Trace Elements in Man and Animals 6

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PREFACE

This book is the published proceedings of the Sixth International Symposium on Trace Element Metabolism in Man and Animals. The Symposium was held at the Asilomar Conference Center in Pacific Grove, California, U.S.A. from May 31 through June 5, 1987. The decision to hold TEMA-6 at Asilomar was made at TEMA-5 in 1985. The International Guidance Committee decided to hold the meeting in California in part to recognize the significant contributions made to the field of trace element metabolism by Professor Lucille S. Hurley. As such, she was the obvious choice as chair of the local organizing committee. One of the principal goals of Professor Hurley was that TEMA-6 serve as a forum for discussing the use and application of newer methodologies, such as molecular biology, computer modelling and stable isotopes, in studies of trace element metabolism. Based on the comments which the local organizing committee has received, this goal was achieved.

The Symposium was attended by 275 scientists from 32 countries covering 6 continents. Twenty-five speakers were chosen for our plenary sessions. One hundred contributions were presented verbally and an additional 180 were presented as posters. Particularly gratifying to the Organizing Committee was the high attendance at both the evening sessions as well as those on the last day of the meeting, suggesting that, despite the pleasant surroundings of the Carmel Valley, the topics presented were of interest to all participants. We would like to express our sincere thanks to all the participants and session chairs for their valuable contributions. We are also very grateful to the members of the International Guidance Committee for their assistance in arranging this meeting, and to the graduate students in attendance from the University of California, Davis, who assisted in various ways in keeping the meeting running smoothly. Moreover, the editors also thank Ms. Barbara Brandon and Ms. Carol Biancalana for their excellent secretarial and managerial assistance, without which this book would not have been published in the timely fashion that it has been.

In August of 1988 we received the first galleys for this book, which were proofed by Professor Hurley, who expressed at the time her satisfaction with the Proceedings. It was a tremendous shock to us when, a few weeks later, Professor Hurley died from complications arising from surgery. The members of the local organizing committee would like to hope that, in some small way, the Proceedings of this meeting serve as a memorial to Professor Hurley and the outstanding scientific as well as personal contributions that she made to the field of trace element metabolism.

C. L. Keen, B. Lønnerdal and R. B. Rucker, Davis, 1988.

CONTENTS

SELENIUM

The Global Selenium Agenda	1
O. A. Levander	
The Predicament -- How Should Selenoproteins be Hydrolyzed and Bioavailability Studies with Selenium Conducted?	7
P. D. Whanger	
Bioavailability of Selenium in Wheat and Mushrooms as Assessed by a Short-term and a Long-term Experiment	9
M. Vainio, M. Mutanen, and H. Mykkänen	
Selenium Status During Recovery from Malnutrition: Effect of Selenium Supplementation	11
C. Murphy, B. Golden, D. Ramdath, and M. Golden	
Selenium and Glutathione Peroxidase in Mothers Experiencing Sudden Infant Death Syndrome	13
J. Valentine, B. Faraji, and K. Akashi	
Selenium Responsive Conditions and the Concentrations of Selenium in Skeletal Muscle in Young Sheep	15
D. W. Peter, D. J. Buscall, and P. Young	
Selenium Status Improved Among Elderly Due to Selenium-Enrichment of Fertilizers in Finland	19
M. Tolonen, M. Halme, S. Sarna, T. Westermarck, U.-R. Nordberg, and W. Bayer	
Apparent Proteolytic Modification of Glutathione Peroxidase	21
R. A. Sunde, S. A. B. Knight, T. W. Geyman, and J. K. Evenson	

ELECTRON TRANSPORT AND METALLOPROTEINS

Long-Range Electron Transfer in Ruthenium-Modified Proteins	23
C. M. Lieber, J. L. Karas, S. L. Mayo, A. W. Axup, M. Albin, R. J. Crutchley, W. R. Ellis, Jr., and H. B. Gray	

Factors Controlling the Rates of Electron Transfer in Proteins	29
D. Whitford, D. W. Concar, Y. Gao, G. J. Pielak, and R. J. P. Williams	
Kinetic Lability of Zn Bound to Metallothionein (Mt) in Ehrlich Cells	35
D. Petering, S. Krezoski, J. Villalobos, and C. F. Shaw III	
The Cu-Thiolate Cluster in Mutants of Yeast Metallothionein	37
D. R. Winge	
Accumulation of Hepatic Zn ₇ and Zn/Cu Metallothionein in Copper- Loaded Chicks: Isolation and Characterization	39
C. C. McCormick and L.-Y. Lin	
Factors Influencing the Accumulation of Metallothionein in Rat Blood Cells	41
J. N. Morrison, A. M. Wood, and I. Bremner	
TRACE ELEMENTS AND ENDOCRINE/EXOCRINE FUNCTION: Mn, Zn, Se	
Regulation of Pancreatic Exocrine Function by Manganese	43
M. Korc and P. M. Brannon	
Effect of Manganese Deficiency on Glucose Transport and Insulin Binding in Rat Adipocytes	49
D. L. Baly	
Zinc Absorption in Pancreatic Insufficiency	51
W. S. Watson, G. McLauchlan, T. D. B. Lyon, I. Pattie, and G. P. Crean	
Identification of Abnormal Sites of Zn Transport and Metabolism in Patients with Sensory and Endocrine Disorders	53
M. E. Wastney, D. M. Foster, and R. I. Henkin	
Selenium and Selenoproteins in Tissues with Endocrine Functions . . .	55
D. Behne, H. Gessner, H. Hilmert, and S. Scheid	
The Effect of Selenium Deficiency on Plasma Thyroid Hormone Concentrations and on Hepatic Tri-Iodothyronine Production . . .	59
J. R. Arthur, F. Nicol, and G. J. Beckett	
CHELATION AND OTHER VEHICLES FOR THERAPY	
Pyridoxal Isonicotinoyl Hydrazone (PIH) and its Analogues: A New Group of Effective Chelators	61
P. Ponka, H. M. Schulman, and J. Edward	
Iron Toxicity and Chelating Therapy	67
C. Hershko, G. Link, A. Pinson, S. Sarel, S. Grisaru, Y. Hasin, and R. W. Grady	
Toxic and Essential Metal Loss During Chelation Therapy of Lead-Poisoned Children	73
D. J. Thomas and J. J. Chisolm, Jr.	
Use of Metal Chelating Agents to Modulate Ehrlich Cell Growth Multiple Metal-Ligand Interactions	75
D. H. Petering, S. Krezoski, D. Lehn, D. Stone, and H. Loomans	

Effects of Chelating Compounds Formed on Food Processing on Zinc Metabolism in the Rat	77
D. E. Furniss, J. Vuichoud, P.-A. Finot, and R. F. Hurrell	
Changes in Zinc Metabolism During the Use of EDTA	81
H. Spencer, S. K. Agrawal, S. J. Sontag, and D. Osis	
TRACE ELEMENTS AND IMMUNE FUNCTION	
Trace Element Deficiencies and Immune Responsiveness	85
M. E. Gershwin, C. L. Keen, M. P. Fletcher, and L. S. Hurley	
Immune Responses as Parametres for Selenium Tolerance	
Determination in Sheep	91
K. Moksnes, H. J. Larsen, and G. Øvernes	
The Mobilization of Storage Iron as a Determinant of Refeeding Infection	95
M. J. Murray and A. B. Murray	
Inflammation-Related Changes in Trace Elements, GSH-Metabolism, Prostaglandins, and Sialic Acid in Bovine Mastitis	97
F. Atroschi, S. Sankari, J. Työppönen, and J. Parantainen	
The Effects of Dietary Mo on Ovine Host and Intestinal Parasite . . .	101
N. Suttle, D. Knox, and F. Jackson	
TRACE ELEMENTS AND ENDOCRINE/EXOCRINE FUNCTION: Cu, Ca, I	
Influence of Hormones on Copper Metalloprotein Levels	103
R. A. DiSilvestro	
Norepinephrine and Dopamine Distribution in Copper-Deficient Mice . .	109
J. R. Prohaska and K. L. DeLuca	
Effect of Copper Deficiency on Enzyme Secretion from Isolated Pancreatic Acini	113
M. A. Dubick and A. P. N. Majumdar	
Differential Effect of Copper Deficiency on Plasma Atrial Natriuretic Peptides in Male and Female Rats	115
S. J. Bhathena, B. W. Kennedy, P. Marsh, M. Fields, and N. Zamir	
Sexual Differences in Copper Deficiency	117
M. Fields, C. G. Lewis, T. Beal, J. C. Smith, and S. Reiser	
Calmodulin Concentration in Tissues of Zinc and Calcium Deficient Rats	119
H.-P. Roth and M. Kirchgessner	
Effects of Calmodulin Inhibitors on the Cellular Metabolism of ⁴⁵ Ca and ²¹⁰ Pb	121
J. G. Pounds and A. C. Nye	
Effect of Moderate Environmental Iodine Deficiency on Adolescent Girls	123
R. Krishnamachari	

MECHANISMS OF TRACE ELEMENT TRANSPORT

Transport, Subcellular Distribution and Export of Mn(II) in Rat Liver and Hepatocytes	125
M. Brandt, C. L. Keen, D. E. Ash, and V. L. Schramm	
Extracellular Transport of Trace Elements	129
C. J. A. Van den Hamer	
Incorporation of Copper into Superoxide Dismutase in Culture	135
E. D. Harris and C. T. Dameron	
The Role of Albumin in Copper Uptake by Hepatocytes and Fibroblasts .	139
H. J. McArdle, S. M. Gross, and D. M. Danks	
Structure and Function of Transcuprein, in Transport of Copper by Mammalian Blood Plasma	141
M. C. Linder, K. C. Weiss, and V. M. Hai	
Differences in Cu-Transport by Hepatocytes and Fibroblasts	145
G. L. Waldrop, F. Palida, M. Hadi, P. Lonergan, and M. Ettinger	
Neonatal and Adult ⁶⁴ Copper Metabolism in the Pig and Its Relationship to Copper Metabolism in Wilson's Disease	147
S. K. S. Srai, C. Bingle, and O. Epstein	

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL STUDIES OF TRACE ELEMENT NUTRITION IN MAN AND ANIMALS

The Role of Selenium in Special Endemic Diseases and Cancer in China .	149
J. Chen	
Wildlife as Indicators of Enzoootic Selenium Deficiency	155
D. E. Ullrey	
An Epidemiological Study of a Defined Area of N. Ireland: Serum Zn and Cu	161
D. McMaster, A. E. Evans, E. McCrum, M. McF. Kerr, C. C. Patterson, and A. H. G. Love	
Zinc, Iron and Copper in the Nutrition of Australian Aboriginal Children	163
R. M. Smith, R. A. King, R. M. Spargo, D. B. Cheek, and J. B. Field	
A Re-Appraisal of the Recommended Zinc Requirements for Grazing Livestock	165
C. L. White	
The Utilization of Hens' Eggs as a Selenium Monitor in Epidemiological Studies	167
P. Brätter, V. E. Negretti de Brätter, U. Rösick, and H. Mendez C.	
Mineral and Trace Element Nutrition of Sheep in Gansu Province, Northern China	171
S. X. Yu, D. G. Masters, Q. Su, Z. S. Wang, Y. Q. Duang, and D. B. Purser	

TRACE ELEMENT INTERACTIONS 1

The Epistemology of Trace Element Balance and Interaction	173
B. Momcilovic	
Subcellular Changes and Metal Mobilisation in the Livers of Copper-Loaded Rats	179
I. C. Fuentealba and S. Haywood	
The Interactions among Fe, Zn and Cu Affecting Liver Cu and Femur Zn Concentrations in the Rat	181
D. T. Gordon and M. Ellersieck	
Interactions between Zinc and Vitamin A Metabolism in Rats and Swine .	183
M. Kirchgessner, F. X. Roth, and H.-P. Roth	
Zinc, Copper and Iron Concentrations in Tissues of Anencephalic and Control Fetuses	185
D. Fehily, C. Keohane, F. M. Cremin, and D. M. Jenkins	
Effects of Dietary Boron, Aluminum and Magnesium on Serum Alkaline Phosphatase, Calcium and Phosphorus, and Plasma Cholesterol in Postmenopausal Women	187
F. H. Nielsen, L. M. Mullen, S. K. Gallagher, J. R. Hunt, C. D. Hunt, and L. K. Johnson	
Trace Elements in Infancy: a Supply/Demand Perspective	189
B. Lønnerdal	

TRACE ELEMENTS AND DEVELOPMENT

Trace Elements in Malnourished Populations	197
M. H. N. Golden and B. E. Golden	
The Role of Zinc in Prenatal and Postnatal Development	203
C. L. Keen, M. S. Clegg, B. Lønnerdal, and L. S. Hurley	
Teratogenesis as a Function of Maternal Age in Zinc-Deficient Rats . .	209
I. R. Record and I. E. Dreosti	
Zinc Supplements in Infants with Failure to Thrive: Effects on Growth	211
P. A. Walravens, K. M. Hambidge, and D. M. Koepfer	
Zinc Retention in Relationship to Fat-Free Body and Calcium Accretion in Early and Late Pregnancy	213
J. C. King, C. A. Swanson, D. D. Marino, and F. M. Costa	
Zinc (Zn) Absorption in Premature Infants	215
P. L. Peirce, K. M. Hambidge, P. V. Fennessey, L. Miller, and C. H. Goss	
Zinc Balance in Premature Infants Fed Their Mothers' Milk: Effect of Postnatal Age	219
S. A. Atkinson, D. Fraser, R. Stanhope, and R. Whyte	

TRACE ELEMENT INTERACTIONS 2

Trace Mineral and Calcium Interactions	221
K. T. Smith and J. T. Rotruck	
Dietary Phytate:Zinc and Phytate x Calcium:Zinc Ratios of Lacto-Ovo Vegetarian Trappist Monks	229
B. F. Harland, S. A. Smith, R. Ellis, M. P. Howard, and R. D. Reynolds	
Zinc, Iron and Copper Interactions in Humans, Rats and Chicks	231
J. L. Greger, M. L. Storey, J. L. Stahl, M. E. Cook, S. E. Gentry-Roberts, and J. C. Lynds	
Inhibition of Iron Absorption in Man by Manganese and Zinc	233
L. Hallberg, L. Rossander, M. Brune, B. Sandström, and B. Lönnerdal	
Lipid Parameters in Wilson's Disease Patients on Zinc Therapy	235
G. M. Hill, G. J. Brewer, M. M. McGinnis, and W. D. Block	
Effects of Modest Amounts of Wheat Bran and Dietary Protein on Mineral Metabolism of Humans	237
H. H. Sandstead, F. R. Dintzis, J. R. Mahalko, L. K. Johnson, and T. P. Bogyo	

TRACE ELEMENTS AND FREE RADICALS

First Description of a Variant of <i>E. coli</i> Lacking Superoxide Dismutase Activity Yet Able to Grow Efficiently on Minimal, Oxygenated Medium	239
J. A. Fee, E. C. Neiderhoffer, and C. Naranjo	
Effect of Selenium (Se) on Peroxidation and Glutathione (GSH) Levels in Murine Mammary Cells	245
H. W. Lane, L. G. Wolfe, and D. Medina	
The Relationship Between Manganese Intake and the Activity of Manganese Superoxide Dismutase in Tissues of Sheep	247
D. G. Masters and D. I. Paynter	
Effects of Selenium Intake on the Activity of Superoxide Dismutase and Glutathione Peroxidase and on Malondialdehyde Excretion During the Development of Rat Mammary Carcinogenesis	249
M. R. L'Abbé, E. R. Chavez, P. W. F. Fischer, and K. D. Trick	
Trace Elements, Free Radicals and Lipoperoxidation in Rats	253
I. E. Dreosti and E. J. Partick	
Contrasting Effects of Selenium and Vitamin E Deficiency on the Anti-Malarial Action of Qinghaosu in Mice	255
O. A. Levander, A. L. Ager, V. C. Morris, and R. May	
The Effect of Selenium and Vitamin E Deficiencies on the Spin Trapping of Free Radicals in Homogenates of Rat Heart	257
J. R. Arthur, D. B. McPhail, and B. A. Goodman	

TRACE ELEMENTS IN CALCIFIED TISSUES AND MATRIX BIOLOGY

Trace Elements in Calcified Tissues and Matrix Biology	259
R. B. Rucker	
The Extracellular Matrix	261
M. E. Nimni	
The Role of Trace Elements in the Development of Cartilage Matrix . .	267
R. M. Leach, Jr.	
Enhanced Maternal Transfer of Fluoride in the Magnesium-Deficient Rat	273
F. L. Cerklewski and J. W. Ridlington	
Dietary Boron Affects Bone Calcification in Magnesium and Cholecalciferol Deficient Chicks	275
C. D. Hunt and F. H. Nielsen	
The Role of Copper and Cross-Linking in Elastin Accumulation	277
D. Tinker, N. Romero, and R. Rucker	
A Silicon and Aluminum Interaction in the Rat	279
E. M. Carlisle and M. J. Curran	

MOLECULAR BIOLOGY OF TRACE ELEMENT FUNCTION AND METABOLISM

Coordinate Regulation of Zinc Metabolism and Metallothionein Gene Expression by cAMP, Interleukin-1 and Dietary Copper and Zinc . .	281
R. J. Cousins, M. A. Dunn, T. L. Blalock, and A. S. Leinart	
Metallothionein and Ceruloplasmin Genes	287
D. M. Danks and J. F. B. Mercer	
Metallothionein mRNA Levels in Normal and Mottled Mouse Mutants During Development	293
T. Stevenson, J. Camakaris, J. Mercer, and D. M. Danks	
Age Dependence of Metallothionein Inducibility in Mouse Liver	295
D. J. Thomas, S. Morris, and P. C. Huang	
Cytosolic Cu-Binding Components and the Brindled Mouse Defect	297
F. Palida, G. Waldrop, P. Lonergan, and M. Ettinger	
5S Ribosomal RNA Synthesis in Zinc-Deficient Rats	299
J. K. Chesters and L. Petrie	
Regulation of the Genes Involved in the Utilization of Molybdenum . .	301
N. K. Amy and J. B. Miller	

TRACE ELEMENT INTERACTIONS 3

Mechanisms and Nutritional Importance of Trace Element Interactions .	303
I. Bremner	
Effects of Dietary Molybdenum and Iron on Copper Metabolism in Calves	309
W. R. Humphries, M. J. Walker, P. C. Morrice, and I. Bremner	

Accumulation of Cu and Mo by the Foetus(es) and Conceptus of Single and Twin Bearing Ewes	311
N. D. Grace, J. Lee, and P. L. Martinson	
Influence of Breed and Dietary Cu, Mo and S Levels on Biliary Cu Excretion in Cattle	313
S. R. Gooneratne, D. A. Christensen, J. V. Bailey, and H. W. Symonds	
Interactions Between Proteins, Thiomolybdates and Copper	315
J. D. Allen and J. M. Gawthorne	
Antagonistic Effects of a High Sulphur, Molybdenum and Cadmium Content of Diets on Copper Metabolism and Deficiency Symptoms in Cattle and Pigs	317
M. Anke, T. Masaoka, A. Hennig, and W. Arnhold	
Heliotrope Alkaloids and Copper	319
J. McC. Howell, H. Patel, and P. Dorling	
Interrelationships Between Molybdenum and Copper in Female Rats . . .	321
J.-J. Chen, M. T. Yang, and S. P. Yang	

POSTERS:

SELENIUM

Effects of Transsulfuration Defects on Selenium Status	323
M. A. Beilstein, W. A. Gahl, and P. D. Whanger	
Antioxidant Supplementation for Elderly Living at a Nursing Home: A Double-Blind Randomized One Year Clinical Trial	325
T. Westermarck, M. Tolonen, M. Halme, S. Sarna, M. Keinonen, and U.-R. Nordberg	
Evidence of Selenium Deficiency in Mice Fed a Soy-Based Diet	327
K. Ploetz and E. Wallace	
Determination of Selenium and Multiple Stable Isotope Enrichment of Selenium in Biological Materials by Inductively Coupled Plasma Mass Spectrometry	329
W. T. Buckley, D. V. Godfrey, K. M. Koenig, and J. A. Shelford	
Glutathione Peroxidase, Vitamin E and Polyunsaturated Fatty Acid Content of Tissues of Pigs with Dietetic Microangiopathy	331
D. Rice and S. Kennedy	
Identification of Selenium Containing Proteins from Soybeans	335
A. C. Mason, S. K. Sathe, R. Rodibaugh, and C. M. Weaver	
Influence of Dietary Methionine on Selenomethionine Metabolism in Rats	337
J. A. Butler and P. D. Whanger	
Purification and Properties of the Human Plasma Selenoenzyme, Glutathione Peroxidase	339
J. T. Deagen, D. J. Broderick, and P. D. Whanger	
Effect of a Shipment of High-Selenium Wheat on Selenium Status of Otago (N.Z.) Residents	341
M. F. Robinson and C. D. Thomson	

Transfer of Selenium from Different Dietary Sources into Plasma and Milk of Dairy Cow	343
P. Aspila and L. Syrjälä-Qvist	
Erythrocyte and Plasma Glutathione Peroxidase: Two Distinct Selenium Containing Proteins	345
H. Cohen, N. Avissar, K. Takahashi, and P. Allen	
GSH-Px Activity in the Blood Compared with Selenium Concentration in Tissues After Supplementation of Inorganic or Organic Selenium	347
E. Johansson, S.-O. Jacobsson, and U. Lindh	
Selenium and Glutathione Peroxidase Status in Term Infants Fed Human Milk, Whey-Predominant, or Soy-Based Infant Formula . . .	351
R. E. Litov, V. S. Sickles, G. M. Chan, I. R. Hargett, and A. Cordano	
Influence of Cysteine on Mucosal Uptake of 75-Se-Selenite by Sheep Jejunum	353
S. Wolfram, R. Würmli, and E. Scharer	
Distribution of Selenium and Glutathione Peroxidase in Plasma from Healthy Subjects and Patients with Rheumatoid Arthritis . .	355
M. Borglund, A. Åkesson, and B. Åkesson	
Plasma Selenium and Glutathione Peroxidase in Relation to Cancer, Angina Pectoris and Short-Term Mortality in 68 Year Old Men . .	357
B. Åkesson and B. Steen	
Biological Functions of Silicon, Selenium, and Glutathione Peroxidase (GSH-Px) Explained in Terms of Semiconduction	359
J. Parantainen, S. Sankari, and F. Atroshi	
Influence of Glutathione Depletion on Hepatic Copper Uptake and Biliary Copper Excretion in the Rat	361
H. Nederbragt	
TRACE ELEMENTS AND LIPID METABOLISM	
Effect of Zinc Deficiency on Lipid and Protein Profiles of the Rat Erythrocyte Membrane	363
G. L. Johanning, D. S. Miller, and B. L. O'Dell	
Effects of Lead Deficiency on Lipid Metabolism	365
A. M. Reichlmayr-Lais and M. Kirchgessner	
An Association of Zinc with Omega-6-Fatty Acid and cAMP Synthesis in Melanoma Cells	367
N. S. Skeef and J. R. Duncan	
Effect of Non-Steroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drugs and Prostaglandin E ₂ on Zinc Absorption in Humans	369
W. S. Watson, D. A. Pitkeathly, G. Sinclair, M. I. F. Bethel, T. D. B. Lyon, and I. Pattie	
Zinc Decreases Lipid and Long Chain Fatty Acid Release from the Rat Mesenteric Vascular Bed Perfused <u>In Vitro</u>	371
S. C. Cunnane, B. A. Nassar, K. R. McAdoo, and D. F. Horrobin	

Rat Heart Performance and Lipid Metabolism is Affected by Copper Intake	375
S. C. Cunnane, K. R. McAdoo, and M. Karmazyn	

Tissue Fatty Acid Responses to Selenium and Vitamin E Deficiency and Oral C18:3,n-3 in Cattle	379
D. Rice, S. Kennedy, and J. Blanchflower	

TRACE ELEMENTS AND ENDOCRINE/EXOCRINE FUNCTION

Pancreatic Superoxide Dismutase Activity in the Copper-Depleted Rat .	381
A. Mylroie, A. Boseman, and J. Kyle	

Controlled Exercise Effects on Chromium, Copper and Zinc in the Urine of Trained and Untrained Runners Consuming a Constant Diet	383
R. A. Anderson, M. M. Polansky, and N. A. Bryden	

The Role of Zinc on the Trophic Growth Factors, Nerve Growth Factor and Gustin	385
R. I. Henkin, J. S. Law, and N. R. Nelson	

The Effects of High and Low Chromium Yeast Supplementation on Glucose Metabolism of Noninsulin Dependent Diabetic Patients . .	389
C. Nan-Zheng, J. Gui-Rong, X. Xing-Yiou, Z. Mei-Fang, H. Xiao-Lin, Z. Zhong-Liang, Z. Guo-Wen, W. Jin-Fu, Y. Chang-Rong, W. Xiou-Fang, L. Xi-Zhen, and B. Zhen-Zhu	

Stress Induced Changes in Indices of Zinc, Copper, and Iron Status in U.S. Navy SEAL Trainees	391
A. Singh, B. A. Day, J. E. DeBolt, and P. A. Deuster	

Zinc-dependent Failure of Thymic Hormone in Human Pathologies	395
N. Fabris, E. Mocchegiani, and R. Palloni	

TRACE ELEMENTS AND IMMUNE FUNCTION/BACTERIOLOGY

Effect of Cobalt Deficiency on the Immune Function of Ruminants . . .	397
A. MacPherson, G. Fisher, and J. E. Paterson	

The Effect of Excess Zinc on cAMP Synthesis as a Regulatory Factor in Tumour Cell Proliferation	399
N. S. Skeef and J. R. Duncan	

Zinc and the Bacteriostatic Quality of Human Milk	401
N. F. Krebs, A. M. Novacky, R. T. Ellison III, and K. M. Hambidge	

Trace Element and Macro Electrolyte Behaviour During Inflammatory Diseases in Cattle and Sheep	403
G. M. Murphy, T. D. St. George, V. Guerrini, R. G. Collins, A. C. Broadmeadow, M. F. Uren, and D. L. Doolan	

TRACE ELEMENT TRANSPORT

Genetic and Biochemical Analysis of Copper Transport in <u>Escherichia coli</u>	405
D. Rouch, J. Camakaris, G. Adcock, and B. T. O. Lee	

Effect of Prior Luminal Washing on Iron Absorption from Duodenum and Jejunum in Mice: Do Luminal Factors Mediate the Absorption of Iron?	407
P. R. Flanagan, J. Haist, and L. S. Valberg	
Pathobiochemical Aspects to the Mechanism of Zinc Absorption	409
J. D. Kruse-Jarres, E.-M. Hecht, and W. Hecht	
The Effect of Saponins on Mineral Availability	413
S. Southon, A. J. A. Wright, I. T. Johnson, J. M. Gee, K. Price, and S. J. Fairweather-Tait	
Rate of Passage of Chromium III Thru the Small Intestine	417
D. Oberleas and J. C. Smith, Jr.	
Cd-Binding Proteins Anchoring to Mucosal Brush Border Membrane from Rat Small Intestinal Tract	419
N. Sugawara and C. Sugawara	
Zinc Accumulation by Hepatocytes Isolated from Male Rats of Different Zinc Nutritional Status	421
W. A. House, R. M. Welch, and D. Van Campen	
Identification of Five Sites of Regulation of Human Zn Metabolism . .	423
M. E. Wastney, R. L. Aamodt, and R. I. Henkin	
Saturable Zinc Uptake by Syncytiotrophoblast Microvillous Plasma Membrane Vesicles from Human Placenta	425
G. Quinn, A. Flynn, and B. Lonnerdal	
Nickel Absorption and Elimination in Human Volunteers	427
F. W. Sunderman, Jr., S. M. Hopfer, T. Swift, L. Ziebka, A. H. Marcus, B. M. Most, and J. Creason	
Influence of Feed Components in Semisynthetic Diets on Cadmium Retention in Chicks	429
W. A. Rambeck, R. Hettich, D. Berg, and W. E. Kollmer	
The Effect of Dietary Fiber and Different Concentrations of Zinc on the Intestinal Absorption of Cadmium in Rats	431
A. Moberg, G. Hallmans, R. Sjöström, and K. Wing	
Transferrin Receptors and Iron Uptake of Rat Mammary Gland Membranes During Lactation	433
M. Sigman and B. Lönnerdal	

TRACE ELEMENT DEFICIENCIES AND THEIR ASSESSMENT

Prediction of Disorder in Cu-Deficient Lambs from Different Genotypes	435
N. F. Suttle, D. G. Jones, J. A. Woolliams, and C. Woolliams	
Metal Analysis of Human Liver as an Aid to Diagnosis	439
D. McMaster, M. E. Callender, and A. H. G. Love	
The Use of Multivariate Analysis to Identify Limiting Trace Elements in Sheep	443
D. B. Purser, D. G. Masters, P. L. Payne, and R. Maller	

Concentration and Distribution of Zinc, Copper and Iron in "Zinc Deficient" Human Milk	445
S. A. Atkinson and B. Lønnerdal	
Effects of Heat Treatment of Defatted Soy Flour Fed to Young Japanese Quail	447
S.-H. Tao, M. R. S. Fox, B. E. Fry, Jr., and W. H. Stroup	
Comparison of Indices of Copper Status in Men and Women Fed Diets Marginal in Copper	451
D. B. Milne, L. M. Klevay, and J. R. Hunt	
Beer Increases the Longevity of Rats Fed a Diet Deficient in Copper	453
L. M. Klevay	
The Influence of Zinc Deficiency on the Storage of Zinc in Bone . . .	455
D. Berg and W. E. Kollmer	
Evaluation of Some Factors That May Affect Plasma or Serum Zinc Concentrations	459
J. L. English, K. M. Hambidge, and M. Jacobs Goodall	
Ceruloplasmin and Glutathione Peroxidase as Copper and Selenium Indicators in Mink	461
J. T. Työppönen	
Copper and Iron Status of Calves in Relation to Plasma Protein Polymorphism	463
I. Wegger	
Further Data on the Biological Essentiality of Nickel	467
M. Anke, B. Groppel, U. Krause, and M. Langer	
Altered Glucuronyl Transferase Activity in Magnesium Depleted Rats . .	471
R. C. Brown and W. R. Bidlack	
The Prediction of Impaired Growth Due to Cu, Co and Se Deficiencies in Lambs on Improved Hill Pastures in Scotland . .	473
N. Suttle, C. Wright, A. MacPherson, R. Harkess, G. Halliday, K. Miller, P. Phillips, C. Evans, and D. Rice	
Zn Deficiency in the Rat: Relationship between Growth and Metal Content and Distribution	475
D. H. Petering and B. Fowler	
Activation of Rat Erythrocyte Superoxide Dismutase by Copper	477
R. A. DiSilvestro	

TRACE ELEMENTS AND CLINICAL NUTRITION

Kinetics of Chromium in Patients on Continuous Ambulatory Peritoneal Dialysis	479
B. Wallaey, R. Cornelis, N. Lameire, and M. Van Landschoot	
The Influence of Body Mass Index and Hypoglycaemic Drugs on the Circulating and Excreted Levels of Chromium Following an Oral Glucose Challenge, in Subjects With and Without Diabetes Mellitus.	481
K. E. Earle, A. G. Archer, J. E. Baillie, and A. N. Howard	

Serum Aluminum Levels in Dialysis Patients	483
Y. Schmitt and J. D. Kruse-Jarres	
Dietary Intakes and Serum Levels of Selected Trace Elements in Institutionalized Elderly	485
M. Allegrini, E. Lanzola, A. Tagliabue, G. Turconi, and C. Tinelli	
Mineral Status of Adults Given a Fiber Supplement	487
S. J. Fairweather-Tait, Z. Piper, and S. Southon	
Daily Variations in Plasma Zinc in Normal Adult Women	491
M. Jacobs Goodall, K. M. Hambidge, C. Stall, J. Pritts, and D. E. Nelson	
Urinary Excretion (24 Hours) of Zinc and Copper in Normal Vegetarian and Non-Vegetarian Female Subjects During the Different Seasons: A Preliminary Studies	493
V. Iyengar	
Hepatic Trace Elements in Kwashiorkor	497
J. Miles, M. Golden, D. Ramdath, and B. Golden	

TRACE ELEMENT BIOAVAILABILITY

Improved Zinc Bioavailability from Colloidal Calcium Phosphate-Free Cow's Milk	499
J. Kiely, A. Flynn, H. Singh, and P. F. Fox	
Effects of Soybean Trypsin Inhibitor on Tissue Zinc in Weanling Male Long-Evans Rats	501
J. I. Rader, S.-H. Tao, and M. R. S. Fox	
Calcium and Zinc Absorption from Human Milk, Soy Formula and Dephytinized Soy Formula	503
C. Kunz and B. Lönnerdal	
Distribution of Zinc in Human Milk and Cow's Milk after In Vitro Proteolysis	505
B. Lönnerdal and C. Glazier	
The Availability of Zinc, Cadmium and Iron from Different Grains Measured as Isotope Absorption and Mineral Accumulation in Rats	507
P. Tidehag, A. Moberg, B. Sunzel, G. Hallmans, R. Sjöström, and K. Wing	
Bioavailability of Iron Fortification Compounds Assessed by a Rat Model	509
E. R. Morris, J. T. Tanner, and C. Adams	
Manganese Absorption from Human Milk, Cow's Milk and Infant Formulas .	511
L. Davidsson, Å. Cederblad, B. Lönnerdal, and B. Sandström	
Influence of Calcium and Phosphorus on the Absorption of Manganese as Determined by Plasma Uptake Tests	513
J. Freeland-Graves and P.-H. Lin	
Tissue Uptake of Manganese as a Measure of Its Bioavailability for Chicks	515
C. B. Ammerman, J. R. Black, P. R. Henry, and R. D. Miles	

TRACE ELEMENT EPIDEMIOLOGY

An Epidemiological Study of a Defined Area of N. Ireland: Whole Blood Glutathione Peroxidase (EC 1.11.1.9)	517
D. McMaster, A. E. Evans, E. McCrum, M. McF. Kerr, C. C. Patterson, and A. H. G. Love	
Hair Chromium as an Index of Chromium Status of Tannery Workers . . .	519
J. Randall and R. Gibson	
Familial Trends in Heavy Trace Metal Body Burdens in a Small Rural Community	523
D. J. Eatough, N. F. Mangelson, M. W. Hill, K. K. Nielsen, L. D. Hansen, and M. A. Skolnick	
Cadmium, Zinc and Calcium in Human Kidneys	527
R. Scott, E. Aughey, and A. McLelland	
Ante Mortem v. Post Mortem Changes in Chronic Cadmium Poisoning . . .	529
R. Scott and E. Aughey	
Accurate Assessment of the Intake of Dietary Components by Human Subjects	531
V. Iyengar	
Reference Values for Trace Element Concentrations in Whole Blood, Serum, Hair, Liver, Milk, and Urine Specimens from Human Subjects	535
V. Iyengar	
Trace Elements in Human Milk: An Australian Study	539
F. J. Cumming and J. J. Fardy	

TRACE ELEMENT INTERACTIONS

Copper and Molybdenum Levels in Tissues of Hypercuprotic Sheep During and After Being Fed Different Levels of Molybdenum . . .	541
J. B. J. van Ryssen and P. R. Barrowman	
Increased Sulfide Concentration in the Rumen Fluid of Sheep Does Not Decrease the Solubility of Copper	543
H. Nederbragt, H. Kersten, M. Klomberg, and A. J. Lagerwerf	
Effect of High Dietary Iron and Ascorbic Acid on Copper and Iron Utilization During Copper Deficiency	545
M. A. Johnson and C. L. Murphy	
Interaction of Gold and Selenium after Injection to Mice	547
J. Aaseth, J. Alexander, and E. Steinnes	
Effects of Arsenic on the Intestinal Absorption of ⁷⁵ Se Compounds in Chicks	551
H. Mykkänen	
Chromium and Vanadate Supplementation of Obese and Lean Mice	553
B. J. Stoecker and Y. C. Li	
The Effect of Parenteral Iron Administration upon Manganese Metabolism	555
N. Gruden	

The Effect of Age and Sex upon Iron-Manganese Interaction in Different Segments of the Rat's Intestine	557
N. Gruden	
Mineral-Zinc and Protein-Zinc Interactions in Man	559
H. Spencer, S. J. Sontag, and D. Osis	
Mineral Balance Study of Rats Fed Maillard Reaction Products	563
J. M. O'Brien, P. A. Morrissey, and A. Flynn	
Binding of Zinc to Colloidal Calcium Phosphate	565
H. Singh, A. Flynn, and P. F. Fox	
Iron-Zinc Interactions in Relation to Infant Weaning Foods	567
S. J. Fairweather-Tait and S. Southon	
Iron Status of Very Low Birthweight Pre-Term Infants Receiving a Zinc Supplement	571
J. Friel, M. Cox, A. Cornel, D. Matthew, and W. Andrews	
Production of Mg Deficiency Anemia by Zn and Phytate in Young Japanese Quail	575
M. R. S. Fox, S.-H. Tao, B. E. Fry, Jr., and Y. H. Lee	
Hepatic and Splenic Content of Iron, Copper, Zinc, and Manganese in Anemic Mink	577
J. T. Työppönen and P. O. Lindberg	
Copper Status and Cadmium Administration: Effects on Zinc Distribution, Metallothionein, and Superoxide Dismutase Activity in Liver	579
K. Chung, D. Tinker, N. Romero, K. Amemiya, C. Keen, and R. Rucker	
Boron and Methionine Status of the Rat Affects the Plasma and Bone Mineral Response to High Dietary Aluminum	581
T. R. Shuler and F. H. Nielsen	
Effect of Molybdenum on Hepatic Enzymes and Minerals of Female Rats	583
M. T. Yang and S. P. Yang	
An Interaction Between Dietary Vanadium and Riboflavin in Chicks . . .	585
C. H. Hill	
Demonstration of Ruminal Synthesis of Thiomolybdates and Their Subsequent Absorption in Sheep	589
J. Price, A. M. Will, G. Paschaleris, and J. K. Chesters	
High Resolution Gamma-Ray Spectroscopy as an <u>in vivo</u> Tool for Following the Zinc-Selenium Interaction	591
K. R. Zinn and J. S. Morris	
Effect of Fe Supplementation on Zn Status and the Outcome of Pregnancy	593
J. M. McKenzie-Parnell, P. D. Wilson, and G. F. S. Spears	
Human Metabolic Study of Milk Simultaneously Fortified with Zinc, Iron and Copper	595
B. Momcilovic, M. J. Jackson, J. M. Round, and T. B. Weir	

TRACE ELEMENTS AND DEVELOPMENT

Age-Related Changes in Zinc and Copper Concentrations of Serum, Kidney, Liver, and Five Parts of the Brain of the Adult Rat . .	597
R. Palm, G. Wahlström, and G. Hallmans	
Zinc Uptake by Brush Border Membrane Vesicles (BBMV) from Pre-Weanling Rat Small Intestine	599
M. L. Kennedy and B. Lönnerdal	
Maternal Glucose Homeostasis in Rats Given Marginal Zn Diets	601
S. Southon, C. M. Williams, and S. J. Fairweather-Tait	
Pregnancy Complications, Labor Abnormalities and Zinc Status	605
N. Lazebnik, B. R. Kuhnert, P. M. Kuhnert, and K. Thompson	
Is Spina Bifida in Man Linked to a Genetic Defect of Cellular Zinc Uptake in Children?	609
A. Favier, B. Dardelet, M.-J. Richard, and J. Arnaud	
Effects of Varying Dietary Zinc in Mice During Recovery from Undernutrition	611
P. N. Morgan, C. L. Keen, G. H. Cardinet III and B. Lönnerdal	
Altered Mineral Metabolism as a Mechanism Underlying the Expression of Fetal Alcohol Syndrome in Rats	613
S. Zidenberg-Cherr, J. Rosenbaum, and C. L. Keen	
Action of High Dietary Copper in Promoting Growth of Pigs	615
G. C. Shurson, P. K. Ku, G. L. Waxler, M. T. Yokoyama, and E. R. Miller	
The Accumulation of Copper, Zinc, Manganese and Iron in the Foetus of Deer	617
R. Hill, M. Leighton, V. Heys, and D. M. Jones	
Effects of Molybdenum on Reproduction and Molybdenum/Copper Enzyme Activity in the Female Rat	619
T. V. Fungwe, F. Buddingh, M. T. Yang, and S. P. Yang	
Defective Hepatic Copper Storage in the Brindled Mouse	621
A. Garnica, M. Perry, J. Bates, and O. Rennert	
Zinc, Copper and Iron Metabolism by Turkey Embryo Hepatocytes	625
M. P. Richards and N. C. Steele	
Perinatal Development of Superoxide Dismutase in Rat Liver and Kidney	627
T. Günther and J. Vormann	
The Amenity and Annoyance: The Circadian Rhythm, the Function of Limbic System and the Metal Metabolism in Mice	629
K. Hoshishima	
Marginal Zn Deficiency Affects Pup Brain Microtubule Assembly in Rats	631
P. I. Oteiza, C. L. Keen, B. Lönnerdal, and L. S. Hurley	
Effects of Maternal Dietary Zinc on the Expression of Diabetes-Induced Teratogenicity in the Rat	633
J. Y. Uriu-Hare, J. S. Stern, and C. L. Keen	

TRACE ELEMENT REQUIREMENTS OF GRAZING ANIMALS

The Effect of Monensin Sodium on Trace Element Status of Cattle at Pasture	635
N. D. Costa	
The Effects of Differing Compositions of Soluble Phosphate Glass Boluses on the Copper, Cobalt and Selenium Status of Swaledale Ewes	637
P. M. Driver, C. Eames, and S. B. Telfer	
The Effects of Soluble Glass Boluses upon the Copper and Selenium Status of Grazing Cattle	639
P. M. Driver, C. Eames, and S. B. Telfer	
The Effect of Different Compositions of Soluble Phosphate Glass Boluses on the Copper and Vitamin B12 Status of Growing Lambs	641
P. M. Driver, C. Eames, and S. B. Telfer	
A Preliminary Assessment of Controlled Release Devices for Supplementing Grazing Sheep with Trace Elements	643
D. W. Peter and K. J. Ellis	
Efficacy of Selenium Pellets in Beef Cows	647
W. H. Johnson, B. B. Norman, J. R. Dunbar, and M. N. Oliver	
The Development of a Long Acting Injectable Preparation for the Treatment and Prevention of Selenium Deficiency in Cattle . . .	651
I. M. McPhee and G. D. Cawley	
Effect of Oral Copper Needles and Parenteral Copper on Hypo- cupraemia, Body Weight Gain and Fertility in Cattle	653
B. E. Ruksan, M. Correa Luna, and F. Lagos	
Oxidized Copper Wire Particles as an Oral Copper Supplement for Cattle	657
J. R. Dunbar, J. G. Morris, B. B. Norman, A. J. Jenkins, C. B. Wilson, N. L. Martin, and J. M. Connor	
Investigations on Vanadium Deficiency in Ruminants	659
M. Anke, B. Groppel, T. Kosla, and K. Gruhn	
Possibilities of Diagnosing Iodine Deficiency in Ruminants	661
B. Groppel, M. Anke, and A. Hennig	
Normal Manganese, Zinc, Copper, Iron, Iodine, Molybdenum, Nickel, Arsenic, Lithium and Cadmium Supply Dependent on the Geological Origin of the Site and Its Effects on the Status of These Elements in Wild and Domestic Ruminants	663
M. Anke, B. Groppel, U. Krause, L. Angelow, W. Arnhold, T. Masaoka, S. Barhoum, and G. Zervas	
Pathology of Experimental Nutritional Degenerative Myopathy in Ruminant Cattle	667
S. Kennedy and D. Rice	
Treatment of Dairy Sheep with Soluble Glass Boluses	669
G. Zervas	

METALLOTHIONEIN

Hormonal Modulation of Rat Hepatic Zinc Metallothionein Levels	671
S. H. Garrett, K. Arizono, and F. O. Brady	
Effects of Zn-Deficiency and Valproate on Isometallothioneins in Fetal Rat Liver	673
J. Vormann and T. Günther	
Uninduced Cu-Metallothionein and Other Cu-Binding Proteins in Mammals and Fish	675
D. H. Petering, S. Krezoski, T. Hartmann, P. Chen, P. Onana, and C. F. Shaw III	
Instability at Low pH of Copper-Thionein-Proteins from Livers of Bedlington Terriers with Copper-Toxicosis	677
H. Nederbragt, A. J. Lagerwerf, and T. S. G. A. M. van den Ingh	
Zinc, Copper and Metallothionein mRNA in Sheep Liver During Development	679
J. F. B. Mercer, J. Smith, A. Grimes, J. McC. Howell, P. Gill, and D. M. Danks	
Metallothionein Concentrations in the Blood and Urine of Streptozotocin Treated Rats	681
I. Bremner, J. N. Morrison, and A. M. Wood	
Effects of Metallothionein Binding Capacity for Various Metals on Heme Oxygenase Activity	683
K. Arizono, E. Okanari, K. Ueno, and T. Ariyoshi	

HOMEOSTASIS OF TRACE ELEMENTS

The Effect of Dietary Zn Before and After ⁶⁵ Zn Administration on Absorption and Turnover of ⁶⁵ Zn	685
J. R. Hunt, P. E. Johnson, and P. B. Swan	
Effect of Long-Term Trace Element Supplementation on Blood Trace Element Levels and Absorption of ⁷⁵ Se, ⁵⁴ Mn and ⁶⁵ Zn	687
B. Sandström, L. Davidsson, R. Eriksson, and M. Alpstén	
Retention of Lead in Growing and Adult Rats Dependent on Varying Lead Supply	689
M. Kirchgessner, A. M. Reichlmayr-Lais, and N. K. Stöckl	
Zinc Losses During Prolonged Cold Water Immersion	691
P. A. Deuster, D. J. Smith, A. Singh, L. L. Bernier, U. H. Trostmann, B. L. Smoak, and T. J. Doubt	
Metabolic Adaptation of Gilts on Trace-Minerals in Response to Pregnancy and Low Dietary Zinc	695
E. R. Chavez and J. Kalinowski	

TRACE ELEMENT TOXICITY AND ITS PATHOLOGY

An Episode of Zinc Toxicosis in Milk-Fed Holstein Bull Calves: Pathologic and Toxicologic Considerations	697
T. W. Graham, C. L. Keen, C. A. Holmberg, M. C. Thurmond, and M. S. Clegg	

Copper Tolerance in Rats - A Histochemical and Immunocytochemical Study	699
M. Elmes, S. Haywood, J. P. Clarkson, I. C. Fuentealba, and B. Jasani	
Toxicosis of Developing Pigs Fed Selenium from Various Sources: Clinical Pathology	701
D. Baker, L. James, K. Panter, H. Mayland, and J. Pfister	
Aluminum Induced Alteration in Hepatic Glucuronyl Transferase Activity	703
M. S. Meskin, R. C. Brown, and W. R. Bidlack	
Decrease of Serum Triglyceride and Essential Metal Changes in Normal Rats Fed with 2000 ppm Aluminum Diets	705
C. Sugawara and N. Sugawara	
Tissue Concentrations of Molybdenum After Chronic Dosage in Rats do not Follow Size of Dose	709
P. W. Winston and L. J. Kosarek	
Metallothionein and Copper in Human Liver - A Histopathological Study	711
M. E. Elmes, J. P. Clarkson, B. Jasani, and N. J. Mahy	
ANALYTICAL TECHNIQUES	
The Elemental Content of Some Trace Element Medicaments by Proton-Induced X-Ray and Gamma-Ray Emission Analyses	713
P. Nikkinen, M. Hyvönen-Dabek, and T. Westermarck	
The Application of a Synchrotron Radiation Microprobe to Trace Element Analysis	715
B. M. Gordon, A. L. Hanson, K. W. Jones, W. M. Kwiatek, G. J. Long, J. G. Pounds, G. Schidlovsky, P. Spanne, M. L. Rivers, and S. R. Sutton	
Automated Determination of Blood Glutathione Peroxidase and the Effect of Storage, Cyanide and Drabkin's Reagent	717
W. J. Blanchflower, D. A. Rice, and W. B. Davidson	
Chemical Speciation of Metal Ions in the Ruminal and Abomasal Fluid of Sheep	719
J. Lee	
Index	721