

# **UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA**

THE TOXICITY AND SUBLETHAL EFFECT OF BOTANICAL INSECTICIDES AGAINST THE LARVAE OF GREEN LACEWINGS, Chrysoperla nipponensis ( NEUROPTERA : CHRYSOPIDAE )

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BY

SITI KHADIJAH BINTI MD HUSIN

A project report submitted to Faculty of Agriculture, Universiti Putra Malaysia, in fulfillment of the requirement of PRT 4999 (Final Year Project) for the award of the

degree of Bachelor of Agricultural Science

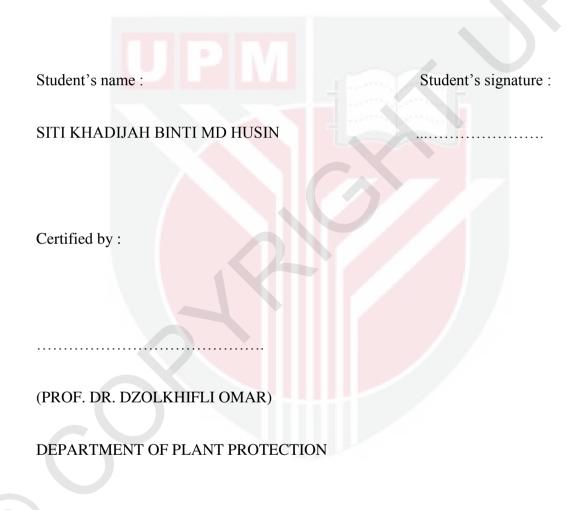
Faculty of Agriculture

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### CERTIFICATION

This project report entitled **The Toxicity and Sublethal Effect of Botanical Insecticides against the Larvae of Green Lacewings,** *Chrysoperla nipponensis* (**Neuroptera : Chrysopidae**) and submitted to the Faculty of Agriculture in fulfillment of the requirement of PRT 4999 (Final Year Project) for the award of the degree of Bachelor of Agriculture Science.



Date : .....

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## TABLE OF CONTENT

	Page
CERTIFICATION	i
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	ii
TABLE OF CONTENT	iii
LIST OF TABLE	v
LIST OF FIGURES	vii
LIST OF PLATE	viii
ABSTRACT	ix
ABSTRAK	x
CHAPTER:	
1. INTRODUCTION	1
2. LITERATURE REVIEW	4
2.1. Biological Control	4
2.2. Green Lacewing	5
2.2.1. Distribution and Importance	5
2.2.2. Characteristics	6
2.2.3. Eggs	6
2.2.4. Larvae	7
2.2.5. Pupae	7
2.2.6. Adult	8

	2.3. Botanical Insecticides	10
	2.3.1. Azadirachtin	12
	2.3.2. Garlic Oil	14
	2.3.3. Rotenone	17
	2.3.4. Entomic	19
3.	MATERIALS AND METHODS	20
	3.1. Research Location	20
	3.2. Mass Rearing of Chrysoperla nipponensis	20
	3.3. Host Plant Culture	21
	3.4. Insecticides	21
	3.5. Bioassay	22
	3.6. Evaluation Parameter	23
	3.7. Data Analysis	23
4.	RESULTS AND DISCUSSION	24
	4.1. The Toxicity of Botanical Insecticides against Chrysoperla nipponensis	24
	4.2. Probit Analysis	31
	4.3. The Sublethal Effect of Botanical Insecticides against	33
	Chrysoperla nipponensis	
5.	CONCLUSION	34
	REFERENCES	
	APPENDICES	

# LIST OF TABLES

,	Table	Title	Page
	1	Data obtained from mean separation based on concentration – mortality	26
		test on the early third instar larvae of Chrysoperla nipponensis	
		after 120 hours of treatment with Rotenone, Neem, Bralic and Entomic	
,	2	Data obtained from probit analysis based on concentration – mortality	32
		test on the early third instar larvae of <i>Chrysoperla nipponensis</i> after	
		120 hours of treatment with Rotenone, Neem, Bralic and Entomic	
	3	Data obtained from experiment based on concentration – mortality	42
		test on the early third instar larvae of <i>Chrysoperla nipponensis</i> after	
		120 hours of treatment with Rotenone.	
4	4	Data obtained from experiment based on concentration – mortality	42
		test on the early third instar larvae of Chrysoperla nipponensis after	
		120 hours of treatment with Neem.	
C	5	Data obtained from experiment based on concentration – mortality	42
		test on the early third instar larvae of Chrysoperla nipponensis after	
		120 hours of treatment with Bralic.	

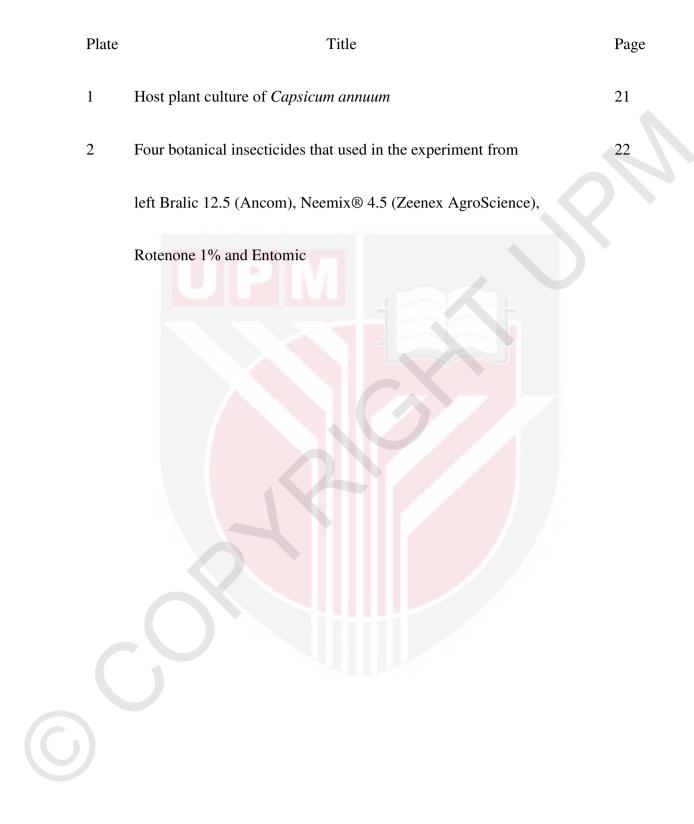
6 Data obtained from experiment based on concentration – mortality test on the early third instar larvae of *Chrysoperla nipponensis* after 120 hours of treatment with Entomic.



### LIST OF FIGURES

Figure	Title	Page
1	Life cycle of green lacewing, C. nipponensis	9
2	Chemical structure of azadirachtin, active ingredient of neem	14
3	Chemical structure of major compound in garlic oil	16
4	Chemical structure of rotenone	18
5	Chemical structure of the active ingredient of entomic	19
6	Comparison of mean values of data regarding the effects of toxicity	26
	of botanical insecticides on mortality of	
	Chrysoperla nipponensis via bioassays method	
7	Comparison of mean values of data regarding the effects of rotenone	27
	concentrations on mortality of Chrysoperla nipponensis	
	via bioassays method.	
8	Comparison of mean values of data regarding the effects of neem	28
	concentrations on mortality of Chrysoperla nipponensis	
	via bioassays method.	
9	Comparison of mean values of data regarding the effects of bralic	29
	concentrations on mortality of Chrysoperla nipponensis	
	via bioassays method.	
10	Comparison of mean values of data regarding the effects of entomic	30
	concentrations on mortality of Chrysoperla nipponensis	
	via bioassays method.	

### LIST OF PLATE



### ABSTRACT

Green lacewing, Chrysoperla nipponensis is a common predator of insect pests particularly the leaf sucking insects and is commonly found in vegetable crops. Green lacewing is an important predator of arthropod pests such as aphids, psyllids, thrips and whiteflies. Green lacewing belongs to the family of Chrysopidae. Synthetic insecticides are commonly used to control insect pests and could be harmful to the C. nipponensis. The alternative is to use plant based insecticides. These insecticides are less toxic than synthetic insecticides to the predators and not very harmful to the humans and environments. However, the toxicity of botanical insecticides against C. nipponensis is not well known. A laboratory study was conducted to determine the toxicity and sub lethal effect of four different types of botanical insecticides against larvae of green lacewing. The insecticides were neem, rotenone, garlic oil and entomic. The bioassay was conducted by dipping the leaves into the solution and allowed them to dry at room temperature. The third instar larvae of the green lacewing were exposed to the treated leaf. The mortality of the larvae and sub lethal effect were recorded after 24, 48, 72, 96 and 120 hours. One larva was used per treatment with a minimum of 10 replicates per treatment. Data were subjected to Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) and means separation by Tukey test. The order of the toxicity was rotenone > neem > bralic > entomic. The LC<sub>50</sub> of rotenone was 68.19µg/ml while entomic was 949.14µg/ml.

### ABSTRAK

Green lacewing, Chrysoperla nipponensis adalah pemangsa biasa bagi serangga perosak terutamanya serangga penghisap daun dan lazimnya dijumpai dalam tanaman sayur-sayuran. Green lacewing merupakan pemangsa penting untuk perosak dari keluarga Artropod seperti aphids, psyllids, thrips dan whiteflies. Ia adalah serangga terbanyak di dalam keluarga Chrysopidae. Pada masa ini, racun serangga konvensional biasanya digunakan untuk mengawal serangga perosak dan boleh mendatangkan bahaya kepada C. nipponensis itu. Alternatif kepada permasalahan tersebut adalah dengan menggunakan racun serangga yang berasaskan tumbuhan. Racun tersebut dipilih kerana ianya kurang toksik berbanding dengan racun serangga konvensional untuk pemangsa dan tidak begitu berbahaya kepada manusia dan kawasan persekitaran. Walau bagaimanapun, ketoksikan racun serangga botani terhadap Chrysoperla nipponensis tidak diketahui. Oleh itu, satu kajian telah dijalankan untuk menentukan ketoksikan dan kesan lain empat jenis racun serangga botani terhadap larva green lacewing. Racun serangga tersebut adalah neem, rotenone, minyak bawang putih dan entomic. Kaedah yang digunakan adalah dengan mencelup daun ke dalam larutan racun dan daun tersebut dibiarkan kering pada suhu bilik. Larva pada tahap ketiga didedahkan dengan daun yang telah dicelup ke dalam larutan racun. Setelah itu, kadar kematian larva direkod selepas 24, 48, 72, 96 dan 120 jam. Setiap rawatan mempunyai satu larva dengan sekurangkurangnya 10 ulangan bagi setiap rawatan. Data tersebut dianalisis menggunakan Analisis Varians (ANOVA) dan purata telah ditentukan oleh Tukey test. Turutan ketoksikan racun adalah daripada racun rotenone > neem > minyak bawang putih > entomic. Nilai LC<sub>50</sub> racun rotenone adalah 68.19µg/ml, manakala bagi racun entomic adalah 949.14µg/ml.

#### **CHAPTER 1**

### **INTRODUCTION**

Biological control of pests and diseases is a method of management of pests and diseases in agriculture that relies on their natural enemies rather than the chemicals. Biological control agent can include predators, parasitoids and pathogens. Among the different organisms that can be used in the biological control of agricultural pests, arthropod predators play a central role in controlling pests and diseases. The important predators of arthropod pests include lacewings, true bugs, beetles and predatory mites. Nowadays, the green lacewings are popular as they are quite resistance to the chemicals applied in the field.

Green lacewings (Neuroptera : Chrysopidae) is one of the biological control agents for controlling insect pests population such as aphids in vegetables and fruits. *Chrysoperla nipponensis* is one of the genus from Chrysopidae family. It is a common predator of insect pests particularly the leaf sucking insects. The adults of *C. nipponensis* feed on pollen, sweet nectar and honey and they do not kill the insect pest or can be called as non-predacious. However, the larvae of *C. nipponensis* kill the insect pest and the important predator of the Homopteran. They feed on insect pests such as aphids, mealybugs and whiteflies. Even though the green lacewings, *C. nipponensis* can act as biological control agent in the field, the application of chemicals such as botanical insecticides are still being used to entire insect pests.

Botanical insecticides are referred to the naturally occurring chemicals that are extracted or derived from the plant. They also known as natural insecticides. They undergo certain processes and being used in the field to control and manage the insect pest population. In general, botanical insecticides are less toxic to human and the surrounding environment compared to the conventional insecticides. Besides, botanical insecticides degrade rapidly. Botanical insecticides have been chosen by the farmers to be used as one of the alternatives to control the pest population in agriculture field.

At present there are four major types of botanical insecticide used for insect control namely pyrethrum, rotenone, neem and also essential oils. There are other botanical insecticides that can also be used but in limited use namely ryania, nicotine, and sabadilla. The use of botanical insecticides was replaced following the introduction of synthetic insecticides after the Second World War. Synthetic insecticides are the popular chemical control and widely used by the farmers. It has become the farmer's choice because of its rapid acting, readily available in the market and also highly reliable in controlling the pest population.

However, the use of conventional insecticides has been discovered to give a threat to human health and the environment such as undesirable side effect, pollution, development of resistance and negative effects to the non – target organisms as well as more toxic to the human and environment. Other than that, synthetic insecticides are costly and leave residues on the crops that could affect the consumer. In order to solve this problem, botanical insecticides have been chosen as the driving forces for changes of insecticide usage in insect pest management (IPM).

The main reason of using insecticides in the field is to control the pest population that attacks the crop especially in the vegetables and fruits. However, the use of insecticides in the field may also affect non – target organisms such as beneficial insects. The beneficial insect existence in the agriculture field can also help to suppress insect pest population. Conventional insecticides are widely used among the farmers in controlling the insect pest but they may give many harmful effects to the environment and the non-target organism which is beneficial insect due to high and residual toxicity. Therefore, botanical insecticides are chosen as an alternative to control the insect pest population in the field since they have little effect to non – target organisms, environmental pollution and health hazards. However, there is not much research conducted on the toxicity and sub lethal effect of botanical insecticides against the larvae of green lacewings, *C. nipponensis*.

Therefore, this experiment was conducted based on the following objectives: 1) to study the toxicity of different botanical insecticides against larvae of green lacewings, *C. nipponensis* and 2) to study the sub lethal effects of the botanical insecticides on the larvae of green lacewings namely the duration to pupation, the percentages of pupation, the duration to adult emergence and the percentages of adult emergence. The outcome from this experiment would enable us to plan the best solution in controlling the insect pest population and at the same time the beneficial insect population in the field will not be disturbed.

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