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Efficacy of *Annona squamosa* against Saw-toothed grain beetle, *Oryzaephilus surinamensis* (L.) in Stored Rice

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Abstract: *Stored grain insects cause serious loss of stored rice and the nutritional value of grain. Use of synthetic insecticides is often beyond the reach of growers and regular and frequent application of these organic pesticides creates lots of problems such as toxicity to non-target species, pest resistance and resurgence. The undesirable effects of synthetic insecticides may be solved with the use of botanicals.*
Number of plant species possess pest control chemicals but only few of them seem to be ideally suited for management of stored grain pests. These botanicals are active against specific target insects and they are biodegradable and potentially sound for use in pest management. In the present study, alcoholic extracts of leaves and seeds of Annona squamosa were evaluated for protection of rice grain against saw-toothed grain beetle, Oryzaephilus surinamensis (L). Result demonstrated that alcoholic extract of Annona squamosa leaves was found effective for more than 5 days @ 150.0 mg/gm, where as alcoholic extract of Annona squamosa seeds was found effective for more than 20 days @ 54.0 mg/gm..

Keywords: Annona squamosa, Oryzaephilus surinamensis, Saw-toothed grain beetle, alcoholic extract, rice, storage

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