



SEED OILS ARE NATURAL SOURCE OF BIO PESTICIDES

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ABSTRACT

In present time mainly chemical pesticides are used for pest management but the major drawback of their persistence, caused adverse effect on human health and environment. Botanical pesticides are usually safer to humans and the environment than conventional pesticides. Seed oils are plant origin, which is the important group of naturally occurring, often slow-acting crop protectants with minimal residual effects. Seed oils are used against home and garden pests, these “green pesticides” can also found effective in agricultural situations, particularly for organic food production. In this review, pesticidal activities of seed oil documented against various insect and focus on role of seed oils in pest management.

KEYWORDS: Seed oil; Botanical pesticide; Agriculture; Insecticidal activity; Pest management.

INTRODUCTION

Insect, nematodes and pathogenic microorganisms such as viruses, bacteria, fungi, protozoa that cause disease and damaging of plants resulted yield loss. Due to plant diseases, insects and weeds annually interfere with the production that resulted 36.5% average of total losses, 14%, 10.2% and 12.2% are caused by diseases, insects and by weeds respectively.^[1] The total annual worldwide crop loss from plant diseases is about \$ 220 billion.^[2] Pests are constantly being introduced to new areas either naturally or accidentally, or, in some cases, organisms that are intentionally introduced.^[3] Ecological backlash is often produced due to top rsistent of chemical insecticides in environment, which is a counter-response of the ecosystem, specifically with insect pest populations. It expresses in forms of resistance which makes less susceptible against chemical pesticides, resulting pest population is difficult to control.^[4]

Botanical pesticides possess a number of usefull properties like low mammalian toxicity, no health hazards, less hazards to non-target organisms, no adverse effect on plant growth. It is less expensive and easily available because of their natural occurrence.^[5] Due to minimal residual effects, these crop protectants are an important group of naturally occurring, slow acting botanical pesticides, that are usually safer to humans and the environment than chemical pesticides. Injudicious uses of synthetic pesticides to control agricultural pests has created numerous problems such as poisoning of farm workers, consumers and wildlife, resistance to

pesticides in pest populations and negative environmental impacts. These adverse effects have provided the impetus for the development of alternatives to chemical pesticides for pest management. Natural products derived from plants have been shown to be promising alternatives.^[6,7] A review on that locally available plants extracts of Africa can be effective in controlling pest which can be used alone or in mixtures with conventional insecticides at reduced rates and suggested that botanical insecticides should prove most beneficial to consumers in developing countries has been documented.^[8] Plant extracts and phytochemicals have long been a subject of research to develop alternatives to conventional insecticides.^[9] Nicotine, sabadilla, rotenone, neem and pyrethrum/pyrethrins are well stabilized botanical pesticide. In present, there are more than 2000 plant species known to have insecticidal properties, where the *Euphorbiaceae*, *Asteraceae*, *Labiatae*, *Fabaceae*, *Meliaceae* and *Solanaceae* families have notable insecticidal activities.^[10] In present time, these botanical pesticides play only a minor role in pest management. The focus on biodegradable that are less persistent and suitable for use in integrated pest management are becoming more important for the safety of the environment and society.^[11]

Seeds are produced by plants, and they can be distinguish as angiosperms (enclosed seeds) and gymnosperms (naked seeds) on the basis of manner of their production. Seed oils commonly referred to as non-volatile plant secondary metabolites are byproducts of plant and produced during metabolism. Seed oils are

reported as controlling agent to control wide range of insects, fungi, bacteria. An ideal insecticidal plant should be perennial with wide distribution and abundantly present in nature. The active ingredient should be effective even at lower concentration.^[12] Many developing countries are promoting botanical pesticides as an alternatives to synthetic organic insecticides. Botanical pesticides are naturally occurring and renewable ideal pest control agents. Effectiveness of botanical insecticides from seed oil of *P. Pinnata*, *A. indica* and *Chrysanthemum cinerariifolium* emulsion against various insect *Spodoptera littoralis*, *Myzus persicae*, and *Tetranychus urticae* has been reported.^[13]

The aim of this study is focus on insecticidal, antifedant, larvicidal, repellent and fungicidal activities of seed oil which play an important role in development of safe, ecofriendly and environmentfriendly botanical pesticides. Seed oils and their secondary metabolites are an important source for biopesticides that can be used for development of new pesticides.

Bioactivity

Insecticidal activity

Annona Squamosa (Sugar apple) plant belongs to *Annonaceae* family have a broad range of insecticidal bioactivities. This family have been extensively tested in recent years against pest insects and related arthropods.^[14] A review article by^[12] has been described biopesticidal activity of various parts which make this plant for potential alternatives to chemical pesticides in Agriculture. The toxicity of seed oil of *A.squamosa* plant was due to the malathion and two isolated compounds (annonastion and squamozin) which were found active against adult, egg and larval stages of the FSS2 and CTC 12 strains of *Tribolium castaneum* (red flour beetle), silver leaf white fly (*Bemisia argentifolii*), cotton aphid, (*Aphis gossypii Glover*), Kanzawa spider mite (*Tetranychus kanzawai*).^[15] The seed oil extract of petroleum spirit, ethyl acetate, acetone and methanol showing strong insecticidal activity against four strains Raj, CR 1, FSS II and CTC-12 larvae and adults of the *T. castaneum*, among these extract, the highest toxicity was recorded in petroleum spirit extract and lowest toxicity was for methanol extract in case larval bioassay while in adults, the lowest toxicity was observed in acetone extract.^[16]

R.comminis and *Jatropha curcas* are important plants of *Euphorbiaceae* family having bioactive compounds. It has been found that castor oil from *R.comminis* has insecticidal activity against *C. maculates* which affect yield loses during storage and field crop and diamond back moth insect (*Plutellaxy lostella*) pests of brassicas.^[17-18] The biopesticidal potential of this seed oil was evaluated against termite and cockroach and it has been found that Castor 10% oil caused 100% mortality in 60 hrs. and 72 hrs. against termite and cockroach, respectively.^[19] The castor oil having limited toxic effect

but it reduced oviposition of *Cosmopolites sordidus* banana insect.^[20]

J. curcas (physic nut) is a drought- resistant multipurpose shrub or a small tree native of tropical America, popularized as a biofuel crop but in addition to this it has many more uses.^[21] The insecticidal effect of this seed oil has been evaluated against on black bean aphid and *Vigna unguiculata* insect cow pea crops and it was effective at 5 and 7.5% concentrations.^[22] This seed oil effective against *Sitophilus granaries* (wheat grain pest) and author concluded that this oil act as insecticide and germination promoter.^[23] Biopesticidal activity of this seed oil has been investigated against two insect *Cnaphalocrosis medinalis* and *Halicoverpa armigera*.^[24] Insecticidal effect of seed oil against *C. maculatus* and *Dinarmus basalis* insect have been reported that eggs were more susceptible as compared to pre adult stages.^[25-27] Seed oil extract showed insecticidal efficacy against the *Schistocerca gregaria* desert locust insect at different concentration.^[28] Insecticidal activities i.e. contact toxicity, eggs mortality, Anti oviposition and ovicidal effects, feeding deterrency, repellency and egg toxicity, insect growth regulatory effect and reduction of development/fertility of progeny of this seed oil against various insects have been reported.^[29] Insecticidal activity of seed oil has been reported against two bruchid beetle *C. maculatus* and *Bruchidius atrolineatus* at different concentration, results shows that oil reduced population of both species but *B. atrolineatus* was found more susceptible than *C. maculates*. With treatment at 10% jatropha seed oil caused 100% mortality in 48hrs and 72hrs against termites (*Odontotermes obesus*) and Cockroach (*Blattela germanica*) respectively.^[30] Bioassay study showed that oil have great pottential^[31] (Demissie and Asnake 2013). Treatment with 100 ppm concentration this seed oil was effective against *Sitophilus zeamais* on maize weevil grain.^[32]

A. indica and *Melia azaderatch* are important members of *Meliaceae* is family because a number of bioactive constituents isolated which have pesticidal activities. Azadirachtin molecule is an limonoid reported as natural insecticides, found in both member. *A. indica* (Neem) is recognized as a natural product which has much to offer in solving global agricultural, environmental and public health problems. Natural properties of neem do not have any toxic reactions.^[33] The bioactivity of crude or commercial pesticides from the seeds, twigs and stem barks of neem trees against over 700 pests and disease pathogens has been documented. *A. indica* and *Carapa procera* seed oils have same promising termiticidal and preventive activities on wood.^[33] The larvae of *Microtheca punctigera* beetle which affect chinese cabbage and mustard crop, showed mortality after treatment with neem seed oil at different concentration during *in- vitro* test.^[34] Comparative insecticidal effects of seed oil obtained from neem berries stored for one to seven years under normal room conditions, against the 3rd instars larvae of *Trogoderma granarium* insect, the

results indicating significant reductions in activities were reported in oil treatments prepared from the oldest fruits of eight years old but though the newest products of one to four years old were relatively the best.^[35] Insecticidal activity of neem oil (0.5, 1.0 and 2.0%), neem cake extract (1.0, 3.0 and 5.0%) along with monocrotophos 0.05% were evaluated and results indicated that all test solutions, 2.0% oil showed maximum larval mortality followed by neem cake extract found effective against fourth instar larvae of *H. armigera* under laboratory conditions.^[36] Comparative efficacy of neem oil with synthetic insecticides has been found effective against management of thrips of mungbean *avigna radiata* wilezek.^[37] Seed oil was found more effective followed by leaves and stem bark powder against adults *C. maculatus* insect.^[38] *Lutzomyia longipalpis* is the main vector of visceral leishmaniasis, seed oil was effective in reducing the population on eggs, larvae and adult.^[39]

Ripe fruits oil from *M. azedarach* seed was found effective to control at various concentration against the 2nd and 4th instar larvae of *S. littoralis* insect.^[40] Emulsion developed from *P. pinnata* seed oil in alone and with combination with other oil and plant extract has been carried out against green peach aphid (*Myzus persicae*) insect and result showed that at 3% concentration almost all formulations, gave 90% or above mortality of treated females.^[41]

Papaver somniferum seed oil at 2, 4, 6, 8 and 10ml/kg concentration was investigated against *C. maculatus* insect and it reduced population significantly at all concentration.^[42] 1% cotton seed oil+1% nirma as emulsifier agent was effective as phosphamidon 85 WSC against cotton aphid (*Aphis Gossypii*) without phytotoxic effect.^[43] On collard and tomato crop, 10 mL and 5 mL/Litre concentration of cotton seed oil and vegetable oil have been showed insecticidal efficacy for control of *Bemisia argentifolii* insect.^[44] Seed oil of *Hura crepitans* (Sandbox tree), showed insecticidal activity at 0.1% concentration on oviposition, adult emergence, mortality of immature stages and reproductive competitiveness against *C. maculatus*.^[45] *Moringa oleifera* and *Alium sativum* (garlic) seed oil at 0.4% and 0.6% and 0.1, 0.2, 0.4 and 0.6% concentration were found effective against *C. maculatus*.^[46,47] Treatment with Cassava (*Manihot esculenta*) seed oil at 1% and 0.5% against aphids (*Aphis craccivora*) on cowpea and ivy gourd showed 100% mortality of the pest within 24 and 48 hours respectively.^[48] 10% jojoba oil was found effective in controlling the *Schistocerca gregaria* insect.^[49]

Vegetable oils are important part of seed oil and they are reported as insecticides. A review articles on vegetable oils like sunflower, mustard, groundnut, sesame, soybean, olive, palm, castor oil has been protected legume-pulses from insects.^[50] Three vegetables oils (corn, sunflower and sesame) either alone or combined with pyridalyl or /and spinosad at mixing ratios of 99/1, 95/5 and 90/10 (insecticide /oil), result showed that

activity these combined ratios was significantly increased insecticidal activity against *C. maculatus* insect.^[51] Four vegetable oils (olive oil, groundnut oil, soybean oil and palm kernel oil) showed that these oils suppressed the development of *C. maculatus* to some extent in stored cowpea seed after treatment with 0.2 ml oil per 50gm.^[52] Seed oils of bitter melon, small bitter melon, bottle melon and ridge melon has been found effective in controlling mustard aphid (*Lipaphis erysimi*), under field trial at 6% concentration all oils showed 100% mortality.^[53]

Antifeedant activity

Antifeedant efficacy of *Jatropha curacas* seed oil extract at different concentration has been reported against *S. gregaria* insect.^[28] The authors isolated 11 limonoids from *A. indica* seed oil by HPLC and evaluated antifeedant activity against *Reticulitermes speratus* (termite). Among 11 compounds in which deacetylgedunin was found the most active compound as antifeedant.^[54] *Oebalus poecilus* most important pest of rice in South America, both males and females showed mortality after treatment commercial neem oil formulation.^[55] Antifeedant activities of various isolated limonoid compounds from neem seed oil reduced significantly population of larvae of *S. litura* insect.^[56] Antifeedant effect of neem seed oil was observed against *M. punctigera* insect at 0.25, 0.50 and 1% level. Maximum antifeedant activity reported at 1%.^[57] Antifeedant insect growth regulator and sterilant activity of isolated azadirachtin compound has been reviewed and author concluded that azadirachtin is a safe insecticide.^[58]

Seeds of *M. azedarach* were showing, antifeeding effects due to presence of biologically active group of triterpenoids.^[59] Antifeedant effect of methanolic fraction of seed oil of *P. pinnata* was reported against the larvae of *S. litura* and *T. Granarium* insect.^[60]

Larvicidal activity

Comparative Larvicidal activity of seed oil, root and leaves from three species of *Jatropha* i.e. *J. nana*, *J. gossypifolia* and *J. glandulifera* were evaluated against *S. litura* insect, after 24 h of exposure, these seed oils were showed larval mortality.^[61] The effect of vector borne diseases is a major threat to human survival, mosquitoes are important insect to spread disease. *J. curacas* seed oil showed larvicidal activity against the fourth-instar larvae of *A. aegypti* and author suggested that it can be effectively used as potential candidates for controlling and can be considered for eco-friendly vector control programs^[62]. With treatment of 5% *J. curacas* seed oil showed significant antifeedant effect on the treated nymphs instar of *S. gregaria*.^[28] Larvicidal efficacy of seed oil of neem cake, karanja (individually and combination) and Pine were studied against larvae of *Cx. quinquefasciatus*, *A. Aegypti* and *Anopheles stephensi* mosquito species, study results showed that these oils showed larvicidal effect, combination of neem

and karanja oil cakes have better effect than the individual treatments.^[63,64] Seed oil of *cedrus libani* shown larvicidal efficacy against third and fourth star larvae of mosquito *Culex pipiens*.^[65]

Repellent activity

Repellent activities of various seed oil have been documented against various pests. The seed oil of neem showed repellent activity against *M. punctigera* beetle and termite.^[57,34] Neem seed oil showed significant repellent activity against *Cx. quinquefasciatus* mosquito, is vector of filariasis disease.^[66] At laboratory conditions, the repellent activities of neem and *P. pinnata* seed oil (separately and mixed oil) have been reported against mosquito vector *A. aegypti*. Results showed that combination of oil increased repellent activity as compared to single oil.^[67] The seed oil of *P. pinnata* showed maximum repellent activity against *T. granarium* at 0.2 mg/cm² concentration.^[60] Seed oil of jatropha, Canola and Jojoba, showed repellent activity against two insect, *C. maculatus* and *C. Chinensis*.^[68] Pine oil is reported as strong repellent which provide 100% protection against *Anopheles culicifacies* for 11 h and 97% protection against *Cx. quinquefasciatus* for 9 hours respectively.^[64]

Antifungal activity

Ten annonaceous acetogenins (AAs) were isolated from *A. squamosa* seeds in which eight compounds were showing *in-vitro* and *in-vivo* antifungal activities against *P. infestans* and *P. Recondite* fungi causing tomato late blight and wheat leaf rust respectively.^[69] Jojoba and jatropha seed oil extract were found most effective than castor oil against 13 species of plant pathogenic fungi.^[70] *J. curcas* seed oil showed antifungal activity against six seed borne plant pathogenic fungi i.e. *Alternaria alternate*, *Aspergillus flavus*, *Aspergillus fumigatus*, *Aspergillus niger*, *penicillium glaburum* and *Fusarium Chlamydosporum* in which *P. glaburum* and *A. niger* fungi were found more susceptible than others.^[71] Endophytic fungi were isolated from *J. curcas* and identified as *Colletotrichum truncatum*, *Nigrospora oryzae*, *Fusarium proliferatum*, *Guignardia cammillae*, *Alternaria destruens* and *C. truncatum* were found effective against *Fusarium oxysporum* and *Sclerotinia sclerotiorum* plant pathogenic fungi.^[72] Mycelia growth and rot development of yam caused by *Fusarium verticillioides* and *Aspergillus flavus* has been controlled by *J. curcas* and *R. cumunis* seed oil in *in-vitro* and *in-vivo* conditions.^[73] Seed oil from jatropha species i.e. *J. curcas*, *J. gossypifolia*, *J. glandulifera*, *J. Integerrima* showed satisfactory results against four plant pathogenic fungi *A. alternata*, *A. flavus*, *A. niger*, *F. oxysporum*, and *Rhizoctonia solani*.^[74] Extracted curcumin from *J. curcas* seeds showed antifungal activity against plant pathogenic fungi i.e. *Pyricularia oryzae*, *Pestalotiopsis funerea*, *R. solani* and *S. sclerotiorum* at 50 µg/ml concentration.^[75]

Neem oil inhibits 100% growth of *Fusarium moniliforme*, *A. niger*, *Drechslera rostrata* and *Macrophomina phaseolina* fungi at 10%.^[76] 2% neem oil was found effective for controlling *Botrytis cinerea* and *Penicillium expansum* plant pathogens causing gray mold disease in apple during post harvest.^[77] Mustard, neem, karanj, cedar, apricot and olive vegetable oils were found effective to control mycoflora of pea which is caused by *Aspergillus* sp, *Alternaria* sp and *Mucor* sp during germination. Neem and karanj oil provided maximum protection against fungal pathogens while apricot oil was found least effective.^[78] Antifungal activity of seed oil of *Citrus sinensis* has been reported against *Lentinus sajor-caju* (saprophytic mushroom) at *in-vitro* scale.^[79]

Chemical Constituents

Different plant seed extract/oil obtained from the *Annonaceae*, *Meliaceae*, *Euphorbiaceae* and *Solanaceae* contains secondary metabolites which are reported as insecticides. The *Meliaceae* family is the most studied one, with azadirachtin as the most important active compound. The azadirachtin molecule which is reported as active ingredient was isolated from seeds of *M. indica*.^[80] The insecticidal properties of neem oil are mainly due to presence of limonoids, among these limonoids, deacetylgedunin have potent antifeedant against *Reticulitermes speratus* termites.^[54] T. R. Govindachari et al. in 2000^[56] isolated limonoids from neem seed oil by preparative HPLC. analysis was carried out in two E-2-A and E-2-S fractions in which E-2-A fraction showed presence of azadirachtins A and B isomers as the major constituents and azadirachtins D, H and I as minor constituents. In E-2-S showed presence of salannin, nimbin, azadiradione and desacetylnimbin as major constituents and these compounds responsible for antifeedant and growth regulating activities. Meliartenin and its interchangeable isomer 12-hydroxiamoorastatin were isolated from fruit extract of *M. Azedarach* and identified as antifeedant against *Epilachna paenulata* larvae.^[81] 7-(3'-furyl)-benzo[3,4-c]-7H-oxol-2-one compound was isolated from fruit extract of *M. azedarach* which was reported as insecticide and fungicide against *S. littoralis* 4th larval instar and plant pathogenic fungi such as *R. solani*, *Macrophomina phaseoli*, *Pythium debarianum* and *Fusarium calmorum* respectively.^[82] Two compounds, 1-cinnamoylmelianolone and 1-cinnamoyl-3,11-dihydroxymeliacarpin, were isolated from the fruit of *M. azedarach* responsible for insecticidal activity.^[83] Acetogenins, squamocyn and annonacyn phytochemicals were identified from *Annonaceae* family which were reported as bioactive compounds.^[84] 11 compounds known as squamocenin, annotemoyin-2, reticulatain-2, squamocin-I, squamocin-B, squamocin, motrilin, squamostatin-D, squamostatin-E, cherimolin-1, and cherimolin-2 were isolated and identified as annonaceous acetogenins from *A. squamosa* seed extracts.^[86] Two compounds were isolated and identified from seed extract of hexane and ethyl acetate identified as

annonin (squamocin) and the other was characterized as a novel dihydroxy-bistetrahydrofuran fattyacid lactone (acetogenin) showed insecticidal activity against eggs, larvae and adults of *Drosophila melanogaster*.^[87]

The phorbol ester fraction from seed oil of *J. curcas* analysed by HPLC which reported as a promising candidate for use as a plant-derived protectant of a variety of crops, from a range of pre-harvest and post-harvest insect pests.^[88,89] Six unstable intramolecularditerpene esters were isolated from the seed oil of *J. curcas* known as 12-deoxy-16-hydroxyphorbol which were having insecticidal activities.^[90] Two glucosides, simmondsin and simmondsin 2-ferulate were isolated from jojoba seed which was reported insecticide, antifungal and antifungal agents.^[91] The Carotol, daucol and β -caryophyllene were isolated from carrot seed oil showed strong antifungal activity *A. alternate* pathogen.^[92]

DISCUSSION

A no of products were developed from seed oil and other botanicals. Three newly developed botanical insecticides and novel formulation (*PONNEEM*) from pongamia oil were found effective to control *P. xylostella*, *S. litura* and *H. armigera* insects.^[93,94] *M. azaderatch* seed oil-based formulations were developed as insecticides against *A. Gossypii* and *Cavariellam aegopodii*.^[95] Natural pyrethrum extract blended with cotton seed oil was the most potent insecticide against maize weevils insect and also found that Cotton seed and neem seed oils enhanced the stabilization of the natural pyrethrum insecticide.^[96]

Botanicals i.e. essential oils, seed oils and extracts have potential for development of eco- friendly products for crop protection in future. Bio-pesticides which were derived from botanicals are necessary to characterize their potency for revolution. For this necessity to be used by applying available modern biotechnological tools, to develop low cost technology for compound isolation, formulation and commercial scale establishment of plant resource. Botanical pesticides are the best option for organic food production and post harvest protection of food in developing countries in pest management. For development of biopesticide biocontrol agents required sophisticated procedure like packaging, storage and marketing strategies and eventual registration of formulated product for producing commercial botanical based pesticides.^[97] The major problems are costly toxicology testing for new products which may have limited Intellectual Property (IP) protection, relatively small market size, economical supply of plant product, quality control and lack of stability of product.^[98] Authors found that for optimization, environmental sustainability of natural pesticides must be evaluated for their environmental impact in the context of an integrated approach, policy decisions must be based on empirical data and objective risk-benefit analysis and not arbitrary classifications.^[99] Developing countries,

research and practices are needed to develop and evaluate IPM concepts without companion efforts in extension and training. Most of the academic research is perhaps incomplete because of its short term goals.^[100] For commercialization of new botanical insecticides i.e. scarcity of the natural resources, registration, standardisation and quality control are principal barriers in commercialization of botanical pesticides.^[101] Botanical pesticides and pollution prevention division which was established in 1994 to facilitate the registration and promoting in safer use of botanical pesticides for encouraging the IPM programme. Most oil based products sold as pesticides are regulated by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act, which granted some exemptions are to be edible oils and other specific ingredients that are considered to pose minimum risk to humans. Many plant oils are exempt from EPA regulations and some are sold for organic production. Commercialization of botanical pesticides have to be great challenge due to various factor like identification, phenotypic and genetic variability, extract variability and unstable nature for longer time span, toxic components and contaminants.

CONCLUSION

Seed oils have been used as pesticides for centuries which is effective and safe alternatives to synthetic insecticides and fungicides. Due to health concern issues, botanical pesticides is now fast growing and wider acceptance among farmers. For commercialization of botanical pesticides needs more work on formulation, to make easy registration, fundamental political approach, financial support and field trials are required. There should be an organizational infrastructure to plan, foster, facilitate and coordinate research so that current gap or imbalance in scientific research findings. In this paper authors have been made efforts to document the pesticidal activities of seed oils that play significant role in botanical formulation. Seed oils will play a significant role in integrated pest management in the future for pest control in both industrialized and developing countries.

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