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Original Article

Adulticidal Activity of Olea vera, Linum usitatissimum and Piper nigrera against Anopheles stephensi and Aedes aegypti under Laboratory Conditions

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Abstract

Background: There are several plant extractions which are being used for mosquito control. The aim of this study was to evaluate the efficacy of Olea vera, Linum usitatissimum and Piper nigrera against Anopheles stephensi and Aedes aegypti under laboratory conditions.

Methods: These tests were carried out using WHO recommended bioassay method for adult mosquitoes.

Results: The extracts from black pepper was more effective as adulticide with lowest LC_{50} values (2.26% and 8.4%) against Aedes aegypti and Anopheles stephensi after 24 h of exposure while after 48h (1.56% and 5.11%) respectively. In terms of LC_{90} value black pepper was best with (8.66% and 30.1%) against Ae. aegypti and An. stephensi after 24 h of exposure while after 48h (4.59% and 17.3%) respectively. In terms of LT_{50} black pepper took 15 h to kill 50% tested population of Ae. aegypti while against An. stephensi it took more than 2 days. In terms of percentage mortality black pepper kill 84% of the population of Ae. aegypti and 44.75% of the An. stephensi population.

Conclusion: Black pepper showed best results in term of LC_{50}, LC_{90}, LT_{50} and percentage mortality against Ae. aegypti and An. stephensi. Our study suggested that the plant extracts have potential to kill adult mosquitoes, are environment friendly and can be used for the control of mosquitoes.

Keywords: Adulticide, Plant extracts, Anopheles stephensi

Introduction

Insect vectors, especially mosquitoes are responsible for spreading serious human diseases like malaria, Japanese encephalitis, yellow fever, dengue and filariasis (WHO 1997). Globally in 2009 there were 243 million cases and approximately 863000 deaths due to malaria (World Malaria Report 2009) and 50 million cases due to dengue and DHF (Dengue and dengue haemorrhagic fever, 2009) were reported. While in Pakistan there were an estimated 4.5 million suspected malaria cases and 59284 confirmed cases of malaria reported in 2008 (World Malaria Report Pakistan 2009). Totally, 5164 cases of dengue and DHF in 2006 (Weekly morbidity and mortality report, 2006) and 2062 confirmed cases of dengue fever including 15 deaths (Flood response in Pakistan 2010) were reported in 2010.

A primary element in the current global strategy for the control of vector-borne diseases is vector control, chemical control remaining a main component of integrated vector management. Major mosquito-borne diseases, including malaria, dengue, and yellow fever, are reportedly controlled with insecticides (Curtis et al. 2003, Zaim and Jambulingam 2004). According to a WHO pesticide evaluation (Zaim and Jambulingam 2004), the main insecticides used against

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malaria and dengue are pyrethroids and organophosphates. Successive changes in the insecticides and overuse resulted in multiple insecticides resistant in malaria vectors (Raghavendra and Subbarao 2002).

Thus, the future of vector control mainly relies on the strategies for the management of existing insecticide resistance in malarial vectors and to limit its further spread. The most important aspect of the management of resistance is to either avoid or delay the onset of resistance by effectively manipulating or influencing the factors responsible for the development of resistance. One of the possible ways of avoiding development of insecticide resistance in field is using non chemical control method, i.e., biopesticides (Amer and Melihorn 2006a, b). Therefore, it is the hour to launch extensive search to explore eco-friendly biological materials for control of Anopheles stephensi and Aedes aegypti.

Plant essential oils in general have been recognized as an important natural resource of insecticides (Adebayo et al. 1999, Gbolade et al. 2000). They have the potential of being acute ovicidal, fumigant, insect growth regulator and insecticidal against various insect species (Tsao et al. 1995) and concurrently being non hazardous to pesticide to eco-system (Ism an 2000). Generally they are safe to humans and other mammals (Tripathi et al. 2002–2004).

For this reason, it is necessary to test those plant extracts which could be expected to contain substances to provide adequate efficacy against mosquitoes and are environment friendly (Trongtokit et al. 2008).

Therefore the present study was conducted for the evaluation of botanicals extracts against An. stephensi and Ae. aegypti.

Materials and Methods

Collection of Plants

Olive (Olea vera), Linseed (Linum usitatissimum) and Black pepper (Piper niger) were collected from Faisalabad (31° 21’ 52” N, 72° 59’ 40” E) and identified from the Department of Agronomy, University of Agriculture Faisalabad.

Extraction of oil

The seeds were washed, then dried and later grounded in an electric grinder (Anex Germany). The grounded material was put in thimble and kept in extraction tube of Soxhelt apparatus with extractor ID 38mm, extractor volume 85 ml and flask volume 250 ml (Vogel 1978) for the extraction of oil by steam distillation method using Diethyl ether as solvent (250 ml/20 g sample). The cycle time for one sample was 4–5 h. Solvent was evaporated at room temperature, leaving oil which was then collected.

Preparation of Solution

Small vials were used to collect the oil and the quantity was measured. 1% stock solution was prepared by adding 1 ml of oil from each plant in 99 ml of acetone, from which series of concentration (%) were prepared (Murgan et al. 2007).

Collection of Mosquitoes

The immature mosquitoes were collected from different areas of Islamabad (33° 43’ 0” N, 73° 4’ 0” E) and Rawalpindi (33° 36’ 0” N, 73° 2’ 0” E) from 2009 and colonized in the insectry of Department of Medical Entomology and Disease Vector Control, Health Services Academy, Islamabad. The larvae were collected by dipping with a standard 400ml dipper (WHO 1975). These were mass reared at 30±2 °C temperature and 70±5% humidity. The larval population was fed on Tetra Min Tropical (Tetra TM). Adults were reared in steel cages and males were provided with 10% sucrose solution, while females were fed on blood of white rats (Shaalan et al. 2006). The gravid females were allowed to lay eggs on black plastic gauze that was placed in Petri dishes. The
eggs were separated and on emergence of larvae in petri dishes were shifted to rearing trays.

**Aduticidal Bioassay**

The extracted oils were evaluated by standard WHO method (WHO 2006). Different concentrations (2%, 4%, 6%, and 8%) of oils were applied on the Whatman # 1 filter paper and control was treated with acetone only. 15–25, 12 hrs old female mosquitoes were introduced in WHO insecticide testing kit in holding tube and remain there for 1 h to acclimatize. After 1 h mosquitoes were transferred in exposure tube, data was collected after 1 h, 24 and 48 h.

**Data analysis**

Abbott’s formula (Abbott 1925) was used for corrected mortality and the data so obtained was analyzed by Probit analysis (Finney 1989) dose and time mortality regression lines were calculated by using MANI-TAB-15 software.

**Results**

Colonies of *Ae. aegypti* and *An. stephensi* were maintained in our insectary, males on 10% sugar solution and females were blood fed on live white rats. Larvae were reared in steel trays (24 x 36 x 6 cm) and fed on sterilized liver diet. Our studies on the bio-potentials of seed extracts have yielded results that they can be tested for application on large scale against *Ae. aegypti* and *An. stephensi*. The adults were tested against the four selected concentrations of these extracts. The data so obtained has been elaborated in results and is being explained in light of previous findings.

Table 1 indicated the LC$_{50}$ and LC$_{90}$ values of black pepper, olive and linseed against *Ae. aegypti* and *An. stephensi*. Results showed that oils from black pepper and olive was considered best with LC$_{50}$ (2.26 and 2.95) respectively, after 24 h of exposure and regarded more toxic to *Ae. aegypti*, followed by linseed (12.90), After 48 h of exposure black pepper and olive had the lowest LC$_{50}$ value (1.56 and 1.77) respectively, followed by linseed (20.25).

Oils from black pepper and linseed had the lowest LC$_{90}$ value (8.66 and 27.60) respectively, after 24 h of exposure, followed by olive (38.55), While after 48 hours of exposure black pepper and olive seed had the lowest LC$_{90}$ value (4.59 and 10.29) respectively, followed by linseed (128.91) against *Ae. aegypti*.

Oils from black pepper and linseed was considered best with LC$_{50}$ (8.14 and 13.51) respectively, after 24 h of exposure and regarded more toxic to *An. stephensi* followed by olive (21.02). After 48 h of exposure black pepper and linseed had the lowest LC$_{50}$ value (5.11 and 7.16) respectively, followed by olive (11).

Oils from black pepper and linseed had the lowest LC$_{90}$ value (30.12 and 94.81) respectively, after 24 h of exposure, followed by olive seed (347.12), While after 48 h of exposure black pepper and linseed had the lowest LC$_{90}$ value (17.26 and 56.61) respectively, after 48 h of exposure, followed by olive seed (237.59) against *An. stephensi*.

Percent mortality of *Ae. aegypti* larvae after 24 h of exposure under lab conditions showed that black pepper and linseed had the highest percent mortalities (71.25% and 57.50%) respectively, followed by olive (8.25%), While after 48 hours black pepper and linseed had the highest percent mortality (84.75% and 72.75%) respectively, followed by olive (15.5%) as shown in Fig. 1.

According to Fig. 2 percent mortality of *An. stephensi* larvae after 24 h of exposure under lab conditions showed that black pepper and olive had the highest percent mortalities (29.75% and 24.5%) respectively, followed by linseed (24%), While after 48 h black pepper and olive had the highest percent mor-
tality (44.75% and 38.5%) respectively, followed by linseed (35%).

In terms of lethal time (Table 2) to kill 50% population of Ae. aegypti, black pepper and linseed took minimum time to kill 50% of population i.e., 14.98 and 21.36 h, followed by olive (246.08 h).

In terms of lethal time (Table 2) to kill 50% population of An. stephensi, black pepper and olive took minimum time to kill 50% of population i.e., 53.69 and 68.16 h, followed by linseed (78.04).

**Table 1.** Adulticidal effect of plant extracts against *Ae. aegypti* and *An. stephensi*

| Treatments     | Time (h) | LC$_{50}$ (% age) | LC$_{90}$ (% age) | Slope±SE | LC$_{50}$ (% age) | LC$_{90}$ (% age) | Slope±SE |
|----------------|----------|-------------------|-------------------|----------|-------------------|-------------------|----------|
|                |          | Ae. aegypti       | An. stephensi     |          | Ae. aegypti       | An. stephensi     |          |
| Black pepper   | 24       | 2.26              | 8.66              | 0.96±0.20| 8.4               | 30.1              | 0.95±0.21|
|                | 48       | 1.56              | 4.59              | 1.18±0.25| 5.11              | 17.3              | 1.05±0.20|
| Olive          | 24       | 2.95              | 38.6              | 0.49±0.18| 21.02             | 347               | 0.45±0.20|
|                | 48       | 1.77              | 10.3              | 0.72±0.19| 11                | 238               | 0.41±0.18|
| Linseed        | 24       | 12.9              | 27.6              | 1.68±0.57| 13.51             | 94.8              | 0.62±0.21|
|                | 48       | 20.25             | 129               | 0.69±0.24| 7.16              | 56.6              | 0.62±0.91|

![Fig. 1. Mortality of plant extracts against adult of *Ae. Aegypti*](https://www.SID.ir)
Discussion

Our results indicate that Black pepper seed extracts have good adulticidal potential against *Ae. aegypti* and *An. stephensi* as the most effective in terms of LC50, LC90, LT50 and percent mortalities.

Our results that plant extracts have the potential were supported by scientists like Choochote et al. (2004) reported that crude seed extract of celery, *Apium graveolens* extract exhibited a slightly adulticidal potency with LD50 and LD95 values of 6.6 and 66.4 mg/cm2, respectively. The extracts and compounds from tubers of *Neorautanenia mitis* against adult *An. gambiae* mosquitoes showed good adulticidal effects and the results can be extended for the control of mosquitoes.
especially at breeding sites (Joseph et al. 2004). Methanolic extract of leaves of *Annona squamosa* against the adult of *Culex quinquefasciatus* the extract showed dose dependent activity, exhibited significantly shorter knock down KD$_{50}$ and KD$_{90}$ values and produced significant mortality (Jaswanth 2002). The methanol extracts of seven species of Malaysian tunicates, the mortality values of the extracts on the adult mosquitoes were dose-dependent and increased with exposure period (Hussain et al. 2001). Investigation of the insecticidal activity of essential oil isolated from the leaves of *Lantana camara* against *Ae. aegypti*, *Cx. quinquefasciatus*, *An. culicifacies*, *An. fluviatilis* and *An. stephensi* respectively, KDT$_{50}$ values of the oil were 20, 18, 15, 12, and 14 min and KDT$_{90}$ values were 35, 28, 25, 18, 23 min against *Ae. aegypti*, *Cx. quinquefasciatus*, *An. culicifacies*, *An. fluviatilis* and *An. stephensi*, respectively on 0.208 mg/cm$^2$ impregnated paper (Dua 2010). Akram et al. (2010) and Hafeez et al. (2011) investigated the seed extract of citrus cultivars against the *Aedes albopictus* larvae and found satisfactory results. Sulaiman et al. (2008) evaluated the bifenthrin and *Acorus calamus* extract against *Ae. aegypti* and *Ae. albopictus* and found bifenthrin as best.

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