

E2-45 Study of azadirachtin in the control of white flies (*Bemisia tabaci*) in chillies (*Capsicum* spp)

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The neem tree, *Azadirachta indica* A. Juss (Meliaceae) is a source of azadirachtins with potent repellent, feeding deterrent and insect growth regulatory activities. The effect of a 1% methanolic solution of a commercial preparation of neem seed kernel extract containing not less than 85% azadirachtin isomers on feeding and colonization of chillie white fly (*Bemisia tabaci*) Gennadius (Homoptera-Aleyrodidae) was investigated using a two choice laboratory bioassay and a "field trial". White flies showed maximum repellency at a minimum azadirachtin concentration of 10 ppm. Repellency effects were decreased with 50 ppm > 100 ppm >> 1 ppm. Thus, foliar spraying of 10 ppm azadirachtin solution can be used to control white flies in chillie cultivation.