EFFICACY OF FOUR SELECTED BOTANICALS AND ACTELLIC ON THE MORTALITY OF sitophilus oryzae (L)

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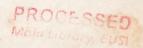
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ABSTRACT

A study was conducted to evaluate the efficacy of the botanicals such as Ocimum leave powder, lakada leave powder, Eucalyptus leave powder, lakada flower bud powder and Actellic in the survival of S. oryzae.

Findings from this study showed that S oryzae significantly preferred red broken rice over white broken rice (P > 0.0001). Significant weight losses were observed in all the forms of rice varieties. But the degree of preference and weight losses remarkably high towards red broken rice. Overall weight losses in red and white rice were 61.3% and 43.3% respectively. Red broken rice was significantly preferred by S oryzae to unpolished and polished rice.

All botanicals used in this study substantially reduced the pest population over control. This indicates that all these botanicals are effective protectants for stored grains. Among the botanicals tested in this study *Ocimum* leave powder was found to be very effective. As the finding from this study showed that *Ocimum* leave powder is very efficient in reducing *S.oryzae*, this botanical may be recommended as an alternative to chemical to control this pest in the Eastern region of Sri Lanka.

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