

**EFFECT OF TWO BOTANICALS ON THE FECUNDITY AND MORTALITY  
OF COWPEA WEEVILS REARED IN THE LABORATORY**

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The effect of two botanicals i.e. powdered leaves of *Azadirachta indica* L. and *Vitex negundo* L., on the fecundity and mortality of the cowpea weevil, *Callosobruchus maculatus* F., was tested in the laboratory.

These botanicals significantly lowered the fecundity of the cowpea weevil, compared to that in the treated control. However, compared to the recommended insecticides, the effect of these botanicals on the mortality

## **SECTION B**

of the weevils was not significant. These botanicals did not affect the seed viability whereas the recommended insecticides significantly lowered the rate of germination of the seeds.

The results indicate that these botanicals in their present formulation are not promising as control agents of the cowpea weevil adults although their effect on the fecundity of these weevils is worth further investigation.