

APHID REPELLENCY OF *CROTON LACCIFERUS* LP.D.C.Wimalaratne,^a L.K.G.Wickremasinghe^aI.V.S.Fernando^b and M.J.S.Wijeyaratne^b^a Dept. of Chemistry, University of Kelaniya^b Dept. of Zoology, University of Kelaniya

Essential oils of *Croton lacciferus* L. (Sinhala - Keppettiya, Tamil - Teppaddi) were collected by steam distillation of shoots. A field trial was conducted on *Aphis gossypii* using *Abelmoschus esculentus* L. (okra) as the host plant. Randomly selected three week old plants were sprayed with an aqueous solution of the essential oils, aqueous ethanol and the colonisation of the plants by the aphids was studied over a period of two months with respect to unsprayed plants (control). Analysis of the results showed that essential oils of *Croton lacciferus* has a significant repellent effect on aphids.