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Ali A. H. Abdul Al-Ameer

Department of Biology, College of Sciences, University of Al-Qadisiyah,
aliabdulhameed123123@gmail.com

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Larvicidal Effect of Secondary Metabolites of Three (Diptera:Culicidae) Fungi against *Cx.quinquefasciatus*

Authors Names	ABSTRAC
<p>Ali A. H. Abdul AL Ameer</p> <p>Article History</p> <p>Received on: 3/5/2021 Accepted on: 6/6/2021</p> <p>Keywords:</p> <p><i>V.lecanii</i>, <i>P. chrysogenum</i> and <i>A. niger</i>, Filaria vectors, Secondary metabolites, Larvicidal activity.</p> <p>DOI: https://doi.org/10.29350/jops.2021.26.3.1322</p>	<p>The larvicidal effect of secondary metabolites of <i>Verticillium lecanii</i>, <i>Pencillium chrysogenum</i> and <i>Aspergillus niger</i> against filaria vector <i>Cx.quinquefasciatus</i> was investigated. efficacies have been tested at four different concentrations of secondary metabolites of mentioned fungi (25,50,75,100)ppm .Larvicidal efficacy demonstrates that larval mortality was related to concentration, exposure time and larval age. Higher mortality was observed at high concentration, moreover mortality increased when exposure time increased , additionally , the older larvae were more resistant to fungal filtrate. Also, it was perceptible that larvae of <i>Cx.quinquefasciatus</i> have a chieved higher mortality for <i>V.lecanii</i>, at the concentration (100ppm) after 24 ,48, and 72 hrs for first instars were (90%,96.66%,and100%) respectively, while for fourth instars were(76.66%,86.66%,and93.33%) respectively in the same concentration and time, while <i>P. chrysogenum</i> achieved higher mortality but lower than <i>V.lecanii</i> for first instars were(76.66%,83.33%,90%) respectively, at the concentration (100ppm) and the same time, and its a chieved lower mortality for fourth instars were(60%,70%,and80%) respectively in the same concentration and time of exposure, moreover <i>A. niger</i> recorded lower mortality than both <i>V.lecanii</i> and <i>P. chrysogenum</i> when it a chieved higher mortality for first instars were(63.33%,76.66%,and 83.33%) respectively at the higher concentration and same exposure time and its a chieved lower mortality for fourth instars were(36.66%,56.66%,and70%) respectively in the same concentration and time of exposure. These findings were clearly significant and enhanced that secondary metabolites of <i>V.lecanii</i>, <i>P. chrysogenum</i> and <i>A. niger</i> were fatal and can be used as , larvicide , as safer alternative to insecticides against Filaria vectors.</p>

1-Introduction:

The mosquito *Culex quinquefasciatus* is the main carrier of elephantiasis, which it causes by *Wuchereria bancrofti*, and it is one of the diseases that cause very large deaths, more than 120 million people are infected with this disease and 40 million are handicapped and invalids (WHO, 2013). On the other hand, this mosquito is an efficient vector for encephalitis, to control the disease is either to eliminate the pathogen or the vector, and that the latter is easier to control. The reliance on chemical mosquito control mainly led to the emergence of many problems such as:

Resistance to chemical pesticides and toxic effects in the biological enemies of pests and the effect of toxin residues on plant crops and the cumulative effect of pesticides on human health and environmental pollution, in addition to an increase in production costs. Some of the entomopathogenic fungi have achieved remarkable success in the field of microbial control of mosquitoes such as the fungus (*Couch*) *Lagenidium giganteum*, *Leptolegnia chapmanii* (Seymour), *Crypticola clavulifera* (Humber) (Class: Oomycetes), and *Coelomomyces* spp (Class: Chytridiomycetes and others. *V. lecanii*, it is anamorphic fungus one of the Ascomycota genera belongs to the order Hypocreales and highly pathogenic, while the *P. chrysogenum* and *A. niger* belongs to the order Eurotiales. However, in Iraq as the author aware, the larvicidal efficacy of these three fungi have been received little concern and the present research focus on new results on pathogenicity of these fungi because they are environmentally friendly, not coated and more effective.

-Materials and methods: 2

Samples collection site:

A stagnant pond was chosen for larvae collection. The larvae of *Cx. quinquefasciatus* collected by long-arm scoops were placed in plastic bottles, and they were taken to the laboratory and these bottles were emptied into a basin and which were covered with muslin [19].

Isolate of fungi

The fungal isolate were previously isolated from larvae cadaver of *Culex quinquefasciatus* and the culture kept in mycology lab [2].

Identification of fungi:

The fungi were identified according to the key of classification [7].

Permanent culture for Mosquito: *Cx. quinquefasciatus*:

Culture of *Cx. quinquefasciatus* established according to [8].

Preparation of secondary metabolites for fungi *V. lecanii*, *P. chrysogenum*, *A. niger*:

(SDB) Sabouraud dextrose broth was prepared and distributed into a (250) ml flask of (150) ml flask and inoculate the medium with 0.5 cm diameter discs from the aforementioned fungi culture at 7 days old and separately. The flasks were incubated at a temperature of $27 \pm 25 \text{ C}^0$ for two weeks, after which they were filtered using a filter paper (Whatman No. 1) with a Buechner funnel and with the help of a vacuum pump and re-filtered using millipore filters (0.22 μ). To sterilize the secondary metabolites from potentially contaminated bacteria present four concentrations were prepared 25ppm, 50ppm, 75ppm, 100ppm [17].

Bioassay for various concentrations of *V. lecanii*, *P. Chrysogenum* and *A. niger*:

40 larvae were taken from each of the four instars, which were prepared for each concentration of secondary metabolites concentrations, each fungus tested, and distributed to four containers three of these containers, each one containing (100 ml) of each concentration

of the concentrations, while the fourth container contains sterile distilled water only (Control) for a period of two minutes, then the treated larvae were transferred with

a soft brush to glass containers of (250 ml) capacity containing sterile distilled water, to which the larvae food was added at a rate of 10 mg / ml. After that, the containers were placed in the incubator and incubated at a temperature $27 \pm 25C^0$ and a light period of 14:10 (L/D) hours. Then the mortality ratio was calculated within 24, 72, 96 hours of treatment [18] and the values were corrected according to Orell and Schneider equation [1].

Statistical analysis:

Mortality percentages were computed and adjusted by Abbott's formula. Statistical analysis of the experimental data was performed to find the significance between the concentration of secondary metabolite and mortality at different periods with different secondary metabolite using spss programme General Line Model with using F-test, in 0.05 significance level ($p < 0.05$) [5].

3-Results:

The table (1) shows the effect of the secondary metabolites of fungus *V. lecanii*, on the larval instars of *Cx. quinquefasciatus*, at the concentration 25 ppm of *V. lecanii* achieved mortality rates were (40 %, 36.66%, 33.33% and 30%) for four larval instars, after 24 hours of treatment, subsequently the highest percentage of mortality was 100% for the first and second larval instars, (96% and 93.33%) for the third and fourth larval instars after 72 hours of treatment at 100 ppm. An increase in the mortality rate of larval stages was observed with an increase concentration when the concentration of *V. lecanii* was (50 ppm) the mortality rates for four instars were (63.33%, 60%, 56.66%, 50%) respectively at the 24 hrs and these mortality rates increased to reached

(86.66%, 76.66%, 73.33%, 70%) respectively when the concentration increased to reached (75 ppm) in same instars and period. This indicates that there is a direct relationship between the concentrations used and the exposure time on the one hand and the mortality rates for the four instars on the other hand. The mortality rates increased with the increase in concentration and duration of exposure when using the secondary metabolites of *V. lecanii*, for example the mortality rates were (90%) respectively after 48 hrs at the concentration (75 ppm) for second instar when the concentration increased to reached (100 ppm) and the duration of exposure become (72) hrs the mortality rates were (100%) respectively in the same instar. The results show an inverse relationship between larva age and mortality rates, so the greater the age of the larva, the lower the mortality rates of *V. lecanii*, for example, when exposing the larval instars to the fungal filtrate of at the highest concentration after 72 hours, the mortality rates for the four larval instars were, in order (100%) (100%) (96.66%) (93.33%).

Table(1) effect of different concentrations of secondary metabolites of fungus *V. lecanii* on the larval instars of the *Cx. quinquefasciatus*

Instar	Concentration PPM	Larval mortality%		
		<i>V. lecanii</i>		
		24	48	72
First	25	40	63.33	73.33
	50	63.33	80	90
	75	86.66	93.33	96.66

	100	90	96.66	100
	control	0	0	0
Second	25	36.66	56.66	70
	50	60	73.33	83.33
	75	76.66	90	96.66
	100	86.66	93.33	100
	control	0	0	0
Third	25	33.33	50	60
	50	56.66	66.66	80
	75	73.33	83.33	86.66
	100	83.33	86.66	96.66
	control	0	0	0
Forth	25	30	43.33	60
	50	50	66.66	76.66
	75	70	83.33	86.66
	100	76.66	86.66	93.33
	control	0	0	0

LSD at 0.05 significance level of interference=11.104

Table (2) shows the mortality rates of the four larval instars at the lowest concentration, which is 25ppm, and it were, in order, (30,26.66,26.66,23.33)% after 24 hours, while the mortality rates at the highest concentration of 100ppm were in the following order (76.66,73.33,73.33,60)% for the same instars and duration. It was observed in the fungus *Penicillium chrysogenum* the same that occurred in the fungus *Verticillium lecanii* in relation of increasing mortality rates by increasing concentration on the one hand and increasing the duration of exposure on the other hand, as well as the inverse relationship between larva age and mortality rates.

Table(2)effect of different concentrations of secondary metabolites of fungus *P. chrysogenum* on the larval instars of the *Cx.quinquefasciatus*

Instar	Concentration PPM	Larval mortality%		
		<i>P. chrysogenum</i>		
		24	48	72
First	25	30	46.66	53.33
	50	43.33	60	76.66
	75	66.66	80	86.66
	100	76.66	83.33	90
	control	0	0	0
	25	26.66	40	53.33
	50	43.33	56.66	66.66

Second	75	56.66	70	80
	100	73.33	83.33	86.66
	control	0	0	0
Third	25	26.66	36.66	46.66
	50	40	53.33	63.33
	75	60	70	80
	100	73.33	76.66	83.33
	control	0	0	0
Forth	25	23.33	33.33	46
	50	36.33	53.33	60
	75	50	66.66	73.33
	100	60	70	80
	control	0	0	0

LSD at 0.05 significance level of interference=11.104

Table(3) explain that the mortality rates were in the following order(26.66,23.33,20,16.66)% for the four instars and at the lowest concentration, which is 25ppm after 24hours of treatment ,and mortality rates were in the following order(63.33,43.33,40,36.66)% at the highest concentration, which is 100ppm in same instars and period .Also a positive relationship was observed through an increase in the rates of mortality rates with an increase in concentration on the one hand and an increase in the duration of exposure on the other hand ,as well as an inverse relationship between the age of the larva and the rates of mortality, as happened in the fungus *V.lecanii*.

Table(3)effect of different concentrations of secondary metabolites of fungus *A. niger* on the larval instars of the *Cx.quinquefasciatus*

Instar	Concentration PPM	Larval mortality%		
		<i>A. niger</i>		
		24	48	72
First	25	26.66	30	46.66
	50	33.33	53.33	63.33
	75	56.66	66.66	80
	100	63.33	76.66	83.33
	control	0	0	0
Second	25	23.33	26.66	40
	50	26.66	50	56.66
	75	36.66	63.33	73.33
	100	43.33	70	76.66
	control	0	0	0
	25	20	23.33	36.66
	50	23.33	46.66	53.33
	75	30	56.66	70

Third	100	40	60	73.33
	control	0	0	0
Forth	25	16.66	20	33.33
	50	20	43.33	50
	75	26.66	53.33	66.66
	100	36.66	56.66	70
	control	0	0	0

LSD at 0.05 significance level of interference=11.104

4-Discussion :

Table shows the superiority of the fungus *V. lecanii* by increasing its effect on the mortality rates of the four larval instars after treatment (48,72,96) hours. While *P.chrysogenum* had a greater effect on mortality rates than *A.niger* of four larval instars . The use of secondary metabolites of fungi pathogenic to mosquitoes is more effective than the use of the fungal suspension against mosquito larvae. This is what the two researchers [14] explained when they found that these products have the ability to reduce the number of larvae for a period of two months if used on a pond or swamp. It should be noted that the relationship between each of the secondary metabolites concentrations and the duration of exposure on the one hand and the mortality rates on the other hand is similar to what happened when using the fungal suspension. The present results of the secondary metabolites are in agreement with the findings [10]when they used a concentration of 20 mg / ml of the crude extract of Beauvercin produced by *B. bassiana* against the larvae of mosquitoes *Ae. aegypti*, resulting in its mortality by (86%) after 48 hours from the exposure period, but when the crude extract was used for the compound(Tolypin) the product from the fungus *Tolypocladium niveum* (100 mg / l) against the larvae of both mosquitoes *Cx pipiens* and *An. maculipennis* [20] obtained a mortality rate of 100% due to the accumulation of hydrogen compounds in the cell mass of the pathogen to give this pathogen a potential virulence as an insecticide[15]. The use of secondary metabolites of the fungi *Trichophyton ajelloi* and *C. lobtum* against the larvae of the mosquitoes of *Cx.quinquefasciatus* and *An. stephensi* was more effective on the first larval instar than the rest of the instars and in both species [11][13]. *A. flavus* is the most pathogenic

fungus of mosquito larvae *Cx.quinquefasciatus*, this is what the researcher has shown [9]through its greater effect on the third larval instar of other used fungi such as (*T. viride*, *F. vasinfectum*, *P. falitum*, and *A. parasiticus*), this instar mentioned by the researcher indicated that *A. flavus* has a high toxic effect through its secretion of aflatoxin toxins. The effect of the metabolites of *F. oxysporium* on the first and fourth instars larvae of *An. stephensi* and *Cx. quinquefasciatus* The pathogenicity of seven genera of *C. pseudomerdarium*, *A. niger*, *P.chrysogenum*, *A. fumigatus*, *A. flavus* and *O. verruculatum*, and found that fungus *T. ajelloi* was the most pathogenic due to the high mortality of the larvae of the *Cx.quinquefasciatus* mosquito. [16] when first instar larvae of *An. stephensi* and *Cx.quinquefasciatus* raw secondary metabolites of *M. anisoplia*, with a concentration of (100%), the mortality rate was (100%) and (96.66%) for both types, respectively. The current results are in agreement with the results of[17]. Previously, when treated with the fungal suspension[6]. First instar larvae mortality was (100%) for mosquitoes *An. Pulcharrhimus* and (96.66%) mosquito larvae *Cx.quinquefasciatus* when using a concentration (100%) of the raw secondary metabolites of *L. lundbergii*, this is what he obtained [3]. The secondary metabolites of *C. keratinophilum* had a significant effect on the three larval instars of the *Cx.quinquefasciatus* mosquito, while on the fourth instar larvae their effect was little, this was confirmed.

[4]. The fourth larval instar of the *Cx.quinquefasciatus* mosquito were the most sensitive instar of the secondary metabolites of *Verticillium lecanii*. This is what they found[8], as their results differed from the previously mentioned results.

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