

Evaluation of some botanicals against pulse beetle (*Callosobruchus chinensis* Linn.)

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ABSTRACT : Insects infestations in stored food grains is a world wide problem as they spoil the quality of food grains. In present investigation the insecticidal activity of five plant products viz ., Black pepper seeds (*Piper nigrum* Linn.); Cinnamon bark (*Cinnamomum aromaticum* Ness.); Fenugreek seeds (*Trigonella foenum-graecum* Linn.); Nigundi leaves (*Vitex negundo* Linn.) and turmeric rhizomes (*Curcuma longa* Linn.) have been evaluated against pulse beetle (*Callosobruchus chinensis* Linn.). The results showed that all five plant products as powder exert direct toxic effect on *C. chinensis*. Among them, black pepper exhibited the highest toxic effect (100%) whereas, cinnamon bark (75%-80%), fenugreek seeds (75%) and vitex leaves showed 90% toxic effect. Turmeric powder extract, however, caused lowest toxic effect as compared to other plants products. It has also been observed that the seeds and barks are more efficacious than leaves and other vegetative parts, tested against the pulse beetle.

Key Words: *Callosobruchus chinensis*, *Cinnamomum aromaticum*, *Curcuma longa*, *Piper nigrum*, *Trigonella foenum-graecum*, *Vitex negundo*.