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Screening of some local plants for oviposition deterrent potential and larval mortality of the rice moth, *Corcyra cephalonica*

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Methanol extracts of eighteen plants belonging to different botanical families were screened under laboratory conditions to identify their effects on oviposition and larval mortality of the rice moth, *Corcyra cephalonica*. Each plant extract was tested at a concentration of 12g/l. Compared with the control, considerably higher larval mortality was observed in leaf extracts of *Allium sativum* (47%*), Occimum sanctum* (56%) *and* seed extract of *Anacardium occidentale* (53%). Also, the seed extract of *Anacardium occidentale* elicited significantly higher oviposition deterrence (153.27±4.8) than those of
controls (212.67±7.9, 199.00±3.6). However, leaf and seed extracts of *Azadiracta indica* and seed extract of *Piper nigrum* proved to be the most effective of all the eighteen plants tested showing 100% larval mortality. This was followed by leaf (81%) and seed (61%) extracts of *Annona squamosa*.

Furthermore, maximum oviposition deterrent was observed in the tests treated with leaf (130.20±7.1) and seed (110.60±7.1) extracts of *Piper nigrum*. Based on the results it is therefore, evident that among the eighteen plants tested *Piper nigrum, Azadiracta indica* and *Annona squamosa* posses a high potential in controlling the rice moth through larval mortality and by preventing oviposition by females.

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