

# LARVICIDAL ACTIVITIES OF SELECTED ESSENTIAL OILS AGAINST THE HOUSEFLY, *MUSCA DOMESTICA L.*

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## Abstract

The *Musca domestica* I, II and III instar larvae were treated with different concentrations of essential oils *Curcuma aromatica* and *Cinnamomum zeylanicum*. The larval mortality was calculated after 24hrs, 48hrs and 72hrs exposure periods. The LC<sub>50</sub>, LC<sub>90</sub>, 95% confidence limit and 95% confidence limit, Lower confidence limit (LCL) and upper confidence limit (ULC), regression equation and chi-square values were calculated by probit analysis. The highest larvicidal activities were observed at 24hrs and lowest larvicidal activities were observed at 72hrs. The essential oils of *Curcuma aromatica* and *Cinnamomum zeylanicum* were found to be highly effective.

Key words; *Musca domestica*, *Curcuma aromatica* and *Cinnamomum zeylanicum*

## Introduction

*Musca domestica* L., Diptera the common housefly is one of the most widespread fly species in the world. The synanthropic housefly *Musca domestica* is a mechanical vector of pathogens (bacteria, fungi, virus and parasites), some of which cause serious diseases in human and domestic animals (Graczyk et al., 2001; Tarelli et al., 2009; Hana, 2013. and Khamesipour, F et al., 2018). Increasing incidences of insecticide resistance in housefly population (Khan et al., 2013), rising cost of insecticides and a growing public concern about actual (or) potential problems associated with insecticides, interest in alternative housefly control strategies has increased (Meyer et al., 1987, Scott et al., 1989). Screening of plant extracts for deleterious effect on insects is one of the approaches in the search of novel biological insecticides (Ismam., 1995, Carlini et al., 2002 and Phasomkusolsil and Soonwera, 2012). Essential oils have a broad spectrum of bioactivity because of the presence of several ingredients that act through several modes (Liu et al., 2008). The essential oil also known as ethereal oils obtained by the steam distillation of plants. The essential oils are generally considered nontoxic to human beings (Bagvan et al., 2008). The essential oils of six plant species were screened for repellent, larvicidal and pupicidal activities against housefly *Musca domestica* (Kumar et al., 2011, 2012). Moreover, plant essential oils are considered for controlling house fly because of their selectivity, high toxicity for insect, target specificity, minimal environmental effects and safety to humans (Tarelli et al., 2009; Kumar

et al., 2013). In the present study to evaluate the larvicidal activities of plant essential oils of *Curcuma aromatica* and *Cinnamomum zeylanicum* against *Musca domestica* L.

## Materials and Methods

Insecticidal activities of certain medicinal plant essential oils were tested against various developmental stages of common housefly *Musca domestica* L. These houseflies were reared in cylindrical box (90x140 mm) covered with muslin clothes and maintained at 28±2°C, 65% relative humidity in a growth chamber. Testing of the plant essential oils for larvicidal activity were carried out at different concentrations ranging from 100ppm to 1000ppm for *Cinnamomum zeylanicum* against *Musca domestica* L. The larval mortality in both treated and control were recorded after 24hrs, 48hrs and 72hrs. The larvae without movement were considered dead (WHO 1996). The percentage of mortality was calculated using Abbotts formula (Abbotts 1925).

$$\text{The percentage mortality} = \frac{\text{mortality treatment \%} - \text{mortality of control}}{100 - \text{mortality of control}} \times 100$$

The statistical evaluation of LC<sub>50</sub>, LC<sub>90</sub>, regression equation and 95% confidence limit, Lower confidence limit (LCL) and upper confidence limit (ULC) were calculated from data, which was carried out by probit analysis (Finney, 1971).

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The LC<sub>50</sub> value for *Curcuma aromatica* against *Musca domestica* I, II and III instar larvae range from 364.88 to 438.02ppm, 339.43 to 505.53ppm and 359.51 to 551.88 ppm (Table 1,2,3) respectively. The highest larvicidal activity was observed at 24 hrs exposure period and the lowest larvicidal activity was observed at 72 hrs exposure period. The LC<sub>50</sub> value of essential oil *Cinnamomum zeylanicum* against *Musca domestica* I, II & III instar larvae (Table 4,5,6) ranged from 358.60 to 480.40 ppm, 475.10 to 543.54ppm and 417.76 to 490.08ppm respectively. The highest larvicidal activity was observed at 24hrs exposure period and the lower larvicidal activity was observed at 72hrs exposure period. The two plant essential oils shown to possess significant activity against housefly in oils of *Curcuma aromatica* and *Cinnamomum zeylanicum* were found to be highly effective. This may be due to the effect of some active ingredients of D-camphor, sesquiterpenes, sesquiterpene alcohols and a high amount of α-curcumene, β-curcumene, xanthorrhizol and presence of 2, 4 methylphenol of *Curcuma aromatic* and constituents of cinnamic aldehyde and coumarin of *Cinnamomum zeylanicum* present in the essential oils which exhibit potential to cause interference into the normal metabolism of the insects. *Curcuma aromatica* showed Lc<sub>50</sub> of 505.53-339.43 ppm and 551.88-359.51ppm against II and III instar larvae respectively, while *Cinnamomum zeylanicum* showed Lc<sub>50</sub> for 543.54-475.10ppm and 490.08-417.76ppm against II and III instar larvae respectively. Pavela (2008) screened 34 essential oils against the housefly and Pogostemon Cablin EO was found to be the most potent topical insecticide with Lc<sub>50</sub> of 3µg/fly. Rashmi and Khandagle (2012) revealed that the highest larvicidal activity

i.e LC<sub>50</sub>= 104 ppm was shown by *M. piperita* and *Z. officinalis* exhibited significant bio activities against *M. domestica* with larvicidal activity. Kumar et al., (2012) state that LC<sub>50</sub> of *C. sinensis* essential oil against housefly larvae varied between 3.93 and 0.71 µi/cm<sup>2</sup> for different observation. On the LT50 values and LC50 values, the results revealed that *S. aromaticum* oil exhibited highest larvicidal effect against house fly larvae with LT50 values of 27.05 h. and LC50 values of 9.83%, followed by *C. nardus* oil and *C. odorata* oil with LT50 values of 38.99 and 52.08 h. and LC50 values of 13.60 and 29.36%, respectively ( Soonwera, ,2015 ) The result also suggest that the significant activity of *Curcuma aromatic* and *Cinnamomum zeylanicum* against larvae of housefly, pave the way for its use as ecofriendly housefly control measures. The green products base on herbal essential oils is considered environmentally safe and offer safer human health alternatives to insect pest control with chemical insecticides.

Table.1

Larvicidal effect of essential oil *Curcuma aromatic* against I instar larvae of *Musca domestica*

Exposure Period (hrs.)	Concentration (ppm)	Larval Mortality (%)	LC <sub>50</sub> (ppm)	LC <sub>90</sub> (ppm)	Regression Equation	95% Confidence limit		Chi-square X <sup>2</sup>
						LCL	UCL	
						LC <sub>50</sub> (LC <sub>90</sub> )	LC <sub>50</sub> (LC <sub>90</sub> )	
24	100	20	438.02	853.04	Y=0.090+8.25X	276.72 (625.87)	694.06 (1556.01)	15.03*
	250	35						
	500	58						
	1000	94						
	Control	0						
48	100	26	419.43	865.75	Y=0.086+11.61X	211.43 (600.53)	775.98 (2010.21)	20.48*
	250	38						
	500	60						
	1000	93						
	Control	0						
72	100	28	364.88	770.87	Y=0.088+14.61X	141.44 (516.83)	767.00 (2231.43)	24.05*
	250	46						
	500	65						
	1000	96						
	Control	0						

\* Significant at P &lt; 0.05

Table .2

Larvicidal effect of essential oil *Curcuma aromatic* against II instar larvae of *Musca domestica*

Exposure Period (hrs.)	Concentration (ppm)	Larval Mortality (%)	LC <sub>50</sub> (ppm)	LC <sub>90</sub> (ppm)	Regression Equation	95% Confidence limit		Chi-square X <sup>2</sup>
						LCL	UCL	
						LC <sub>50</sub> (LC <sub>90</sub> )	LC <sub>50</sub> (LC <sub>90</sub> )	
24	100	20	505.53	1000.27	Y=0.082+4.56X	290.48 (701.06)	921.38 (2255.81)	19.60*
	250	36						
	500	45						
	1000	89						
	Control	0						
48	100	25	446.47	939.31	Y=0.082+11.93X	201.27 (635.51)	909.85 (2551.81)	23.06*
	250	41						
	500	55						
	1000	90						
	Control	0						
72	100	32	339.43	750.10	Y=0.034+10.88X	524.23	888.76	29.09*

	250	50				(481.35)	(3215.52)	
	500	68						
	1000	91						
	Control	0						

\* Significant at P &lt; 0.05

Table .3

Larvicidal effect of essential oil *Curcuma aromatic* against III instar larvae of *Musca domestica*

Exposure Period (hrs.)	Concentration (ppm)	Larval Mortality (%)	LC <sub>50</sub> (ppm)	LC <sub>90</sub> (ppm)	Regression Equation	95% Confidence limit		Chi-square X <sup>2</sup>
						LCL	UCL	
						LC <sub>50</sub> (LC <sub>90</sub> )	LC <sub>50</sub> (LC <sub>90</sub> )	
24	100	13	551.88	995.42	Y=0.087+17.47X	404.45 (769.55)	782.26 (1549.11)	10.90*
	250	26						
	500	40						
	1000	92						
	Control	0						
48	100	20	432.91	872.88	Y=0.087+10.17X	233.36 (613.84)	769.21 (1902.22)	19.68*
	250	40						
	500	60						
	1000	92						
	Control	0						
72	100	25	359.51	765.35	Y=0.088+15.15X	103.79 (501.98)	836.65 (2642.90)	27.62*
	250	50						
	500	68						
	1000	95						
	Control	0						

\* Significant at P &lt; 0.05

Table. 4

Larvicidal effect of essential oil *Cinnamomum zeylanicum* against I instar larvae of *Musca domestica*

Exposure Period (hrs.)	Concentration (ppm)	Larval Mortality (%)	LC <sub>50</sub> (ppm)	LC <sub>90</sub> (ppm)	Regression Equation	95% Confidence limit		Chi-square X <sup>2</sup>
						LCL	UCL	
						LC <sub>50</sub> (LC <sub>90</sub> )	LC <sub>50</sub> (LC <sub>90</sub> )	
24	100	20	480.40	944.10	Y=0.085+7.75X	292.69 (679.43)	802.45 (1865.41)	16.91*
	250	35						
	500	50						
	1000	91						
	Control	0						
48	100	23	427.08	876.95	Y=0.085+11.26X	180.15 (585.10)	940.37 (2685.29)	25.99*
	250	45						
	500	52						
	1000	94						
	Control	0						
72	100	28	358.60	749.01	Y=0.089+14.44X	147.98 (504.55)	745.09 (2129.93)	23.35*
	250	46						
	500	65						
	1000	97						
	Control	0						

\* Significant at P &lt; 0.05

Table .5

Larvicidal effect of essential oil *Cinnamomum zeylanicum* against II instar larvae of *Musca domestica*

Exposure Period (hrs.)	Concentration (ppm)	Larval Mortality (%)	LC <sub>50</sub> (ppm)	LC <sub>90</sub> (ppm)	Regression Equation	95% Confidence limit		Chi-square X <sup>2</sup>
						LCL	UCL	
						LC <sub>50</sub> (LC <sub>90</sub> )	LC <sub>50</sub> (LC <sub>90</sub> )	
24	100	15	543.54	999.88	Y=0.085+2.99X	378.40 (751.52)	819.21 (1697.24)	13.29*
	250	28						
	500	40						
	1000	90						
	Control	0						
48	100	16	508.88	947.08	Y=0.085+4.18X	350.82 (712.23)	746.31 (1597.97)	13.16*
	250	30						
	500	45						
	1000	92						
	Control	0						
72	100	20	475.10	913.23	Y=0.088+6.61X	306.72 (670.64)	753.16 (1666.00)	15.07*
	250	32						
	500	50						
	1000	93						
	Control	0						

\* Significant at P &lt; 0.05

Table .6

Larvicidal effect of essential oil *Cinnamomum zeylanicum* against III instar larvae of *Musca domestica*

Exposure Period (hrs.)	Concentration (ppm)	Larval Mortality (%)	LC <sub>50</sub> (ppm)	LC <sub>90</sub> (ppm)	Regression Equation	95% Confidence limit		Chi-square X <sup>2</sup>
						LCL	UCL	
						LC <sub>50</sub> (LC <sub>90</sub> )	LC <sub>50</sub> (LC <sub>90</sub> )	
24	100	23	490.08	992.08	Y=0.081+9.17X	267.93 (688.78)	917.29 (2335.40)	20.15*
	250	36						
	500	48						
	1000	89						
	Control	0						
48	100	26	447.16	935.09	Y=0.082+11.61X	205.25 (632.86)	912.76 (2539.37)	23.06*
	250	40						
	500	53						
	1000	91						
	Control	0						
72	100	28	417.76	884.74	Y=0.083+12.90X	169.42 (591.53)	892.69 (2599.17)	24.56*
	250	42						
	500	56						
	1000	93						
	Control	0						

\* Significant at P &lt; 0.05

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