



UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA

**MICROEMULSION FORMULATIONS OF ROTENONE AND THEIR
EFFECTIVENESS AGAINST THE DIAMONDBACK MOTH
(LEPIDOPTERA: YPOMEUTIDAE)**

SITI NURULHIDAYAH BINTI AHMAD

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By

SITI NURULHIDAYAH BINTI AHMAD

**Thesis Submitted to the School of Graduate Studies,
Universiti Putra Malaysia, in
Fulfilment of the Requirement for the Degree of Master of Science**

April 2009



I dedicated this thesis to;

My beloved Umi & Abah

Siblings of 12

Khairul Khushahiri

Thanks for the endless love

Abstract of thesis presented to the Senate of Universiti Putra Malaysia in
fulfilment of the requirement for the degree of Master of Science

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Chairman : Professor Dzolkhifli Omar, PhD
Faculty : Agriculture

Oil-in-water (O/W) microemulsions were prepared by the titration method through phase diagram study. The mixture consisted of surfactant, oil (as carrier), and water. The surfactants were Agnique PG 8107-U, Agnique PG 9116, and Tween 20 while the oils were Agnique BL 7001, Agnique BL 7002, and xylene. The potential of plant-derived insecticide rotenone (*Derris elliptica*) microemulsion formulations and their effectiveness against crucifer insect pest namely diamondback moth, *Plutella xylostella* were investigated in laboratory. The objectives of this study were, therefore, to formulate rotenone as microemulsion formulations through phase diagram study, to characterize the formulations, and to determine their LC₅₀ on diamondback moth by bioassay study.



Twelve phase diagrams of ternary systems were constructed and isotropic region were established. The systems having wider isotropic region were selected and they were Agnique 8107-U/Agnique BL 7001/water, Agnique 9116/Agnique BL 7001/water, Tween 20/Agnique BL 7001/water, Agnique PG 8107-U/Agnique BL 7002/water, Tween 20/Agnique BL 7002/water and Tween 20/Edenor ME/water systems. From these phase diagrams, 13 microemulsion solutions were derived. These microemulsion solutions were further evaluated for miscibility, surface tension, and particle size analysis.

The phase diagram systems containing Tween 20 as the surfactant showed the greater ability to produce a wider isotropic (microemulsion) region compared to others. The miscibility test showed all surfactants mixed readily with water. In interaction with the all oil phases, Tween 20 showed better miscibility compared with Agnique PG 8107-U and Agnique PG 9116 which produce double layers isotropic emulsion in absence of water. The width of isotropic/transparent region in phase diagrams constructed measured in decreasing order were; Tween 20/Agnique BL 7002/ water > Tween 20/Agnique BL 7001/water > Tween 20/Edenor ME/water > Agnique PG 9116/Agnique BL 7001/water > Agnique PG 8107-U/Agnique BL 7001/water > Agnique PG 8107-U/Agnique BL 7002/water > Tween 20/xylene/water > Agnique PG 9116/Agnique BL 7002/water > Agnique PG 9116/xylene/water > Agnique PG 8107-U/xylene/water > Agnique PG 8107-U/Edenor ME/water > Agnique PG 9116/Edenor ME/water.



Three phase diagram systems representing the best microemulsifiable characterization properties and solubility with rotenone were Tween 20/Agnique BL 7001/water, Tween 20/Agnique BL 7002/water and Tween 20/Edenor ME/water systems. Six points in the isotropic regions of the selected phase diagrams were utilized to prepare the microemulsion and coded as M1 to M13. The microemulsions were then subjected to the determination of their surface tensions and particle sizes. The surface tension values of the selected microemulsions were low and their values in decreasing order were; M9 (27.3 mN/m) > M13 (26.9 mN/m) > M2 (26.8 mN/m) > M4 (26.4 mN/m) > M11 (22.8 mN/m) > M7 (22.7 mN/m). The particle size of the microemulsion in decreasing order were; M4 (207.57 nm) > M13 (83.31 nm) > M2 (68.7 nm) > M11 (49.03 nm) > M9 (35.86 nm) > M7 (20.63 nm).

The selected microemulsions were used to prepare the rotenone microemulsion formulations. The formulations were then evaluated for their toxicity in comparison with the standard commercial EC formulation (Saphyr®) against the early third instar larvae of the diamondback moth by leaf-dipped bioassay in the laboratory. The mortality of the larvae was recorded at 72 and 96 hours following treatment and data were subjected to the Probit analysis to establish the LC_{50} and LC_{95} . Based on LC_{50} values, the toxicity of formulations for 72 hours after treatment in decreasing order were M11 (204.82 ppm) > M7 (139.71 ppm) > M13 (129.89 ppm) > M4 (122.8 ppm) > M2 (116.94 ppm) > M9 (96.09 ppm) > Saphyr® (96.05 ppm) while for 96 hours after treatment, the toxicity in

decreasing order were M11 (166.63 ppm) > M7 (119.58 ppm) > M13 (105.82 ppm) > M2 (105.22 ppm) > M4 (97.67 ppm) > M9 (87.22 ppm) > Saphyr® (76.86 ppm). The toxicity study indicated that the rotenone microemulsion formulations especially M9 were comparable to commercial rotenone, Saphyr®.



Abstrak tesis yang dikemukakan kepada Senat Universiti Putra Malaysia
sebagai memenuhi keperluan untuk Ijazah Master Sains

**FORMULASI-FORMULASI MIKROEMULSI ROTENON DAN
KEBERKESANANNYA TERHADAP KUPU-KUPU INTAN (LEPIDOPTERA:
YPONOMEUTIDAE)**

Oleh

SITI NURULHIDAYAH BINTI AHMAD

April 2009

Pengerusi : Professor Dzolkhifli Omar, PhD
Fakulti : Pertanian

Mikroemulsi-mikroemulsi minyak-dalam-air (O/W) telah diperolehi dengan kaedah pentitratan melalui kajian diagram fasa. Campuran mikroemulsi tersebut terdiri daripada surfaktan, minyak (sebagai pembawa), dan air. Surfaktan-surfaktan tersebut ialah Agnique PG 8107-U, Agnique PG 9116, dan Tween 20 manakala minyak-minyak ialah Agnique BL 7001, Agnique BL 7002, dan xylene. Potensi formulasi-formulasi mikroemulsi racun serangga rotenon dari sumber tumbuhan (*Derris elliptica*) dan keberkesanannya terhadap serangga perosak krusifer iaitu kupu-kupu intan, *Plutella xylostella* telah dijalankan di makmal. Objektif-objektif kajian ini termasuklah untuk memformulasikan rotenon sebagai formulasi-formulasi mikroemulsi melalui kajian diagram fasa, untuk mencirikan formulasi-formulasi tersebut, dan untuk menentukan LC₅₀ ke atas kupu-kupu intan menerusi kajian bioassai.



Dua belas diagram fasa sistem-sistem ternari telah dihasilkan dan kawasan-kawasan isotropik telah diperoleh. Sistem-sistem yang mempunyai kawasan isotropik yang lebih luas dipilih iaitu sistem-sistem Agnique 8107-U/Agnique BL 7001/air, Agnique 9116/Agnique BL 7001/air, Tween 20/Agnique BL 7001/air, Agnique PG 8107-U/Agnique BL 7002/air, Tween 20/Agnique BL 7002/air dan Tween 20/Edenor ME/air. Daripada diagram-diagram fasa ini, 13 larutan mikroemulsi telah dihasilkan. Kesemua larutan mikroemulsi ini dinilai selanjutnya untuk ujian-ujian keterlarutan, regangan permukaan, dan saiz partikel.

Sistem-sistem diagram fasa yang mengandungi Tween 20 sebagai surfaktan menunjukkan lebih keupayaan untuk menghasilkan kawasan isotropik (mikroemulsi) yang lebih luas berbanding yang sistem-sistem yang lain. Ujian keterlarutan menunjukkan semua surfaktan sedia terlarut dengan air. Dalam interaksi dengan semua fasa minyak, Tween 20 juga menunjukkan keterlarutan yang lebih baik berbanding Agnique PG 8107-U dan Agnique PG 9116 yang menghasilkan dua lapisan emulsi isotropik tanpa kehadiran air. Keluasan kawasan isotropik/ transparensi di dalam diagram-diagram fasa yang dihasilkan diukur dalam turutan menurun iaitu; Tween 20/Agnique BL 7002/air > Tween 20/Agnique BL 7001/air > Tween 20/Edenor ME/air > Agnique PG 9116/Agnique BL 7001/air > Agnique PG 8107-U/Agnique BL 7001/air > Agnique PG 8107-U/Agnique BL 7002/air > Tween 20/xylene/air > Agnique PG 9116/Agnique BL



7002/air > Agnique PG 9116/xylene/air > Agnique PG 8107-U/xylene/air > Agnique PG 8107-U/Edenor ME/air > Agnique PG 9116/Edenor ME/air.

Tiga sistem diagram fasa menunjukkan ciri-ciri karakter pengemulsian dan keterlarutan yang terbaik dengan rotenon ialah sistem-sistem Tween 20/Agnique BL 7001/air, Tween 20/Agnique BL 7002/air, dan Tween 20/Edenor ME/air. Enam titik di dalam kawasan isotropik diagram-diagram fasa terpilih digunakan dalam penyediaan mikroemulsi dan dikodkan sebagai M1 hingga M13. Mikroemulsi-mikroemulsi tersebut telah diuji untuk penentuan regangan-regangan permukaan dan saiz-saiz partikel. Nilai-nilai regangan permukaan bagi mikroemulsi terpilih dalam turutan menurun ialah; M4 (207.57 nm) > M13 (83.31 nm) > M2 (68.7 nm) > M11 (49.03 nm) > M9 (35.86 nm) > M7 (20.63 nm). Saiz partikel bagi mikroemulsi dalam turutan menurun ialah; M9 (27.3 mN/m) > M13 (26.9 mN/m) > M2 (26.8 mN/m) > M4 (26.4 mN/m) > M11 (22.8 mN/m) > M7 (22.7 mN/m).

Mikroemulsi-mikroemulsi terpilih digunakan untuk menyediakan formulasi-formulasi mikroemulsi rotenon. Formulasi-formulasi tersebut kemudiannya dinilai ketoksikannya sebagai perbandingan dengan standard formulasi EC komersil (Saphyr®) terhadap larva instar awal ketiga kupu-kupu intan dengan bioassai celup-daun di makmal. Kematian larva direkodkan pada 72 dan 96 jam selepas rawatan dan data dianalisa dengan analisis Probit untuk mendapatkan LC_{50} dan LC_{95} . Berdasarkan nilai-nilai LC_{50} , ketoksikan formulasi-formulasi yang diperoleh



selepas 72 jam rawatan dalam turutan menurun ialah M11 (204.82 bsj) > M7 (139.71 bsj) > M13 (129.89 bsj) > M4 (122.8 bsj) > M2 (116.94 bsj) > M9 (96.09 bsj) > Saphyr® (96.05 bsj) manakala ketoksikan untuk 96 jam selepas rawatan dalam turutan menurun pula ialah (166.63 bsj) > M7 (119.58 bsj) > M13 (105.82 bsj) > M2 (105.22 bsj) > M4 (97.67 bsj) > M9 (87.22 bsj) > Saphyr® (76.86 bsj). Kajian ketoksikan menunjukkan formulasi-formulasi mikroemulsi rotenon terutamanya M9 adalah setanding dengan rotenon komersil, Saphyr®.

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I certify that a Thesis Examination Committee has met on 17 April 2009 to conduct the final examination of Siti Nurulhidayah binti Ahmad on her thesis entitled "Microemulsion Formulations of Rotenone and Their Effectiveness Against the Diamondback Moth (Lepidoptera: Yponomeutidae)" in accordance with the Universities and University Colleges Act 1971 and the Constitution of the Universiti Putra Malaysia [P.U.(A) 106] 15 March 1998. The Committee recommends that the student be awarded the Master of Science.

Members of the Thesis Examination Committee were as follows:

Hafidzi Mohd Nor, PhD

Associate Professor
Faculty of Agriculture
Universiti Putra Malaysia
(Chairman)

Rita Muhamad, PhD

Associate Professor
Faculty of Agriculture
Universiti Putra Malaysia
(Internal Examiner)

Ahmad Said Sajap, PhD

Professor
Faculty of Forestry
Universiti Putra Malaysia
(Internal Examiner)

Abu Hassan Ahmad, PhD

Professor
Centre of Biological Science Studies
Universiti Sains Malaysia
(External Examiner)

BUJANG KIM HUAT, PhD

Professor and Deputy Dean
School of Graduate Studies
Universiti Putra Malaysia

Date: 2 July 2009



This thesis submitted to the Senate of Universiti Putra Malaysia and has been accepted as fulfilment of the requirement for the degree of Master of Science. The members of the Supervisory Committee are as follows:

Dzolkhifli Omar, PhD

Professor
Faculty of Agriculture
Universiti Putra Malaysia
(Chairman)

Dzulkefly Kuang Abdullah, PhD

Professor
Faculty of Science
Universiti Putra Malaysia
(Member)

HASANAH MOHD GHAZALI, PhD

Professor and Dean
School of Graduate Studies
Universiti Putra Malaysia

Date: 9 July 2009



DECLARATION

I hereby declare that the thesis is based on my original work except for quotations and citations which have been duly acknowledged. I also declare that it has not been previously or concurrently submitted for any other degree at UPM or other institutions.

SITI NURULHIDAYAH BINTI AHMAD

Date:



TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
ABSTRACT	iii
ABSTRAK	vii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	xi
APPROVAL	xii
DECLARATION	xiv
LIST OF TABLES	xviii
LIST OF FIGURES	xx
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS	xxiii

CHAPTER

1	INTRODUCTION	1
2	LITERATURE REVIEW	
2.1	Pest management in Malaysia	5
2.2	Agrochemical	6
2.3	Pesticide	6
	2.3.1 Pesticide formulation	7
	2.3.2 Insecticide formulation	8
2.4	Emulsion	9
	2.4.1 Microemulsion	10
	2.4.2 Microemulsion with nonionic surfactant	13
	2.4.3 Application of microemulsion	14
	2.4.4 Microemulsion in agrochemicals	16
2.5	Phase diagram	17
2.6	Microemulsion measurements	18
	2.6.1 Surface tension in microemulsion	18
	2.6.2 Particle size measurement technique	19
2.7	Active ingredient	20
2.8	Inert ingredient	21
	2.8.1 Surfactants	21
	2.8.2 Nonionic surfactants	22
	2.8.3 Surfactant for pesticide formulation	23
2.9	Insecticidal plants	24
	2.9.1 Rotenone	27
	2.9.2 Occurrence of Derris insecticides	32
	2.9.3 Toxicity	34
	2.9.4 Extraction process of rotenone	36



2.10	Insect	36
2.10.1	Diamondback moth (DBM)	36
2.10.2	Biology of DBM	37
2.10.3	Occurrence in Malaysia	39
2.10.4	Method of DBM control	39
3	PREPARATION OF MICROEMULSION FORMULATIONS OF ROTENONE AND THEIR CHARACTERIZATION	
3.1	Introduction	43
3.2	Materials and methods	44
3.2.1	Materials for component selection	44
3.2.2	Miscibility test	46
3.2.3	Construction of ternary phase diagrams	47
3.2.4	Selection of microemulsions points for rotenone formulations	49
3.2.5	Stability test	51
3.2.6	Surface tension analysis	51
3.2.7	Particle size measurement	54
3.2.8	Solubilization of rotenone in microemulsion systems	55
3.2.9	Quantification of rotenone using High Performance Liquid Chromatography (HPLC)	56
3.3	Results and discussion	57
3.3.1	Miscibility test of inert and active ingredients	57
3.3.2	Ternary phase diagrams study	59
3.3.3	Phase diagram and points selection	78
3.3.4	Stability test	79
3.3.5	Surface tension analysis	79
3.3.6	Particle size measurement	81
3.3.7	Solubilization of rotenone in microemulsion systems	83
3.3.8	Quantification of rotenone in formulations	86
4	TOXICITY OF ROTENONE FORMULATIONS AGAINST THE DIAMONDBACK MOTH, <i>Plutella xylostella</i> (L.) LEPIDOPTERA: YPONOMEUTIDAE	
4.1	Introduction	88
4.2	Materials and methods	88
4.2.1	Insect	88
4.2.2	Rearing of DBM	89
4.2.3	Host plant	89
4.2.4	Insecticides	90
4.2.5	Bioassay of DBM	90
4.2.5	Statistical analysis	92



4.3	Results and discussion	93
5	CONCLUSIONS	101
	REFERENCES	105
	APPENDICES	120
	BIODATA OF STUDENT	130



LIST OF TABLES

Table		Page
2.1	Technical differences between emulsions and microemulsion systems.	12
2.2	Insecticidal plants used in native cultures (Source: Stoll, 1992).	25
2.3	Plant-derived insecticides available on a commercial basis in 2002 (Source: Copping, 2001).	26
2.4	Active compounds and their properties in Derris plants (Source: Brown, 1952).	33
3.1	Parameters of microemulsion formulations to be determined.	45
3.2	Summary of the chemicals used in ternary phase diagram study.	45
3.3	Surfactants, oils, and aqueous phase grouped in different combination for phase diagram construction.	46
3.4	The composition of thirteen microemulsion solutions derived from the six phase diagram systems.	50
3.5	Miscibility test on oils and surfactants used, based on spontaneous emulsification.	58
3.6	Percentage of isotropic area in phase diagrams in decreasing order.	77
3.7	The surface tension of microemulsion formulations.	81
3.8	The particle size of microemulsion formulations.	82
3.9	Percent miscibility of rotenone at $26 \pm 1^\circ\text{C}$ in microemulsion formulations.	84
3.10	The description of rotenone formulations.	85
3.11	The formulations of rotenone.	86
4.1	Toxicity of microemulsion formulations of rotenone and Saphyr® against the early third instar DBM larvae at 48 hours after	96



treatment.

- 4.2 Toxicity of microemulsion formulations of rotenone and Saphyr® against the early third instar DBM larvae at 72 hours after treatment. 97
- 4.3 Toxicity of microemulsion formulations of rotenone and Saphyr® against the early third instar DBM larvae at 96 hours after treatment. 97



LIST OF FIGURES

Figure		Page
2.1	Emulsion system based on particle size distribution (Source: Narayanan, 1996).	9
2.2	Schematic representation of the three encountered microemulsion microstructures; (a) oil-in-water (O/W), (b) bicontinuous, and (c) water-in-oil (W/O) microemulsion (Source: Lawrence and Rees, 2000).	11
2.3	Difference between emulsion (left) and microemulsion (right) systems.	13
2.4	Interaction between air and liquid in normal condition.	19
2.5	General structure of alkyl polyglycosides (APG).	24
2.6	<i>Derris elliptica</i> plant commonly found in Malaysia.	28
2.7	Various particles size of <i>Derris</i> roots (Source: Pagan and Hageman, 1949).	29
2.8	Chemical structure of rotenone (C ₂₂ H ₂₁ O ₆).	31
3.1	The flow of phase diagram construction procedure.	48
3.2	A series of oil and surfactant ratios after titration with water.	49
3.3	An example of line (AB) drawn across isotropic region.	50
3.4	Dynamic surface tensiometer equipment used to measure the surface tension.	52
3.5	Eight steps of measuring the surface tension of liquid using Du Nuoy ring.	53
3.6	Glass vial contains solution samples inserted into Nanophox equipment.	55

3.7	Phase diagram of Agnique PG 8107-U/Edenor ME/water system.	61
3.8	Phase diagram of Agnique PG 8107-U/xylene/water system.	61
3.9	Phase diagram of Agnique PG 8107-U/Agnique BL 7001/water system.	63
3.10	Phase diagram of Agnique PG 8107-U/Agnique BL 7002/water system.	63
3.11	Phase diagram of Agnique PG 9116/Edenor ME/water system.	66
3.12	Phase diagram of Agnique PG 9116/xylene/water system.	66
3.13	Phase diagram of Agnique PG 9116/Agnique BL 7001/water system.	67
3.14	Phase diagram of Agnique PG 9116/Agnique BL 7002/water system.	67
3.15	Phase diagram of Tween 20/Edenor ME/water system.	69
3.16	Phase diagram of Tween 20/xylene/water system.	69
3.17	Phase diagram of Tween 20/Agnique BL 7001/water system.	72
3.18	Phase diagram of Tween 20/Agnique BL 7002/water system.	72
4.1	The disc leaf dipped in a serial dilution of rotenone formulation.	91
4.2	Experimental layouts using Completely Randomized Design (CRD).	92
4.3	Percentage mortality at 48 hours after treatment of the early third instar DBM larvae of different rotenone formulations.	95
4.4	Percentage mortality at 72 hours after treatment of the early third instar DBM larvae of different rotenone formulations.	95



4.5	Percentage mortality at 96 hours after treatment of the early third instar DBM larvae of different rotenone formulations.	96
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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

a. i.	Active ingredient
APG	Alkyl Polyglycoside
BHC	Benzene Hexachloride
bsj	Bahagian per sejuta
Bt	<i>Bacillus thuringiensis</i>
CMC	Critical Micelle Concentration
CEPP	Chemical Engineering Pilot Plant
CLCE	Concentrated Liquid Crude Extract
CRD	Complete Randomized Design
DNA	Deoxyribonucleic acid
DDT	Dichloro-diphenyl-trichloroethane
DBM	Diamondback moth
EC	Emulsifiable Concentrate
ED ₅₀	Effective Dose at 50%
EPN	Entomopathogenic Nematodes
FIFRA	Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act
GLM	General Linear Module
HLB	Hydrophilic Lipophilic Balance
HPLC	High Performance Liquid Chromatography
IPM	Integrated Pest Management
LC ₅₀	Lethal Concentration at 50 %
LD ₅₀	Lethal Dose at 50 %
mΩ	Mega ohm
mm	Millimeter
ME	Microemulsion
mN/m	MilliNewtons/meter
nm	Nanometer
NMR	Nuclear magnetic resonance

