B77 LABORATORY EVALUATION OF PLANT EXTRACTS ON BLACK BEAN APHID, *APHIS FABAE* SCOPOLI . (HOMOPTERA:APHIDIDAE).

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In the laboratory, dichloromethane and methanol extracts of shade-dried Glycosmis moritiana. (root bark), Calotropis gigantea (L) Ait.F. (flowers) and Acorus calamus L. (rhizome) were evaluated on laboratory cultured black bean aphid (=BBA) along with a recommended insecticide (dimethoate 40 E.C.) and untreated controls.

At the end of 24 hours after the treatment dichloromethane extract of Acorus calamus L.(rhizome) caused mortality of BBA, which was comparable to that given by the recommended insecticide. The other extracts were not as effective against the BBA under these conditions.

The active compound of Acorus calamus L (rhizome) extract was separated by column chromatography and identified as β-asarone from spectral analysis.

This compound has strong fumigative toxicity on BBA and its use may be effective on pests in closed containers viz;green houses. However this compound showed no strong contact or residue toxicity effects on the BBA.