

The leafcutter bee, *Megachile rotundata* is more sensitive to *N*-cyano neonicotinoid and butenolide insecticides than other managed bees

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1 **Abstract**

2 Recent research has shown that several managed bee species have specific P450 enzymes
3 that are preadapted to confer intrinsic tolerance to some insecticides including certain
4 neonicotinoids. However, the universality of this finding across managed bee pollinators is
5 unclear. Here we show that the leafcutter bee, *Megachile rotundata*, lacks such P450s, and
6 is >2500-fold more sensitive to the neonicotinoid thiacloprid and 170-fold more sensitive to
7 the butenolide flupyradifurone than other managed bee pollinators. These findings have
8 significant implications for the safe use of insecticides in crops where *M. rotundata* is used
9 for pollination, and ensuring regulatory pesticide risk assessment frameworks are protective
10 of this species.

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29 **Main**

30 In common with other insects, bees have evolved biotransformation systems to metabolize
31 many of the natural xenobiotics encountered in their environment into non-toxic compounds
32 ¹. Recent research on three managed bee species, namely western honey bees, *Apis*
33 *mellifera*, buff-tailed bumblebees, *Bombus terrestris*, and red mason bees, *Osmia bicornis*,
34 has demonstrated that specific enzymes within these metabolic pathways can also be
35 critically important in determining the sensitivity of bees to insecticides ²⁻⁴. Specifically,
36 cytochrome P450 enzymes belonging to the CYP9Q and CYP9BU subfamilies have been
37 shown to provide protection to certain insecticides from three different classes including *N*-
38 cyanoamidine neonicotinoids ^{2,3}. This leads to an important question – is the presence of
39 insecticide-degrading P450s universal to all bee species, and if not, what are the
40 implications for insecticide sensitivity in species that lack these enzymes? To address this
41 question we used phylogenetic, toxicological and biochemical approaches to characterise
42 the phenotypic and metabolic response of the alfalfa leafcutter bee, *M. rotundata*, to select
43 insecticides. *M. rotundata* is one of the most economically important managed solitary bee
44 pollinators worldwide ⁵. This species is principally used as a commercial pollinator in alfalfa
45 seed production (*Medicago sativa*), with secondary uses in the pollination of canola
46 (*Brassica napus*) and lowbush blueberries (*Vaccinium angustifolium*) ⁵⁻⁷.

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48 We first asked if the genome of *M. rotundata* encodes P450s belonging, or closely related to,
49 the CYP9Q and CYP9BU subfamilies that metabolise certain insecticides in other managed
50 bee species. Forty-nine full length P450 genes were curated from the sequenced genome of
51 *M. rotundata* and named by the P450 nomenclature committee (Table S1). Phylogenetic
52 analyses revealed that the CYPome of *M. rotundata*, *A. mellifera*, *B. terrestris* and *O.*
53 *bicornis* have 1:1 orthologs for all members of the mitochondrial CYP clan, and clans 2 and
54 4 are almost identical (Table S2). The major differences in the CYPomes of the species are
55 found in clan 3, with the CYP9 family showing the greatest interspecies variation (Table S2,
56 Fig. 1a). A Maximum Likelihood phylogeny of the CYP9 family using P450s derived from the

57 genome sequences of 12 bee species^{2,8} is shown in Fig. 1b. All 9 species from the Apidae
58 family have CYP9Q genes, with the most basal of the species, *Habropoda laboriosa*, having
59 only one gene member (CYP9Q9). *O. bicornis* has 2 CYP9BU genes and *Dufourea*
60 *novaeangliae* 4 CYP9DL genes that share a common ancestor with the Apidae CYP9Q
61 subfamily, with the relative time for divergence of these subfamilies to the CYP9Q subfamily
62 estimated as 0.32 and 0.72 respectively (Fig. 1b). *M. rotundata* is the only species that has
63 no CYP9Q or closely related gene (Fig. 1b).

64
65 The finding that *M. rotundata* lacks P450s belonging, or related to, the CYP9Q subfamily
66 raises important questions about the capacity of this species to metabolise and, by
67 extension tolerate, certain pesticides. To explore this we examined the sensitivity of *M.*
68 *rotundata* to the *N*-nitroguanidine neonicotinoid imidacloprid, the *N*-cyanoamidine
69 neonicotinoid thiacloprid and the butenolide insecticide flupyradifurone. While imidacloprid is
70 highly toxic to honey bees, bumblebees and mason bees, thiacloprid and flupyradifurone are
71 classified as practically non-toxic to all three species in acute contact bioassays^{2,3,9} (Fig.
72 2a). In the case of the two neonicotinoids previous work has demonstrated that this
73 differential toxicity results from marked differences in the efficiency of their metabolism by
74 honey bee and bumblebee P450s belonging to the CYP9Q subfamily, and red mason bee
75 P450s belonging to the CYP9BU subfamily^{2,3}.

76 As shown in Fig. 2a all three compounds were found to be highly toxic to *M. rotundata*
77 (contact-LD₅₀ < 2µg/bee) in acute insecticide bioassays, with uncertainty in the actual
78 endpoints, given the non-standardized nature of the employed test method. Notably, this
79 included thiacloprid and flupyradifurone, with *M. rotundata* >2500-fold more sensitive to the
80 former and 170-fold more sensitive to the latter than honey bees, bumblebees and mason
81 bees tested using comparable methodologies. Furthermore, while the three latter species
82 exhibit marked differences (500-2000-fold) in their sensitivity to thiacloprid and imidacloprid
83^{2,3}, only a 15-fold difference is seen in the sensitivity of *M. rotundata* to these two

84 neonicotinoids. These results clearly demonstrate that the intrinsic tolerance of other
85 managed bee pollinators to thiacloprid and flupyradifurone is not observed in *M. rotundata*.
86
87 One possible explanation for the lack of tolerance of *M. rotundata* to thiacloprid and
88 flupyradifurone is an increased affinity of these compounds for the target receptor, the
89 nicotinic acetylcholine receptor (nAChR), of this species relative to other bee pollinators. To
90 explore this we conducted radioligand binding studies of *M. rotundata* head membrane
91 preparations and examined the displacement of tritiated imidacloprid by unlabeled
92 imidacloprid, thiacloprid and flupyradifurone. All three compounds reversibly bind with
93 nanomolar affinity generating similar IC₅₀ values to those reported previously for honey bees
94 (Fig. 2b). Furthermore, in common with prior studies on other managed bee pollinators^{2,3} no
95 significant difference was observed in the specific binding of the three compounds at the
96 receptor (Fig. 2b). Thus, the lack of tolerance of *M. rotundata* to thiacloprid and
97 flupyradifurone is not a consequence of an enhanced affinity of these compounds for the *M.*
98 *rotundata* nAChR relative to other bee species.
99
100 To investigate the functional significance of the absence of CYP9Q and CYP9BU P450s in
101 *M. rotundata* on insecticide metabolism, we examined the capacity of native microsomes (a
102 source of total cytochrome P450s localized in the endoplasmic reticulum) to metabolise
103 imidacloprid, thiacloprid and flupyradifurone. We also included *tau*-fluvalinate in this
104 analysis, as it is metabolised by CYP9Q P450s in honey bees⁴, and the alkaloid nicotine - a
105 potent natural insecticide also acting on nAChRs. Incubation of microsomal preparations
106 from *M. rotundata* with each compound and analysis of parent compound depletion by liquid
107 chromatography tandem mass spectrometry (LC-MS/MS) revealed no significant
108 metabolism of any of the four synthetic insecticides (Fig. 2c). In contrast, the alkaloid
109 nicotine was significantly and rapidly metabolised by *M. rotundata* microsomes (~40% of
110 parent compound depleted in 1h; p<0.0001). These findings demonstrate that while P450s
111 of this species have the capacity to break down a natural xenobiotic they appear to lack the

112 capacity to break down synthetic insecticides of different chemical classes that are
113 effectively metabolised by other bee species.

114

115 In summary our data demonstrate that P450 enzymes that are preadapted to detoxify certain
116 insecticides are not ubiquitous across all managed bee species. The absence of P450s
117 belonging to, or closely related to, the CYP9Q subfamily in *M. rotundata* is correlated with an
118 inability of microsomal P450s of this species to metabolise these insecticides *in vitro* and
119 high sensitivity to these compounds *in vivo*. These results have important practical
120 implications for assessing the compatibility of insecticides in crops where *M. rotundata*
121 provides an important pollination service. Specifically, they demonstrate that direct contact
122 with thiacloprid and flupyradifurone poses a greater hazard to this species than other
123 managed bees. Thus, the application method and timing of these insecticides to crops
124 dependent on this species for pollination should be considered. In alfalfa, where *M.*
125 *rotundata* is a principal commercial pollinator used for seed production, thiacloprid is not
126 registered, whereas flupyradifurone has been registered for forage, fodder, hay and straw
127 production. In these uses the alfalfa is harvested before flowering, which effectively mitigates
128 the risk to *M. rotundata*; moreover, alfalfa for seed production is not on the commercial
129 flupyradifurone label. Further work is required to establish if *M. rotundata* is also highly
130 sensitive to other insecticides that show low toxicity to other managed bee species. In this
131 regard we show that microsomal preparations of this species do not metabolise the
132 pyrethroid *tau*-fluvalinate, suggesting it may also have high acute toxicity to this species.

133 Furthermore, as *Megachile* is one of the largest genera of bees (1,500 species worldwide),
134 further research is required to establish if other wild species within this genus also lack
135 P450s that provide protection against certain insecticides. In this regard our study illustrates
136 the utility of phylogenetic analyses of enzyme superfamilies in combination with targeted
137 functional analyses to predict the capability of bee pollinator species to break down synthetic
138 insecticides, and hence to predict their likely sensitivity. Finally, since the use of other
139 managed bee species as a proxy for *M. rotundata* in risk assessment appears to be

140 unreliable for some insecticides it is important to invest in further bee toxicogenomic
141 research so that crop-pollination, managed pollination activities and bee safety is not
142 impaired.

143

144 **Methods**

145 **Phylogenetic analysis**

146 Sequences encoding *M. rotundata* P450s were identified and assembled using three
147 separate interrogations of the NCBI protein database. G1: assembled all annotated CYPs
148 from the database; G2: assembled CYP gene clusters or orthogroups and G3: assembled
149 the results of a BLASTp search of the *M. rotundata* proteome using annotated *A. mellifera*
150 CYPs as query sequences. The resulting sequences were manually curated and aligned to
151 those of 11 other bee species (*A. cerana*, *A. dorsata*, *A. florea*, *A. mellifera*, *B. impatiens*, *B.*
152 *terrestris*, *D. novaeangliae*, *E. mexicana*, *H. laboriosa*, *M. quadrifasciata* and *O. bicornis*)
153 using CYPcam (camphor hydroxylase from *Pseudomonas putida* (>gi|117297|sp|P00183.2|
154 Cytochrome CYP-cam; CPXA_PSEPU)¹⁰ as an outgroup in Geneious (Version 10.2.3,
155 Biomatters) using MUSCLE¹¹ (default settings). Parameters including proportion of variable
156 sites (I) and gamma rate (G) were optimized using amino acid substitution matrices LG
157 based on minimum Bayesian information criterion¹². Phylogeny was estimated using
158 Maximum likelihood (branch lengths in relative time) and Bayesian inference algorithms^{13,14}.

159 **Acute contact insecticide assays**

160 All acute contact insecticide assays were performed on female bees following the general
161 guidance of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) guideline
162 No. 214 for *A. mellifera*¹⁵, with reference to the International Commission for Plant Pollinator
163 Relationships (ICPPR) solitary bee, acute contact toxicity test protocol¹⁶. Bioassays on *M.*
164 *rotundata* using the neonicotinoids thiacloprid and imidacloprid were performed in the UK
165 and compared with data for *A. mellifera*, *B. terrestris* and *O. bicornis* (Fig. 2a) generated in a

166 previous study (2, 3) using identical methods and conditions. This allowed robust
167 comparisons to be made between and within these bee species for these compounds.
168 Bioassays on *M. rotundata* and *Osmia bicornis* using the butenolide insecticide
169 flupyradifurone were conducted in Germany, and compared with data for *A. mellifera* and *B.*
170 *terrestris* (Fig. 2a) generated in a previous study¹⁷ using analogous methods and conditions
171 to allow robust comparisons between bee species for this compound. Commercially
172 available *M. rotundata* cocoons were obtained from Canada through Bayer AG CropScience
173 Division, Monheim, Germany. *O. bicornis* cocoons were obtained from Dr. Schubert Plant
174 Breeding (Landsberg, Germany). Cocoons were stored on arrival at 4°C in constant
175 darkness. To trigger emergence, cocoons were warmed for 24 h (24°C± 2°C; 55% RH;
176 L16:D8). Cocoons were then transferred to an incubator (*O. bicornis*: 25°C± 1°C; 55% RH;
177 L0:D24; *M. rotundata*: 30°C± 1°C; 55% RH; L0:D24) to allow bees to emerge. Males (which
178 are usually first to emerge) were removed and discarded to allow only non-mated females to
179 populate the test cages. Emerged females were removed from the emerging boxes and
180 placed into test cages and kept under test conditions (24 ± 2°C; 55% RH and L16:D8) until
181 enough bees were collected to populate a test replicate (60-70). Bees were fed *ad libitum*
182 with sucrose solution in water with a final concentration of 500 g/L (50% w/v). Female bees
183 (24-48 h old) were anaesthetised with CO₂ for 10-15 seconds to allow for the application of
184 insecticide (technical grade imidacloprid or thiacloprid (Sigma), or formulated flupyradifurone
185 (commercial product: Sivanto[®]Prime/Sivanto[™] 200 SL)), or insecticide diluent alone (in the
186 case of controls) by topical application with a hand held microapplicator (Hamilton repeating
187 dispenser PB600-1). A volume of 1 µl of test substance solution was applied to the dorsal
188 side of the thorax of each bee. Six concentrations of each insecticide were tested (spanning
189 0.000256 µg ai/bee – 0.05 µg ai/bee) with three replicates of 10 bees tested for each
190 concentration. Mortality was assessed at 48 h post application for thiacloprid and
191 imidacloprid and at 72 h for flupyradifurone. Bioassays with control mortality >10% were
192 excluded from analysis. The relationship between concentration and mortality was
193 determined using probit analysis with LD₅₀ values and their respective 95% confidence

194 interval values calculated in Le Ora Software PoloPus (Version 1.0) and IBM SPSS (Version
195 24; Table S3). In relation to the use of bioassay guidelines developed for *A. mellifera* in this
196 study, a previous meta-analysis of insecticide sensitivity data generated from 19 bee species
197 (including *M. rotundata*), using different bioassay methods, revealed that the sensitivity ratio
198 of non-honey bee species to the honey bee was below 10 for 95% of the cases ¹⁸.

199 **Receptor binding studies**

200 [³H]imidacloprid (specific activity 1.406 GBq μmol⁻¹) displacement studies were conducted
201 using membrane preparations isolated from frozen (-80°C) *M. rotundata* heads, following
202 previously published protocols ¹⁹. Briefly, bee heads weighing ~10 g were homogenized in
203 200 ml ice-cold 0.1 M potassium phosphate buffer, pH 7.4 containing 95 mM sucrose using
204 a motor-driven Ultra Turrax blender. The homogenate was then centrifuged for 10 min at
205 1200 g and the resulting supernatant filtered through five layers of cheesecloth with protein
206 concentration determined using Bradford reagent (Sigma) and bovine serum albumin (BSA)
207 as a reference. Assays were performed in a 96-well microtitre plate with bonded GF/C filter
208 membrane (Packard UniFilter-96, GF/C) and consisted of 200 μl of homogenate (0.48 mg
209 protein), 25 μl of [³H]imidacloprid (576 pM) and 25 μl of competing ligand. Ligand
210 concentrations used ranged from 0.001 to 10, 000 nM and were tested in triplicate per
211 competition assay. The assay was started by the addition of homogenate and incubated for
212 60 min at room temperature. Bound [³H]imidacloprid was quantified by filtration into a
213 second 96-well filter plate (conditioned with ice-cold 100 mM potassium phosphate buffer,
214 pH 7.4 (including BSA 5 g litre⁻¹)) using a commercial cell harvester (Brandel). After three
215 washing steps (1 ml each) with buffer the 96-well filter plates were dried overnight. Each well
216 was then loaded with 25 μl of scintillation cocktail (Microszint-O-Filtercount, Packard) and
217 the plate counted in a Topcount scintillation counter (Packard). Non-specific binding was
218 determined using a final concentration of 10 μM unlabelled imidacloprid. All binding
219 experiments were repeated twice using three replicates per tested ligand concentration.
220 Data were analysed using a 4 parameter logistic non-linear fitting routine (GraphPad Prism

221 version 7 (GraphPad Software)) in order to calculate IC₅₀-values (concentration of
222 unlabelled ligand displacing 50% of [³H]imidacloprid from its binding site).

223 **Metabolism assays and UPLC-MS/MS analysis**

224 Microsomes were prepared from approximately 60 adult female *M. rotundata* following a
225 standard protocol of homogenisation and differential centrifugation²⁰. The protein
226 concentration of microsome preparations was determined using Bradford reagent (Sigma)
227 and bovine serum albumin (BSA) as a reference. Native microsomes (160 µg/well) were
228 incubated for 1 hour (with shaking) with insecticide substrates (10 µM) in a total assay
229 volume of 200 µl at 30±1°C, in the presence or absence of an NADPH regeneration system.
230 Three replicates were performed for each data point. Samples incubated without NADPH
231 served as controls. The reactions were terminated by the addition of ice-cold acetonitrile (to
232 80% final concentration), centrifuged for 10 min at 3,000 g and the supernatant
233 subsequently analysed by tandem mass spectrometry as described previously²¹. LC-
234 MS/MS analysis was performed on a Waters Acquity UPLC coupled to a Sciex API 4000
235 mass spectrometer and an Agilent Infinity II UHPLC coupled to a Sciex QTRAP 6500 mass
236 spectrometer utilizing electrospray ionization. Recovery rates of parent compounds using
237 microsomal fractions without NADPH were normally close to 100%. Substrate turnover was
238 determined using GraphPad Prism version 7.

239

240 **Data availability**

241 Accession numbers of the *M. rotundata* P450 genes analysed in this study are shown in
242 Table S1. All other data generated or analysed during this study are included in this
243 published article (and its supplementary information files).

244

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249

250 **Competing interests**

251 This study received funding from Bayer AG, a manufacturer of neonicotinoid and butenolide
252 insecticides. N.E., M.Z., M.-T.A, A.N., C.G., J.G. and R.N. are employees of Bayer AG.

253 **Contributions**

254 C.B. and R.N. conceived and directed the study, A.H., K.B., K.S.S., and J.G. performed
255 experiments and analysis. N.E., M.Z., M.-T.A., A.N., C.G. analysed and interpreted data.

256 A.H., C.B. and R.N. wrote the paper with contributions from all authors.

257

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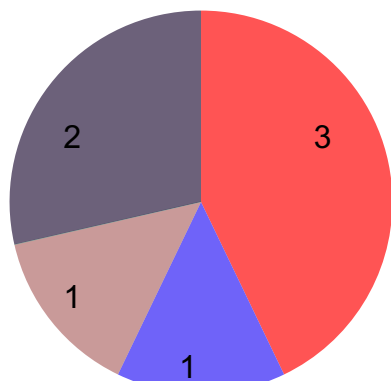
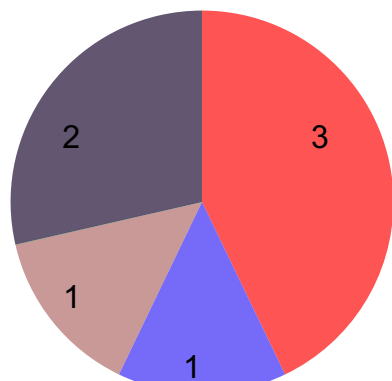
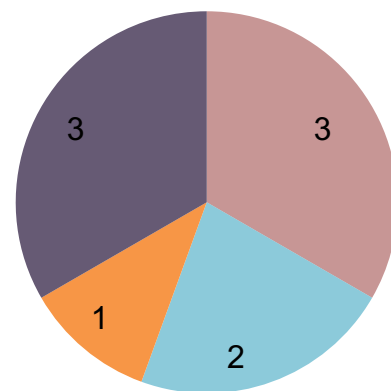
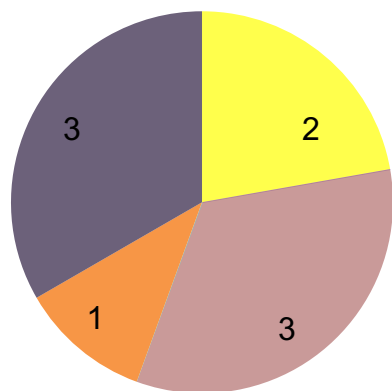
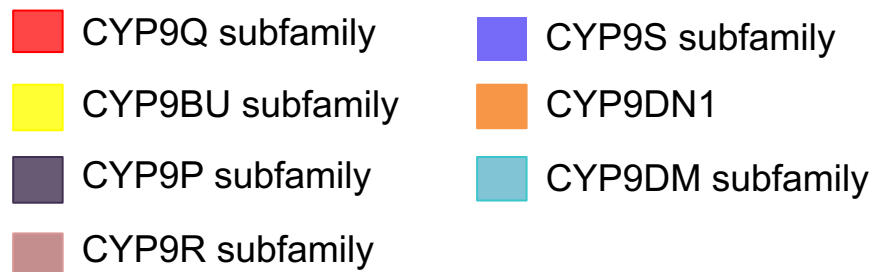
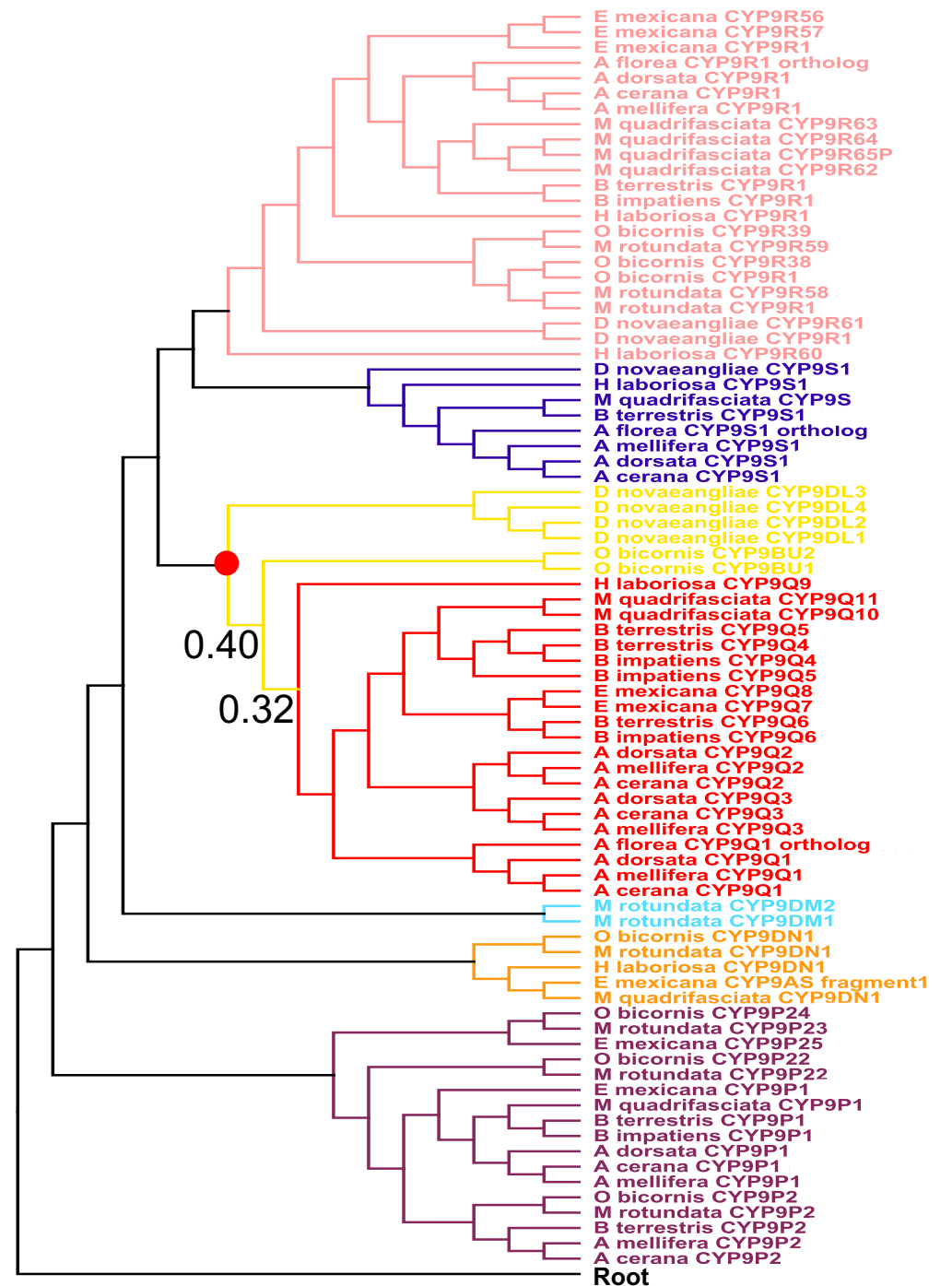
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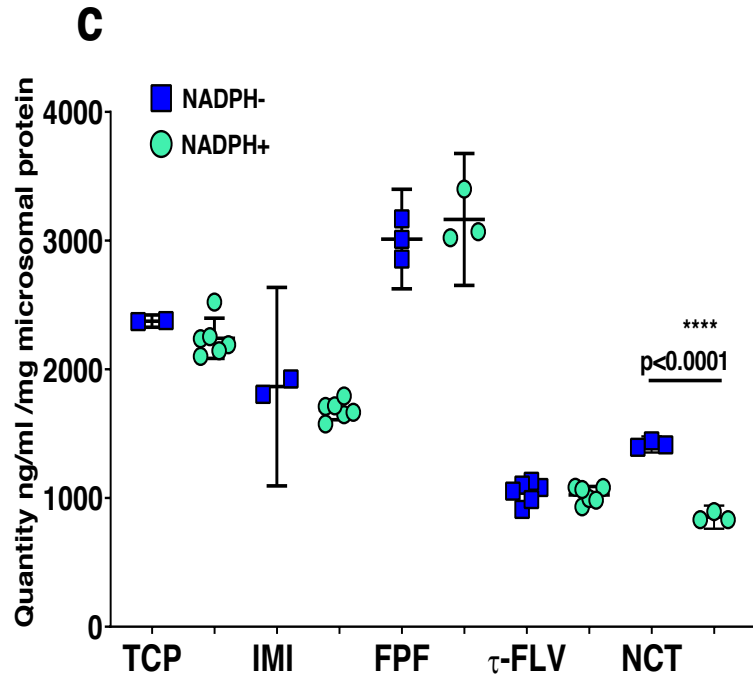
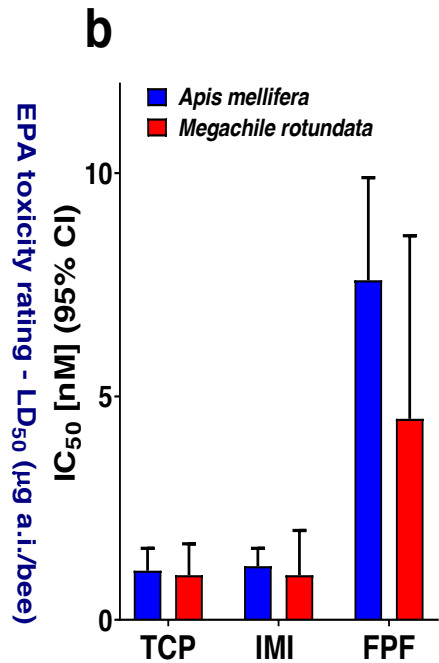
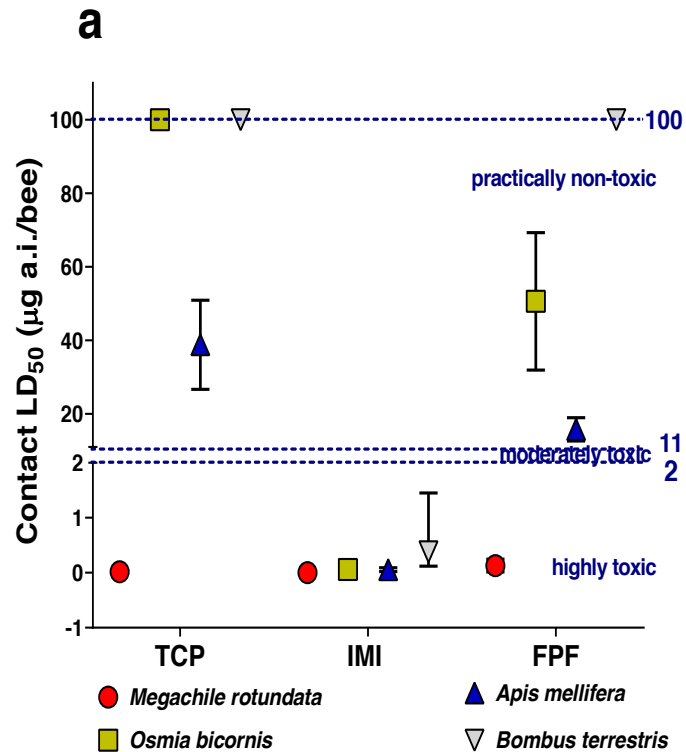
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Figure legends

Fig. 1: Distribution and phylogeny of the CYP9 family of P450 genes in bee pollinators. **a**, Distribution of the CYP9 family across four species of managed bee pollinators. **b**, Maximum likelihood phylogeny of CYP9 family sequences from 12 species of bee (*Apis mellifera*, *Apis florea*, *Apis dorsata*, *Apis cerana*, *Bombus terrestris*, *Bombus impatiens*, *Melipona quadrifasciata*, *Dufourea novaeangliae*, *Eufriesea mexicana*, *Habropoda laboriosa*, *Osmia bicornis* and *Megachile rotundata*). Branches show relative time.

Fig. 2: Biological and biochemical characterization of the response of *M. rotundata* to select insecticides. **a**, Contact LD₅₀ (48h) values for topical application of thiacloprid (TCP, a.i.), imidacloprid (IMI, a.i.) and LD₅₀ (72h) flupyradifurone (FPF, commercial product: Sivanto[®]/Sivanto[™] 200 SL) in four managed pollinator species [error bars indicate 95% confidence limits]. Sensitivity thresholds are depicted according to the EPA toxicity ratings²². Neonicotinoid data for *A. mellifera*, *B. terrestris* and *O. bicornis* are taken from^{2,3,19}; data for flupyradifurone (200 SL) for *A. mellifera* and *B. terrestris* are taken from¹⁷. **b**, Binding affinity (IC₅₀ values) of selected insecticides to nAChR head membrane preparations of *A. mellifera* and *M. rotundata*. Data for *A. mellifera* is taken from³. **c**, Metabolism of thiacloprid (TCP), imidacloprid (IMI), flupyradifurone (FPF), *tau*-fluvalinate (τ -FLV) and nicotine (NCT) by native microsomal preparations of *M. rotundata* as measured by tandem mass spectrometry (1h incubation at 30°C, \pm NADPH [error bars indicated 95% confidence limits]). Analysis performed using a Welch's t-test (two-tailed; df=3.581) with significant differences (p<0.0001) marked with ****.

a*Apis mellifera**Bombus terrestris**Megachile rotundata**Osmia bicornis***b**



Supplementary Table 1
Description of the CYPome of *Megachile rotundata*

Clan	Name	Protein accession number	Nucleotide accession number	Size
CYP2	CYP15A1	XP_012138027.1	XM_012282637.1	503
	CYP18A1	XP_012142657.1	XM_012287267.1	538
	CYP303A1	XP_012153072.1	XM_012297682.1	564
	CYP305D1	XP_003702175.1	XM_003702127.2	485
	CYP307B1	XP_012139366.1	XM_012283976.1	507
	CYP343A1	XP_012138467.1	XM_012283077.1	515
	CYP369A1	XP_003703633.1	XM_003703585.2	505
CYP3	CYP6AQ52	XP_012136078.1	XM_012280688.1	515
	CYP6AQ53	XP_012136079.1	XM_012280689.1	515
	CYP6AQ54	XP_003701310.1	XM_003701262.2	515
	CYP6AS108	XP_012146067.1	XM_012290677.1	370
	CYP6AS109	XP_012150537.1	XM_012295147.1	502
	CYP6AS110	XP_012136792.1	XM_012281402.1	499
	CYP6AS111	XP_012143066.1	XM_012287676.1	501
	CYP6AS112	XP_003704416.1	XM_003704368.2	510
	CYP6AS113	XP_012143067.1	XM_012287677.1	501
	CYP6AS114	XP_012143073.1	XM_012287683.1	499
	CYP6AS115	XP_012143072.1	XM_012287682.1	501
	CYP6AS116	XP_003704412.1	XM_003704364.2	512
	CYP6AS117	XP_012143062.1	XM_012287672.1	502
	CYP6AS118	XP_003704278.1	XM_003704230.2	499
	CYP6AS119	XP_012140372.1	XM_012284982.1	501
	CYP6AS120	XP_003704414.1	XM_003704366.2	499
	CYP6BC1	XP_003703200.1	XM_003703152.2	517
	CYP6BD1	XP_003699913.1	XM_003699865.2	503
	CYP6BE1	XP_012153915.1	XM_012298525.1	511
	CYP6BE1P	XP_012153916.1	XM_012298526.1	440
	CYP9DN1	XP_003703411.1	XM_003703363.2	522
	CYP9P2	XP_012145771.1	XM_012290381.1	515
	CYP9P22	XP_012145774.1	XM_012290384.1	506
	CYP9P23	XP_012145773.1	XM_012290383.1	512
	CYP9R1	XP_003705491.1	XM_003705443.2	516
	CYP9R58	XP_003705489.1	XM_003705441.2	516
	CYP9R59	XP_012145777.1	XM_012290387.1	518
	CYP9DM1	XP_003705488.1	XM_003705440.2	498
	CYP9DM2	XP_003705490.2	XM_003705442.2	531
	CYP336A33	XP_003702293.1	XM_003702245.2	501
	CYP336A34	XP_003702219.1	XM_003702171.2	501
	CYP336M1	XP_012138246.1	XM_012282856.1	412
CYP4	CYP4G11	XP_012145465.1	XM_012290075.1	556
	CYP4G202	XP_003700755.1	XM_003700707.2	561
	CYP4AA1	XP_012137854.1	XM_012282464.1	515
	CYP4AV1	XP_003699552.2	XM_003699504.2	514
MITOCHONDRIAL	CYP301A1	XP_003703366.2	XM_003703318.2	530
	CYP301B1	XP_003703365.1	XM_003703317.2	492
	CYP302A1	XP_012135500.1	XM_012280110.1	519
	CYP314A1	XP_012150013.1	XM_012294623.1	525
	CYP315A1	XP_003704053.1	XM_003704005.2	533
	CYP334A1	XP_003700083.1	XM_003700035.2	582

Supplementary Table 3

Table showing LD₅₀ values generated in this study

Species	Thiacloprid LD ₅₀ (48h) µg a.i./bee [CI 95%]	Imidacloprid LD ₅₀ (48h) µg a.i./bee [CI 95%]	Flupyradifurone LD ₅₀ (72h) µg a.i./bee [CI 95%]
<i>Megachile rotundata</i>	0.015 (0.012-0.023)	0.001 (0.000-0.001)	0.092 (0.036-0.26)
<i>Osmia bicornis</i>			46.7 (34.2-70.9)