

INSECTICIDE ACTIVITY OF THE ALCOHOL EXTRACT OF AZADIRACHTIN ON EGGS AND LARVA OF LOBESIA BOTRANA (DEN. ET SHIF.) AND SIDE-EFFECTS ON BENEFICIAL ORGANISMS.

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Laboratory-trials were carried out in order to investigate the effects of azadirachtin 3% alcohol extract against grape moth Lobesia botrana (Den. et Shif.). The insecticide activity was assessed as:

- larvicide activity of a poisoned artificial diet
- mortality of larvae laid on treated grape
- ovicidal activity on eggs of different age.

The side-effects of azadirachtin towards different life stages of a predatory mite (Amblyseius andersoni Chant) was evaluated in laboratory using the Potter-tower. The effects of the extract on the beneficial organisms was studied in a pear-orchard using the Steiner's funnel technique.

Results indicate that azadirachtin is interesting as larvicide at the doses from 1000 to 10000 ppm, while it was almost without effects on eggs regardless of age.

The low side-effects on beneficial organisms combined with the insecticide activity against the larvae of grape moth are two aspects that are likely to foster the development of this plant-extract.