

**EFFECT OF LOCAL TREE SEEDS IN THE CONTROL OF ROOT KNOT  
NEMATODE *Meloidogyne javanica* (TREUB) CHITWOOD  
AND GROWTH PROMOTION OF CHICKPEA (*Cicer arietinum* L.)  
AND MUNG BEAN (*Vigna radiata* L.)**

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**Abstract**

Seeds of local trees, such *Azadirachta indica* A. Juss, *Adenanthera pavonina* L., *Leucaena leucocephala* (Lam.) de Wit and *Eucalyptus* spp., were used as aqueous extract at 25, 50 and 100 % concentration to control the activity of *Meloidogyne javanica* (Treub) Citwood. All seed extracts showed lethal effect on *M. javanica* eggs, and a gradual decrease in egg hatching and an increase in mortality of second-stage juveniles were observed with the increase in extract concentration. *L. leucocephala* was found to be most effective in reducing egg hatching, whereas 100 % mortality of juveniles was observed in the case of *A. indica* seed extract. Number of knots was significantly reduced at 100 % concentration when seeds of chick pea and mung bean were treated and soil was drenched with *A. pavonina* and *Eucalyptus* spp. seed extract.

**Key words:** Local tree seeds, nematicidal properties, plant extract, *Meloidogyne javanica*, mung bean and chick pea, growth promotion.

**INTRODUCTION**

The allelochemicals released from various plant parts eventually penetrate the soil and not only hinder the normal growth of the neighbouring plants but may also affect development and reproduction of many plant parasitic nematodes (D'Addabbo, 1995). Root-knot nematodes (RKN) are one of the most important nematode pests of crop plants and have a diverse host range. RKN (*Meloidogyne* spp.) are sedentary root endoparasites and are involved in the development of specialized feeding structures known as giant cells. Root knot nematodes (*Meloidogyne* spp.) are capable of reproducing on over 2,000 species of plants (Sasser and Freckman, 1987) and are responsible for approximately 50% of overall nematode

damage. The various species of *Meloidogyne* induce major morphological and physiological changes within roots, attack nearly every crop sown, where not only yields are greatly affected but quality is also reduced (Sasser, 1980). Various plants extracts like *Eucalyptus* sp., (Dawar et al. 2007) *Avicennia marina*, *Rhizophora mucronata*, *Ceriops tagal* and *Aegiceras corniculatum* were reported against root knot nematode (Mehdi and Dawar, 2008). Goswami and Vijaylakshmi (1986) reported that the number of galls per g of root was reduced by 9 different plant extracts especially with *Euclipta alba*, *Shorea rubuta* and *Datura metal*. Leaf extracts of *Ricinus communis* were found the most toxic to *M. incognita*. It is quite obvious that mature seeds of neem synthesize more metabolic substances like azadirachtin and other closely related metabolites – vepaol, isovepaol and nimibidin – which have been stated to be antifeedant and growth inhibitor of insects by Sankaram et al. (1986). Such synthesized metabolites in mature seeds of neem accumulate in more concentrated form and are likely to be more lethal to the plant pathogen, including nematodes, allowing better plant growth. *Leucaena leucocephala* (Lam.) de Wit, commonly known as tanga-tanga or *Leucaena*, is a leguminous shrub or tree grown in tropical and subtropical regions. Neem, *Azadirachta indica* A Juss (Meliaceae), is an evergreen, multipurpose tropical tree. *Adenanthera pavonina* (L.) (family Leguminosae,) has long been an important tree in Southeast Asia and the Pacific Islands (Burkhill, 1966). The genus *Eucalyptus* (Myrtaceae) forms an integral part of the Australian flora, including >800 species that dominate most forest types, from coastal to subalpine habitats (Williams and Brooker, 1997). The aim of the present study was

to determine the effect of aqueous extract of local tree seeds infecting mung bean (*Vigna radiata* L.) and chick pea (*Cicer arietinum* L.).

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

**Collection of material:** Seeds of *A. indica*, *A. pavonina*, *L. leucocephala* and *Eucalyptus* spp., were collected from the Karachi University campus, washed under running tap water, air dried and then homogenized to fine powder and stored in air tight bottles for further studies.

**Extract preparation:** Aqueous extract (10% concentration) was prepared by soaking the powder for 48 hours in sterilized distilled water. After staining through muslin cloth, it was filtered through Whatman No.1 filter paper. Half quantity of 100% extract was diluted in sterilized distilled water, which gave 50% extract and 25% extract.

**Culture preparation of root knot nematodes:** Roots of plants infested with root-knot nematodes were collected from the Karachi University garden. The root knot nematodes were identified with the help of perennial pattern as described by Taylor and Netcher (1974). The root-knot nematode *M. javanica* (Treub) Chitwood was cultured on brinjal *Solanum melongena* L.) seedlings in a greenhouse from a single egg mass. Nematode eggs were extracted from infected roots using a 2% NaOCl solution and the eggs released from the roots were collected using the modified technique described by McC lure et al. (1973). The egg suspension was poured on a cotton-wool filter paper and incubated at  $28\pm 2^{\circ}\text{C}$  to obtain freshly hatched juveniles ( $J_2$ ). Juveniles were collected within 48 h and used.

**Egg hatching test:** To determine the effect of aqueous extract of seed powder from local tree seeds on egg hatching activity of *M. javanica*, two ml of the seed extract (25, 50 and 100% concentration) of local trees was transferred onto watch glasses (diameter 2.5 cm) into which two medium size egg masses, hand-picked from the knots of egg plant, were placed. Egg masses kept in distilled water served as control. Each treatment was replicated thrice. After 72 h exposure, the number of juveniles hatched was counted with the aid of a stereomicroscope (X 6). Treatments were triplicate and watch glasses were randomized at room temperature ( $28\pm 2^{\circ}\text{C}$ ). The toxicity of local tree seed extract was assessed as the mean percentage of the hatched eggs.

**Mortality test:** Eggs/egg masses of *M. javanica* were placed in distilled water and incubated at  $28\pm 2^{\circ}\text{C}$ . After hatching, the juveniles were collected and a suspension of juveniles in distilled water was prepared. Two ml of suspension of freshly hatched juveniles (40-50 juveniles/ml) and two ml of extra-

ct (25, 50 and 100% concentration) were added to each glass slide to assess juvenile mortality and it was kept at room temperature ( $28\pm 2^{\circ}\text{C}$ ). Each treatment was replicated thrice. The glass cavity block without aqueous extract served as control. After 72 h exposure, the number of killed juveniles was counted under a low power stereomicroscope. The toxicity of spices was assessed as the mean percentage of dead nematodes. Nematodes were considered dead if they did not move when probed with a fine needle (Cayrol et al. 1989).

**Soil used for green house experiment** Pots (300 gm) were filled with soil obtained from experimental plots of the Botany Department, University of Karachi. Before filling the pots, soil was analysed for pH (7-7.6), moisture holding capacity (MWHC) of 40% (Keen and Rackowski, 1922), total nitrogen 0.077-0.099% (Mackenzie and Wallace, 1954).

**Application as seed coating and soil drenching** Seeds of mung bean and chick pea were surface sterilized with 1%  $\text{Ca}(\text{OCl}_2)$  for 3 minutes, rinsed thoroughly in running tap water and dried aseptically. Surface disinfested seeds were treated with 25, 50 and 100% seed extract of *A. indica*, *A. pavonina*, *L. leucocephala* and *Eucalyptus* spp. 5 seeds were sown in 8 cm diam. plastic pots. For soil drenching, 25 ml aqueous extracts of local tree seeds at 25%, 50% and 100% concentration each were drenched in the pots. Seeds and soil treated with sterilized distilled water served as control. The pots were placed in a greenhouse of the Department of Botany, University of Karachi, with natural sunlight, in a randomized design and there were three replicates per treatment. Fifteen days after mung bean and chick pea seedling emergence, the soil in each pot was inoculated with 2000 juveniles of *M. javanica* by pouring the nematode suspension into holes made around the roots of each plant. The juveniles were less than one week old and were obtained from infected brinjal (*Solanum melongena* L.). Observations were recorded after 8 weeks of nematode inoculation by determining the number of galls per root system and recording the growth indices of mung bean (*Vigna radiata* L.) and chick pea (*Cicer arietinum* L.) plants.

**Statistical analysis** The obtained data were analyzed and subjected to analysis of variance (ANOVA) and means were compared for significance by the Least Significance Difference (LSD) method at the probability of 0.05 (Sokal and Rohlf, 1995).

## RESULTS

**Effect on hatching and mortality of *M. javanica*** Aqueous extracts of powdered seeds of *A. indica*,

*A. pavonina*, *L. leucocephala* and *Eucalyptus* spp., inhibited *M. javanica* eggs hatching with the increase in exposure time. Complete reduction of eggs of *M. javanica* was observed when *L. leucocephala* was used at 100% concentration (100%), followed by 50 (96.29%) and 25% concentration (92.59 %) where 1 and 2% eggs were hatched after 72 hrs (Table 1). Appreciable mortality of juveniles was observed when 100%

concentration extract of *A. indica* was used, followed by 100% concentration of *A. pavonina* (154.28%), *L. leucocephala* (413.89%) and *Eucalyptus* spp., (80.64%) after 72 hrs of exposure to room temperature. As compared to different concentrations of the extract used, 100% concentration was found to cause more mortality and less egg to be hatched (Table 1).

Table 1  
Effect of local tree seed powder on egg hatching and mortality of *Meloidogyne javanica*

Treatment	HATCHING %			Population at 0 day	MORTALITY %		
	24 Hours	48 Hours	72 Hours		24 Hours	48 Hours	72 Hours
Control	12	22	27	30	0	0	0
<i>Azadirachta indica</i> (25%)	9 (25)	11 (50)	18 (33.34)	25	12 (52)	12 (52)	20 (20)
<i>Azadirachta indica</i> (50%)	5 (58.34)	5 (77.28)	12 (55.56)	22	14 (36.37)	44 (100)	50 (127.27)
<i>Azadirachta indica</i> (100%)	4 (66.67)	6 (72.73)	7 (74.08)	30	33 (43.4)	87 (278.26)	100 (334.78)
<i>Adenanthera pavonina</i> (25%)	2 (83.34)	6 (72.73)	7 (74.08)	32	0 (100)	44 (37.5)	44 (37.5)
<i>Adenanthera pavonina</i> (50%)	8 (33.34)	8 (63.64)	9 (66.67)	28	44 (57.14)	56 (100)	67 (139.28)
<i>Adenanthera pavonina</i> (100%)	5 (58.34)	7 (68.19)	8 (70.38)	35	78 (122.85)	78 (122.85)	89 (154.28)
<i>Leucaena leucocephala</i> (25%)	1 (91.66)	2 (90.91)	2 (92.59)	39	23 (41.03)	23 (41.03)	23 (41.03)
<i>Leucaena leucocephala</i> (50%)	1 (91.66)	1 (95.45)	1 (96.29)	42	17 (59.53)	17 (59.53)	17 (59.53)
<i>Leucaena leucocephala</i> (100%)	0 (100)	0 (100)	0 (100)	36	72 (100)	85 (413.88)	85 (413.88)
<i>Eucalyptus</i> spp., (25%)	5 (58.34)	9 (59.1)	11 (59.26)	28	0 (100)	0 (100)	6 (78.57)
<i>Eucalyptus</i> spp., (50%)	11 (8.34)	14 (36.37)	17 (37.04)	29	0 (100)	6 (79.32)	6 (79.32)
<i>Eucalyptus</i> spp., (100%)	3 (75)	3 (86.37)	8 (70.38)	31	6 (80.64)	6 (80.64)	6 (80.64)
LSD <sub>0.05</sub>							
Treatment		3.9				21.3	
Time		1.88				10.2	

Parenthesis shows reduction % or increase % as compared to control

**Effect of seed treatment on growth indices and number of galls** The seeds of chickpea and mung bean were treated with 25, 50 and 100% concentration of extract of *A. indica*, *A. pavonina*, *L. leucocephala* and *Eucalyptus* spp. There was a decrease in severity of root galling observed when chickpea seeds were treated with 100% (87.18%) concentration of *A. pavonina* as compared to mung bean (80.69%) (Table 2). The germination was highest when mung bean seeds were treated with 100% concentration of *A. pavonina*

(28.58%) and *Eucalyptus* spp., (28.58%). Seed treatment with *A. indica* at 100% concentration caused an increase in the length of shoot (25.83%) and root (98.51%) of chickpea, whereas root weight (54.16%) (60.41%) showed significant increase when *Eucalyptus* spp., seed powder extract was used at 50 and 100% concentration. A significant increase in shoot length (7.48%) of mung bean plants was observed when seeds were treated with 100 % concentration of *A. pavonina* (Table 2).

Table 2  
Effect of seed treatment with local tree seed extracts on growth indices and number of galls of mung bean and chickpea.

Treatment	MUNG BEAN							CHICK PEA						
	Germi- nation %	Plant height (cm)	Shoot weight (g)	Shoot weight (g)	Root length (cm)	Root weight (g)	Number of galls/ root system	Germi- nation %	Plant height (cm)	Shoot weight (g)	Shoot weight (g)	Root length (cm)	Root weight (g)	Number of galls/ root system
Control	77.77	26.46	1.17	1.17	7.66	0.062	145	59.99	25.62	1.35	1.35	6.72	0.096	39
<i>Azadirachta indica</i> (25%)	79.99 (2.85)	28.63 (8.2)	1.58 (35.04)	1.58 (35.04)	10.99 (43.47)	0.066 (6.45)	55 (62.07)	64.44 (7.41)	28.04 (9.44)	1.39 (2.96)	1.39 (2.96)	8.55 (27.23)	0.108 (12.5)	29 (25.65)
<i>Azadirachta indica</i> (50%)	77.77 (0)	27.47 (3.81)	1.64 (40.17)	1.64 (40.17)	11.27 (47.12)	0.07 (12.9)	48 (66.9)	66.66 (11.11)	30.22 (17.95)	1.43 (5.92)	1.43 (5.92)	12.12 (81.84)	0.109 (13.54)	21 (46.16)
<i>Azadirachta indica</i> (100%)	79.99 (2.85)	28.72 (8.54)	1.71 (46.15)	1.71 (46.15)	12.3 (60.57)	0.077 (24.19)	41 (71.73)	75.55 (25.93)	32.24 (25.83)	1.49 (10.37)	1.49 (10.37)	13.34 (98.51)	0.117 (21.87)	17 (56.42)
<i>Adenanthera pavonina</i> (25%)	91.10 (17.14)	26.71 (0.94)	1.62 (38.46)	1.62 (38.46)	7.86 (2.61)	0.068 (9.67)	51 (64.82)	68.88 (14.81)	25.65 (0.11)	1.39 (2.96)	1.39 (2.96)	7.08 (5.35)	0.114 (18.75)	25 (35.9)
<i>Adenanthera pavonina</i> (50%)	93.33 (20)	28.26 (6.8)	1.78 (52.13)	1.78 (52.13)	8.64 (12.79)	0.071 (14.51)	39 (73.11)	73.33 (22.23)	26.27 (2.53)	1.44 (6.66)	1.44 (6.66)	7.10 (5.65)	0.133 (38.54)	10 (74.36)
<i>Adenanthera pavonina</i> (100%)	100 (28.58)	28.44 (7.48)	1.89 (61.53)	1.89 (61.53)	10.00 (30.54)	0.078 (25.8)	28 (80.69)	77.77 (29.63)	26.72 (4.29)	1.50 (11.11)	1.50 (11.11)	7.82 (16.36)	0.14 (45.83)	5 (87.18)
<i>Leucaena leucocephala</i> (25%)	82.22 (5.72)	26.84 (1.43)	1.22 (4.27)	1.22 (4.27)	8.25 (7.7)	0.071 (14.51)	60 (58.63)	62.21 (3.7)	25.87 (0.97)	1.38 (2.22)	1.38 (2.22)	7.20 (7.14)	0.101 (5.2)	27 (30.77)
<i>Leucaena leucocephala</i> (50%)	75.55 (2.85)	27.63 (4.42)	1.45 (23.93)	1.45 (23.93)	9.1 (18.79)	0.078 (25.18)	51 (64.83)	68.88 (14.81)	27.54 (7.49)	1.47 (8.88)	1.47 (8.88)	7.11 (5.8)	0.129 (34.37)	18 (53.85)
<i>Leucaena leucocephala</i> (100%)	93.33 (20)	29.13 (10.09)	1.56 (33.33)	1.56 (33.33)	9.97 (30.15)	0.079 (27.41)	50 (65.52)	73.33 (22.23)	27.99 (9.25)	1.53 (13.33)	1.53 (13.33)	7.79 (15.92)	0.143 (48.95)	12 (69.24)
<i>Eucalyptus</i> spp., (25%)	79.99 (2.85)	28.68 (8.39)	1.41 (20.51)	1.41 (20.51)	8.74 (14.09)	0.080 (29.03)	46 (68.28)	68.88 (14.81)	26.53 (3.55)	1.46 (8.14)	1.46 (8.14)	7.33 (9.07)	0.107 (11.45)	29 25.65
<i>Eucalyptus</i> spp., (50%)	86.66 (11.43)	29.48 (11.41)	1.54 (31.62)	1.54 (31.62)	9.93 (29.63)	0.084 (35.48)	42 (71.04)	77.77 (29.63)	28.25 (10.26)	1.55 (14.81)	1.55 (14.81)	7.94 (18.15)	0.148 (54.16)	24 (38.47)
<i>Eucalyptus</i> spp., (100%)	100 (28.58)	30.92 (16.85)	1.59 (35.89)	1.59 (35.89)	10.26 (33.94)	0.089 (43.54)	36 (75.18)	82.22 (37.05)	29.63 (15.65)	1.59 (17.77)	1.59 (17.77)	8.10 (20.53)	0.154 (60.41)	17 (56.42)
LSD <sub>0.05</sub>	8.54	2.23	0.19	0.19	1.28	0.01	9.66	10.09	1.76	0.093	0.093	1.22	0.026	4.27
Significance level (p)	***	*	***	***	***	**	***	**	***	***	***	***	***	***

\*\*\*, P<0.001; \*\*, P<0.01; \*, P<0.05

Parenthesis shows reduction % or increase % as compared to control

Table 3  
Effect of soil drenching with local tree seed extracts on growth indices and number of galls of mung bean and chickpea.

Treatment	MUNG BEAN						CHICK PEA					
	Germi- nation%	Plant height (cm)	Shoot weight (g)	Root length (cm)	Root weight (g)	Number of galls/ root system	Germi- nation%	Plant height (cm)	Shoot weight (g)	Root length (cm)	Root weight (g)	Number of galls/ root system
Control	68.88	24.68	1.06	7.76	0.055	74	62.21	24.99	1.30	6.18	0.085	41
<i>Azadirachta indica</i> (25%)	77.77 (12.9)	25.43 (3.03)	1.08 (1.88)	7.78 (0.25)	0.064 (16.36)	65 (12.17)	73.33 (17.87)	24.92 (0.29)	1.32 (1.53)	6.73 (8.89)	0.098 (15.29)	30 (26.83)
<i>Azadirachta indica</i> (50%)	91.11 (32.27)	25.99 (5.30)	1.18 (11.32)	7.92 (2.06)	0.066 (20)	51 (31.09)	84.44 (35.73)	25.24 (1)	1.42 (9.23)	7.32 (18.44)	0.11 (29.41)	26 (36.59)
<i>Azadirachta indica</i> (100%)	95.55 (38.71)	26.08 (5.67)	1.28 (20.7)	8.27 (6.57)	0.06 (25.45)9	47 (36.49)	82.22 (32.16)	25.48 (1.96)	1.45 (11.53)	8.0 (29.44)	0.123 (44.70)	18 (56.1)
<i>Adenanthera pavonina</i> (25%)	79.99 (16.12)	25.95 (5.14)	1.24 (16.98)	7.76 (0)	0.058 (5.45)	49 (33.79)	75.55 (21.44)	25.67 (2.72)	1.3 (0)	8.35 (35.11)	0.121 (42.35)	36 (12.2)
<i>Adenanthera pavonina</i> (50%)	86.66 (25.841)	26.01 (5.38)	1.32 (24.52)	8.6 (1.08)	0.062 (12.72)	42 (43.25)	79.99 (28.58)	26.38 (5.56)	1.37 (5.38)	10.62 (71.84)	0.130 (52.94)	30 (26.83)
<i>Adenanthera pavonina</i> (100%)	100 (45.18)	26.17 (6.03)	1.33 (25.47)	9.92 (27.83)	0.065 (18.18)	34 (54.06)	82.22 (32.16)	26.64 (6.60)	1.38 (6.15)	12.51 (102.42)	0.147 (72.94)	27 (34.15)
<i>Leucaena leucocephala</i> (25%)	73.33 (6.46)	25.49 (3.28)	1.11 (4.71)	8.62 (11.08)	0.062 (12.72)	57 (22.98)	75.55 (21.44)	25.21 (0.8)	1.33 (2.30)	6.34 (2.58)	0.098 (15.29)	36 (12.2)
<i>Leucaena leucocephala</i> (50%)	84.44 (22.59)	26.82 (8.67)	1.23 (16.03)	10.58 (36.34)	0.068 (23.63)	44 (40.55)	71.10 (23.93)	25.95 (3.84)	1.35 (3.84)	6.80 (10.03)	0.106 (24.70)	29 (29.27)
<i>Leucaena leucocephala</i> (100%)	86.66 (25.81)	26.93 (9.11)	1.27 (19.81)	11.8 (5.20)	0.075 (36.36)	40 (45.95)	79.99 (28.58)	26.13 (4.56)	1.39 (6.92)	7.41 (19.90)	0.11 (29.41)	24 (41.47)
<i>Eucalyptus</i> spp., (25%)	68.88 (0)	26.4 (6.96)	1.11 (4.71)	7.45 (3.90)	0.062 (12.72)	59 (20.28)	68.88 (10.72)	26.10 (4.44)	1.30 (0)	7.34 (18.77)	0.103 (21.17)	29 (29.27)
<i>Eucalyptus</i> spp., (50%)	75.55 (9.68)	27.54 (11.58)	1.25 (17.92)	8.6 (10.82)	0.066 (20)	46 (37.84)	77.77 (25.01)	27.07 (8.32)	1.35 (3.84)	9.43 (52.5)	0.126 (48.2)	19 (53.66)
<i>Eucalyptus</i> spp., (100%)	86.66 (25.81)	27.72 (12.3)	1.31 (23.58)	9.3 (1.98)	0.07 (27.27)	41 (44.6)	84.44 (35.73)	27.48 (9.96)	1.39 (6.92)	10.52 (70.22)	0.135 (58.82)	11 (73.18)
LSD <sub>0.05</sub>	11.30	1.14	0.16	1.63	0.009	6.47	11.51	1.11	0.084	1.147	0.016	4.82
Significance level (p)	***	***	*	***	*	***	*	**	*	***	***	***

\*\*\*, P<0.001; \*\*, P<0.01; \*, P<0.05

Parenthesis shows reduction % or increase % as compared to control



**Effect of soil drenching on growth indices and number of galls** Soil was drenched with the extract of *Eucalyptus* spp., at 100% concentration which reduced the galling rates due to *M. javanica* on cowpea, followed by *A. indica*, *L. leucocephala* and *A. pavonina* as compared to control (Table 3). Root length (102.42%) and root weight (58.82%) were increased in chickpea, whereas shoot length (9.96%) (12.3%) was more or less equally increased in both chickpea and mung bean when 100% concentration of *Eucalyptus* spp., extract was used as soil drenching (Table 3). There was an increment in germination of seeds with an increase in concentration of the extract. The degree of inhibition of *M. javanica* infection on roots and the growth indices were equally effective by *A. pavonina*, *A. indica*, *Eucalyptus* spp., followed by *L. leucocephala* extract used as soil drenching (Table 3).

## DISCUSSION

Phytomedicines derived from plants have shown great promise in the treatment of infectious diseases, including viral infections (Cowan, 1999). The ancient Egyptians were familiar with many medicinal herbs and were aware of their usefulness in treatment of various diseases (Abu-Shanab et al. 2004). Several higher plants and their constituents have shown success in plant disease control (Ashrafuzzaman and Hossain, 1992; Hossain and Ashrafuzzaman, 1994).

Our results indicate that, with increasing extract concentrations, hatching of eggs was gradually decreased. We suggest that 100% extract concentration was best for reducing the hatching of eggs, followed by 50% concentration. The best nematicidal activity was shown by *L. leucocephala* which showed 0% hatching, followed by *A. pavonina* that showed more promising control of *M. javanica* egg hatching than *Eucalyptus* spp., and *A. indica*. Mortality was gradually increased with exposure time. *A. indica* 100% concentration extracts showed 100% mortality, followed by 50% concentration; then, *A. pavonina* and *L. leucocephala* showed 85 and 89% mortality, respectively, in 100% concentration extracts, followed by *Eucalyptus* spp. Various neem products, including neem cake, its oil and Nimin (containing neem triterpenes) as urea coating agents, and root-dip or seed treatment with neem extracts have been found to be nematicidal against several species of parasitic nematodes (Alam, 1991), attacking vegetables and legumes (Haseeb et al. 2005).

The present results showed that shoot and root weight were significantly increased when seeds of chickpea were coated with *A. indica* used as 100% concentration. Neem is widespread in Pakistan and has been

found effective in bringing the nematode population below the threshold level (Javed et al. 2008), which might provide an alternative, sustainable and inexpensive means of managing nematodes. The bioactivity of neem materials against nematodes and insect is attributed to the presence of an array of complex compounds, triterpenes, or more specifically limonoids (Alam, 1993; Kraus, 1995). However, soil amendment with neem seems to be the most practical method for nematode control (Alam, 1993).

The seed treatment with *A. indica*, *A. pavonina*, *L. leucocephala* and *Eucalyptus* spp., showed promising results in controlling the root knot diseases in mung bean and chick pea. This suppression of infection resulted in significant plant growth enhancement. Similar results were shown by Chabra et al. (1988) who noted that leaf extracts of *Ricinus communis*, *Leucaena leucocephala*, *Populus deltoides*, *Azadirachta indica*, *Lantana camara* and *Eucalyptus hybrida* were highly toxic to J2 of *M. incognita*. It suggested that neem metabolites were absorbed by the roots to halt the J2 penetration (Javed et al. 2007a). The bioactive principles in neem extracts have also been reported to inhibit the penetration of nematodes (Mojumder, 1995).

## CONCLUSION

The use of *A. indica*, *A. pavonina*, *L. leucocephala* and *Eucalyptus* spp., seed extracts as seed treatment and soil drenching has the potential to reduce severity of galls in roots and enhance the plant growth. However, further research including a more quantitative approach is needed to explore the control of damage caused by nematodes.

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**Stosowanie nasion z lokalnych drzew  
do zwalczania guzaka korzeniowego  
*Meloidogyne javanica* (Treub) Chitwood  
oraz wspomagania wzrostu  
ciecierzyca pospolitej (*Cicer arietinum* L.)  
i fasoli mung (*Vigna radiata* L.)**

**Streszczenie**

Stosowano wyciąg z nasion lokalnych drzew, takich jak *Azadirachta indica* A. Juss, *Adenanthera pavonina* L., *Leucaena leucocephala* (Lam.) de Wit i *Eucalyptus* spp., w postaci roztworu wodnego o stężeniu 25, 50 i 100% do zwalczania działania guzaka *Meloidogyne javanica* (Treub) Chitwood. Wszystkie ekstrakty z nasion wykazywały zabójcze działanie w stosunku do jaj *M. javanica*, jak również obserwowano stopniowe zmniejszanie się liczby osobników wylęgających się z jaj oraz wzrost wskaźnika śmiertelności młodocianych osobników drugiego pokolenia wraz ze wzrostem stężenia ekstraktu. Stwierdzono, że ekstrakt z nasion *L. leucocephala* był najskuteczniejszy w zmniejszaniu liczby osobników wylęgających się z jaj, podczas gdy 100% wskaźnik śmiertelności osobników młodocianych obserwowano w przypadku *A. indica*. Liczba narośli na korzeniach znacznie zmniejszyła się przy stosowaniu 100% stężenia ekstraktu z nasion *A. pavonina* i *Eucalyptus* spp., którym oddziaływano na nasiona i polewano ziemię.

