, 19 kDa, respectively.

Cross-reactivity studies performed by SDS-PAGE Immunoblotting using a pool of household arthropod allergic patients and tropomyosin antiserum demonstrated the presence of such protein as a cross-reacting allergen in a large variety of extracts obtained from mites, insects, crustaceans, molluscs and parasites.

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**GRASS POLLEN ALLERGY IN HUNGARY**

M. Juhász1, 2, M. Járás-Komádi, E. Kadocsa1, Gy. Mecsi1, I. Juhász1, 3, IATE and SZAOTE Universities, Szeged. 2SOTE and ELTE Universities, Budapest, Hungary

We present the results of 8 years aeroplynomological and allergological study on airborne grass pollen grains in two Hungarian cities, in Budapest and Szeged.

Berkland volumetric pollen traps were used for these monitorings.

Grasses are one of the most important aeroallergens in Hungary. Their pollen production 13-17 % of the yearly total pollen concentration. Yearly number of flowering days was 104-175, the main period is May-June. Number of those days, when daily pollen count was more than the threshold value: 32-38 days/ year, in the yearly peak days were counted 205-308 PG/m3 in Budapest, 150-349 PG/m3 in Szeged.

Yearly total grass pollen concentration was between 1200-2800 PG/m3 in Budapest, 1500-3400 PG/m3 in Szeged.

On the basis of SPT (skin prick test), in Szeged (n=261) 59 % of patients with grass pollen polinosis suffer from hay fever only in May and June, 41 % of them has symptoms during all the grass pollen season. Polyenensensation to other pollen allergens is very frequent (82%), 57% of patients was allergic to both Poaceae and Secale, 63 % to ragweed and 33 % to mugwort.

In Budapest the prevalence of SPT positivity in patients with seasonal rhinitis allergica (n= 105), grass pollen positive 67,8 %, to Secale 57,1 %, to Daucus glomerata 41 %, to Zea mays 39 %, to Poa pratensis 28,6 % and to Phleum pratense 21 %.

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**AEROBIOLOGIC STUDY ON CHENOPODIALES POLLEN IN THE BADAJOZ AREA (SW SPAIN)**

1University of Extremadura. 2Allergology Department. Infanta Cristina University Hospital. 3Agrarian Engineering School. Badajoz, Spain

Pollens from various species of Chenopodiales cause allergic symptoms. About 34.5% of pollinic patients living in the Medi-