



OAS | CICAD

**INTER-AMERICAN DRUG ABUSE
CONTROL COMMISSION**

CICAD

Secretariat for Multidimensional Security

SEVENTY-FOURTH REGULAR SESSION

December 11-14, 2023

Washington D.C.

OEA/Ser.L/XIV.2.

CICAD/doc.2811/23

December 11, 2023

Original: English

**THE CONSUMPTION, PRODUCTION AND TRAFFICKING OF SYNTHETIC
DRUGS IN TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO**

The Consumption, Production and Trafficking of Synthetic Drugs in Trinidad and Tobago

SEVENTY-FOURTH REGULAR SESSION
December 11-14, 2023
Washington D.C.



PRESENTED BY:
MICHELLE NASSEIR
DEPUTY DIRECTOR AG.
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
FORENSIC SCIENCE CENTRE

New Trends in Consumption



And Is That



https://youtu.be/blIV_Hc7sik



Prevalence of use has escalated since 2018 amongst party goers, university students and young professionals due to a popular song

Trafficking - Phenethylamines



Clothing



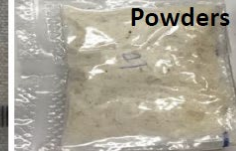
Tablets



Pellets



Crystals



Powders



Purchases are completed over the internet, and seizures have occurred at private couriers, the postal service, random traffic stops and homes

Ecstasy Tablets seized



- MDMA and Caffeine
- MDMA and Methylethcathinone
- MDMA and Piperazine

>6000 MDMA and MA tablets each from 2018 - 2022 from the UK, Netherlands, Germany and USA

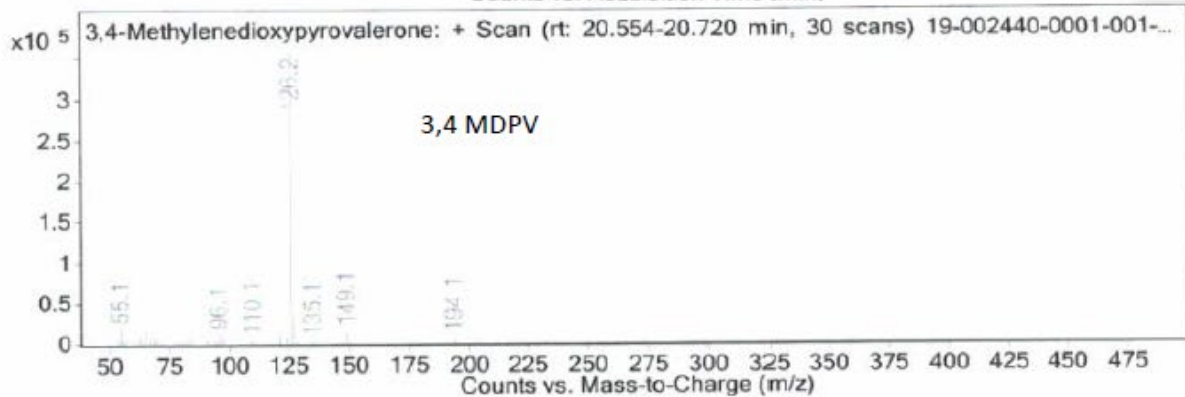
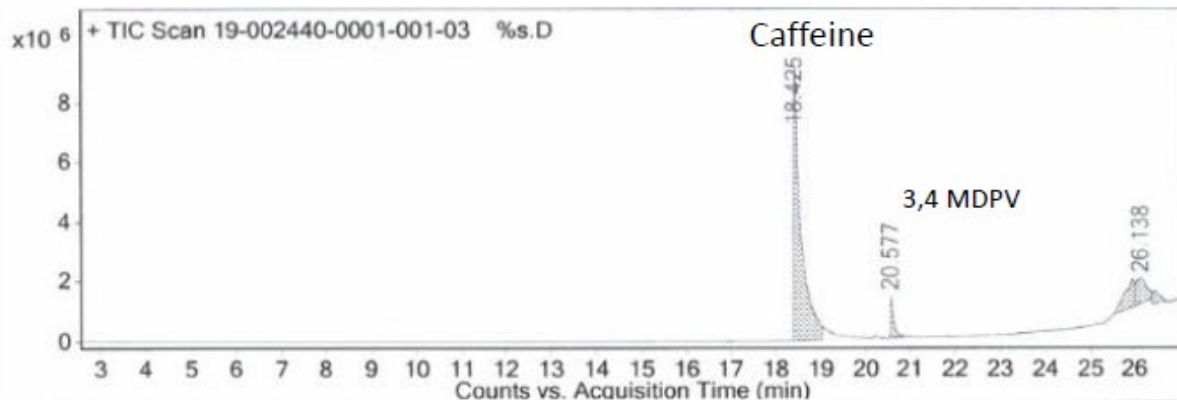
Methamphetamine Tablets seized



Some pills have the same pharmaceutical identifiers but different contents and weights

Synthetic Cathinone – 3,4 MDPV

Samples are analysed using the Raman hand held device and GC Dual MSD/NPD.



KETAMINE – PHENCYCLIDINE –TYPE SUBSTANCE DIVERSION FROM MEDICAL TO RECREATIONAL USE



TE - RAPE DRUG: Bags of white crystals of Ketamine seized by police at a house in Millenstium Park, Trincity, last week.

Cops seize \$8M worth of illegal drugs, four Chinese nationals held



Doctor held with shrooms, fined \$14,000

Loop News | October 6, 2023 02:02 PM ET



A 29-year-old medical doctor who pleaded guilty on Wednesday to Possession of Dangerous Drugs charges was fined \$14,000 by a Sangre Grande Magistrate.

In an update, the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service (TTPS) said Andell Jaggernath, of Diamond Village, San Fernando, was fined \$6,000 on a charge of Possession of Psilocybin, commonly known as mushrooms or 'shrooms', for the Purposes of Trafficking; \$4,500 on a charge of Possession of Ecstasy charge; and \$3,500 on a charge of Possession of Ketamine by Magistrate Cheron Raphael.

Police said he was given six months to pay the fine or serve nine months hard labour in default.

A case of Poly drug Use – Ketamine, MDMA and Mushrooms amongst Medical Personnel



CODEINE – PHARMACEUTICAL DIVERSION TO RECREATIONAL USE



A traffic stop by law enforcement and subsequent search warrant of the apartment of two British nationals found 163 and an additional 434 bottles of Codeine Linctus. They were charged with Trafficking a dangerous drug

PRODUCTION - CLANDESTINE LAB DISCOVERY August 12, 2023

Meth Lab discovered at 'The Residences' say

Aug 12, 2023 Updated Aug 12, 2023



The recipe: Red Phosphorous Method



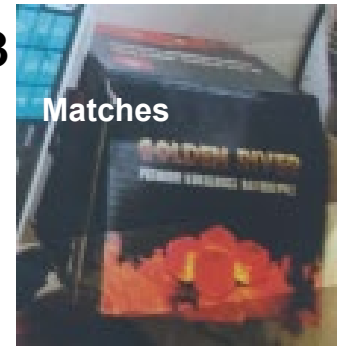
Ingredients

10 g Ephedrine HCl; 4g Red Phosphorus; 50 ml of 57% Hydriodic Acid

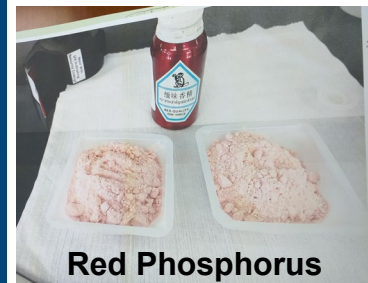
Procedure:

1. Add Ephedrine, red phosphorus and hydriodic acid into a 150 mL round bottom flask equipped with a stir bar and topped with a condenser
2. Reflux for approx. 3 hrs. & Remove heat and allow reaction mixture to cool
3. Filter and remove the red phosphorus using filter paper and funnel
4. Cool the reaction mixture in an ice bath
5. Neutralize the mixture by adding concentrated sodium hydroxide slowly and carefully
6. Extract with an organic solvent (e.g. Toluene, paint thinner, Coleman fuel, etc.)
7. Convert Methamphetamine base to Methamphetamine HCl by bubbling HCl gas through. Filter out crystals. Recrystallize crystals by dissolving crystals in warm acetone and let acetone solutions cool over ice or in freezer. Filter and collect crystals

Source:CLIC Presentation



Matches



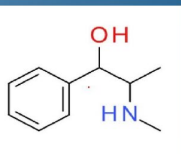
Red Phosphorus



The Chemical Reaction



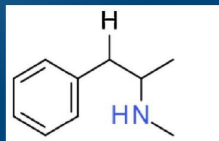
L-ephedrine



D-pseudoephedrine

Hydriodic acid
or Iodine + H₂O

Red Phosphorous
(P₄)



D-methamphetamine



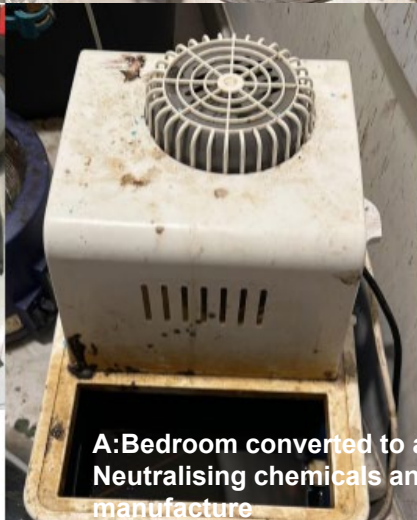
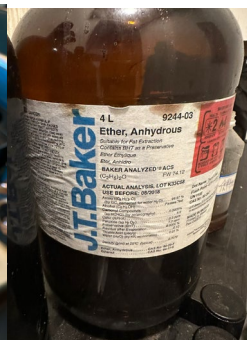
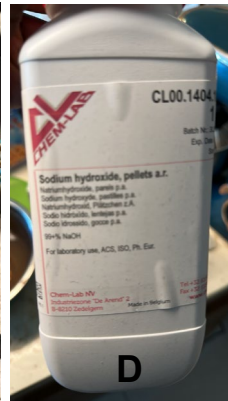
Drug Facts

Active Ingredients

Each Caplet contains
Paracetamol B.P.500 mg
Pseudoephedrine HCl B.P.30 mg



Methamphetamine



A: Bedroom converted to a lab; B: Water bath, vacuum pump and centrifuge C: Extraction apparatus D: Neutralising chemicals and extraction solvents E: Pill press F: Sodium Benzoate used as filler in pill manufacture

Thank You

 Trinidad and Tobago Forensic Science Centre Ministry of National Security	
<i>Michelle Nasseir</i> <i>Deputy Director Ag.</i> mnasseir@forensic.gov.tt	17 Barbados Road Federation Park St. Clair Trinidad and Tobago W.I
Tel: 1-868-622-2167 Fax: 1-868-622-5443	

Questions?