



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Saudi Journal of Biological Sciences

journal homepage: www.sciencedirect.com



Original article

# Phytochemical analysis and fabrication of silver nanoparticles using *Acacia catechu*: An efficacious and ecofriendly control tool against selected polyphagous insect pests

Mathalaimuthu Baranitharan<sup>a</sup>, Saud Alarifi<sup>b</sup>, Saad Alkahtani<sup>b</sup>, Daoud Ali<sup>b</sup>, Kuppusamy Elumalai<sup>a</sup>, Jeganathan Pandiyan<sup>c</sup>, Kaliyamoorthy Krishnappa<sup>c</sup>, Mohan Rajeswary<sup>d,\*</sup>, Marimuthu Govindarajan<sup>d,e</sup><sup>a</sup> Department of Advanced Zoology & Biotechnology, Government Arts College for Men (Autonomous), Chennai 600035, Tamil Nadu, India<sup>b</sup> Department of Zoology, College of Science, King Saud University, Riyadh 11451, Saudi Arabia<sup>c</sup> Department of Zoology and Wildlife Biology A.V.C. College (Autonomous), Mannampandal, Mayiladuthurai 609305, Tamil Nadu, India<sup>d</sup> Unit of Vector Control, Phytochemistry and Nanotechnology, Department of Zoology, Annamalai University, Annamalai Nagar 608 002, Tamil Nadu, India<sup>e</sup> Unit of Natural Products and Nanotechnology, Department of Zoology, Government College for Women (Autonomous), Kumbakonam 612 001, Tamil Nadu, India

## ARTICLE INFO

### Article history:

Received 20 July 2020

Revised 5 September 2020

Accepted 9 September 2020

Available online 17 September 2020

### Keywords:

Nanotechnology

Green synthesis

Pest

*Spodoptera litura**Helicoverpa armigera*

Scanning electron microscope

## ABSTRACT

Globally, the farmers are struggling with polyphagous insect pest, and it is the number one enemy of agri-products, which made plenty of economic deterioration. *Spodoptera litura* and *Helicoverpa armigera* are the agronomically important polyphagous pests. Most of the farmers are predominately dependent on synthetic chemical insecticides (SCIs) for battle against polyphagous pests. As a result, the broad spectrum usage of SCIs led a lot of detrimental outcomes only inconsequently the researchers search the former-friendly phyto-pesticidal approach. In the present investigation, leaf ethanol extract (LEE) and silver nanoparticles (AgNPs) of *A. catechu* (*Ac*) were subjected to various spectral (TLC, CC, UV, FTIR, XRD and SEM) analyses. Larval and pupal toxicity of *A. catechu* *Ac*-LEE and *Ac*-AgNPs were tested against selected polyphagous insect pests. The significant larval and pupal toxicity were experimentally proven, and the highest toxicity noticed in AgNPs than *Ac*-LEE. The larval and pupal toxicity of *Ac*-AgNPs tested against *S. litura* and *H. armigera* LC<sub>50</sub>/LC<sub>90</sub> values were 71.04/ 74.78, 85.33/ 88.91 µg/mL and 92.57/ 96.21 and 124.43/ 129.95 µg/mL respectively. *Ac*-AgNPs could be potential phyto-pesticidal effectiveness against selected polyphagous insect pests. In globally, it is significantly sufficient ratification giving towards the prevention of many unauthorized SCPs.

© 2020 The Author(s). Published by Elsevier B.V. on behalf of King Saud University. This is an open access article under the CC BY-NC-ND license (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/>).

## 1. Introduction

Most of the quality and quantity of the agricultural product is directly/ indirectly deteriorated by insect pests in many countries (Elumalai et al., 2010; Kamaraj et al., 2008; Krishnappa et al., 2010; Krishnappa and Elumalai, 2012; Misra, 2014). *Spodoptera litura* is a predominant polyphagous pest occupied a wide range of hosting around 200 floral species globally, in which 74 floral host species noticed from India (Elumalai et al., 2014; Paulraj

et al., 2017). *S. litura* larvae consumed the different parts of host flora, including rhizome and causing severe damage, which gives above 60% of revenue loss in India (Elumalai et al., 2014; Krishnappa et al., 2010a, 2010b). India is a tropical country, polyphagous pest (*S. litura*) surviving and high abundance in that particular climate; therefore, recently, agriculture is facing severe economic losses (Paulraj et al., 2017). *Helicoverpa armigera* is a multivoltine, agronomically predominant polyphagous pest and it consumed a wide range of hosts estimated above 300 floras communities globally (Backiyaraj et al., 2014; Namin et al., 2014). The initial larval stage feeds only soft floral structures then turned to later stages feed on every part of flora (Gokulkrishnan et al., 2012).

Globally, most of the farmers are predominantly depending on synthetic chemical insecticides (SCIs) for battle against polyphagous insect fauna (Elumalai et al., 2010; Krishnappa and Elumalai, 2012). As the results of broad-spectrum usage of SCIs

\* Corresponding author.

E-mail address: [drrajvectorcontrol@gmail.com](mailto:drrajvectorcontrol@gmail.com) (M. Rajeswary).

Peer review under responsibility of King Saud University.



<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.sjbs.2020.09.024>

1319-562X/© 2020 The Author(s). Published by Elsevier B.V. on behalf of King Saud University.

This is an open access article under the CC BY-NC-ND license (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/>).

led a lot of detrimental outcomes: a drastic conflict between environment and living organisms, insect pest develops resistance against among the SCIs, the broad eradication of non-target fauna and flora, the direct/ indirect toxicity to formers, SCIs has lesser bio-degradable and drastic conventional effects on the natural ecosystem, unpredictable collapse in food chain/ food web, etc., (Govindarajan et al., 2005; Abinaya et al., 2018; Baranitharan et al., 2016, 2020; Benelli and Govindarajan, 2017; Govindarajan, 2011; Govindarajan et al., 2013, 2015, 2016a, 2016b, 2016c, 2016d, 2016e, 2016f, Govindarajan and Benelli, 2016a, 2016b, 2016c, 2016d, 2016e; Govindarajan and Karuppanan, 2011; Govindarajan and Sivakumar, 2012; Krishnappa et al., 2012, 2013; Krishnappa and Elumalai, 2013). Interestingly, the most of the scientist/researchers search for newer alternative SCIs approach usually it belong from naturally available phytoconstituents (PCs) (Govindarajan and Rajeswary, 2015; Govindarajan et al., 2016g,h; Baranitharan et al., 2019; Benelli, 2016; Elumalai et al., 2013, 2014; Govindarajan et al., 2016; Govindarajan and Benelli, 2017; Krishnappa and Elumalai, 2013, 2014). Because PCs have less/ zero toxic effects to the ecosystem and other related non-targets fauna and flora (Baranitharan et al., 2017; Benelli et al., 2017a, 2017b, 2017c; Divya et al., 2018; Karthika et al., 2017; Mathivanan et al., 2010; Muthukumar et al., 2015; Veerakumar et al., 2014; Zahid et al., 2016). The PCs have multi-special derivatives it has been using in many countries (El-Wakeil, 2013; Sola et al., 2014). *Acacia catechu* (Leguminosae) is a highly medicinal value flora, and it distributed in entire Asian and African continents. This plant has a lot of vital PCs; therefore, it has been used as different medicinal properties, and it could cure different human/animal infections. The floral parts like a leaf, branches, bark, fruits, seeds, and rhizomes were used as dental care mouthwash, buccal and alimentary canal infections, gastric ulcers, diarrhea, control of hypertension, dysentery, common cold, cough, asthma, leprosy, antimicrobial, antioxidant activities etc., (Patel et al., 2009; Negi and Dave, 2010; Stohs and Bagchi, 2015; Rahman et al., 2016). Since it is firsthand documentation, existing about the pesticidal activity of *A. catechu* leaf ethanol extract (Ac-LEE) and green-synthesized nanoparticles (Ac-AgNPs) against selected polyphagous insect pests *S. litura* and *H. armigera*. Ac-LEE and Ac-AgNPs of *A. catechu* were subjected to various spectral and microscopic analyses.

## 2. Material and methods

### 2.1. Floral collection and extract preparation

A fresh and cleaned *Acacia catechu* (Leguminosae) leaf (Fig. 1A) was collected from parent flora at Namakkal District (11.2189° N, 78.1674° E), Tamilnadu, Southern India. The collected leaves were

carefully washed with dechlorinated H<sub>2</sub>O and immediately kept in the sunshine for 10–15 min. The partially dried and H<sub>2</sub>O evaporated leaves were carried to the laboratory, which allowed to shade dried on Whatman filter paper (27 ± 2 °C). The dried floral parts were ground as a fine powder (Fig. 1B), which extracted by using the Soxhlet apparatus. Excess of solvent residue in that extract was evaporated naturally, which maintains room temperature on the Petri plate (Fig. 1C) and complete evaporated semi-dried extract weighed, stored in an aseptic glass vial at 0–4 °C in the refrigerator.

### 2.2. TLC, CC, and Phyto-chemical analysis

The Ac-LEE was subjected to find potential PCs accountable for different bioassay activities. The Ac-LEE was run on a pre-coated TLC sheet and CC packed with a silica gel column with a height 50 cm and capacity 50 ml. The Ac-LEE diluted with various solvent systems with the composition of ethanol and diethyl ether (Table 1). The phytochemical analysis using for the quality of various PCs found in the competent Ac-LEE described by Nweze et al. (2004) and Senthilkumar and Reetha (2009).

### 2.3. Silver nanoparticle (AgNP) synthesis

The Ac-AgNO<sub>3</sub> 90 ml Mm added with Ac-LEE 10 ml was prepared in 200 ml Erlenmeyer flasks for reduction into Ag + ions. AgNO<sub>3</sub> + Ac-LEE mixture was retained 1 h at 27 ± 3° C for complete bio-reduction. The preliminary finding of Ac-AgNPs found the colour change in the AgNO<sub>3</sub> + Ac-LEE mixture. The whole reactions allowed in darkness to avoid photoactivation. For the purification process, obtained Ac-AgNPs subjected to ultra-centrifugation above 5,000 rpm for 25 min. After the centrifugation, supernatant discarded and pellet carefully diluted with distilled H<sub>2</sub>O (Satyavani et al., 2011), the blend was stored in a glass vial, labeled and stored for further analysis.

### 2.4. Characterization of AgNPs

The bio-reduction of Ag + ions solution was keenly monitored by using UV–vis spectroscopy (Rajesh et al., 2009). FTIR spectroscopy evaluated the bio-molecules present in purified Ac-AgNPs (Ashokkumar and Ramaswamy 2014). Ac-AgNPs were allowed to dry at 60° C, and the dried powder was subjected to XRD spectroscopy to identify their exact structure and material.

### 2.5. Polyphagous insect pests rearing

The polyphagous insect pests of *S. litura* and *H. armigera* its eggs/ egg masses (Fig. 2A and Fig. 3A), larvae, pupae, and adults were collected from castor and legume field in Mayiladuthurai Dis-



Fig. 1. Floral collection and extract preparation. (A) *A. catechu* plant, (B) Dried leaf powder, (C) *A. catechu* condensed LEE in a Petri plate.

**Table 1**  
Fractions obtained from *A. catechu* LEE by different ratios of elutants.

Sl. No.	Various solvent systems	Number of fractions obtained
1.	Ethanol:Diethyl ether – 7.5:2.5	2
2.	Ethanol:Diethyl ether – 8.0:2.0	3
3.	Ethanol:Diethyl ether – 8.5:1.5	4
4.	Ethanol:Diethyl ether – 9.0:1.0	5
5.	Ethanol:Diethyl ether – 9.5:0.5	3

tract (Latitude: 11° 06' 12.74" N; Longitude: 79° 39' 18.00" E), Tamilnadu. Before hatching, the collected eggs were sterilized with 0.02% NaClO and neonate larvae were separately kept in the rearing chamber, *S. litura* larvae allowed on fresh tender castor leaves and bendi fruits for *H. armigera*. Heat sterilized soil was provided for pupation at maintained  $27 \pm 2^\circ\text{C}$  with light 12 h : dark 12 h photoperiod and  $70 \pm 5\%$  relative humidity in insectariums. Pupae were collected from soil and placed inside the oviposition chamber here cotton soaked with 10–20% (w/v) cane sugar with 1 (or) 2 drops of multivitamins and natural honey was provided for gravid moths to increase the fecundity.

## 2.6. Insect toxicity

Larval and pupal toxicity of *Ac*-LEE and *Ac*-AgNPs were evaluated by the method of Abbott, (1925), and mortality was calculated by probit analysis (Finney, 1971). Five batches of 0–6 h old, 25 number, well active, uniform size, hale and healthy 2nd instar larvae of *S. litura* and *H. armigera* were separately introduced in 100 x15 mm petri dish. Larval toxicity of *Ac*-LEE and *Ac*-AgNPs of different concentrations (20–150  $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$ ) sprayed on several host plant like castor leaf for *S. litura* and legume leaf for *H. armigera* which

separately provided to polyphagous pests (Fig. 2B and 3B). Larval death were noted every 4 hrs interval, total % of mortality were calculated and it maintained four replicates.

$$\text{Mortality}(\%) = \frac{\%LMT - \%LMC}{100 - \%LMC} \times 100$$

where

%LMT = % larval mortality in the treatment

%LMC = % larval mortality in the control

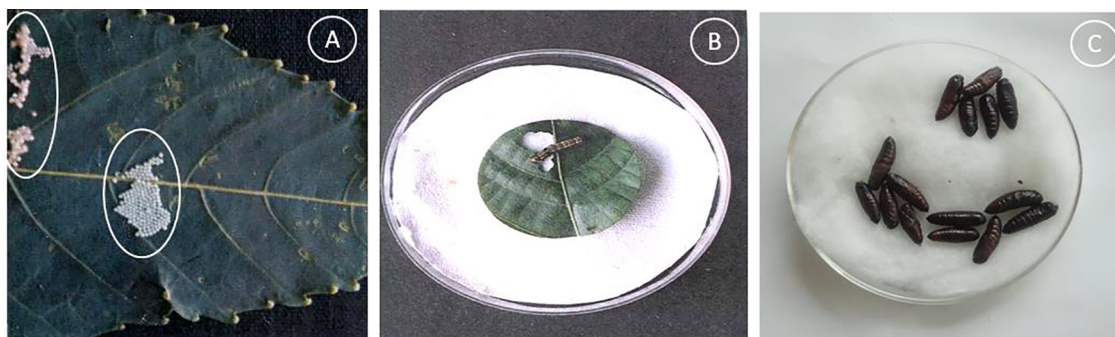
The same methodology has been applied to pupal toxicity; the hale and healthy of even-sized fifth instars larvae of the selected polyphagous pests were allowed to feed with different concentrations (20–150 ppm) *Ac*-LEE and *Ac*-AgNPs sprayed on respective host leaves. All phytochemicals (LEE and AgNPs) treated and control larvae were separately allowed to pupate to evaluate the pupal toxicity in which 15 numbers of pupae for *S. litura* as well as 12 numbers of pupae for *H. armigera*. Single experiment setup of pupal toxicity maintained five batches in which a total of 75 and 60 pupae tested against *S. litura* and for *H. armigera*, respectively (Fig. 2C and 3C). The appropriate concentration of *Ac*-LEE/ *Ac*-AgNPs was mixed with dechlorinated  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  applied on the respective host plant of selected pests. The larval and pupal toxicity were assessed on both narrow and broad range test.

$$\text{Mortality}(\%) = \frac{\%PMT - \%PMC}{100 - \%PMC} \times 100$$

where

%PMT = % pupal mortality in the treatment

%PMC = % pupal mortality in the control



**Fig. 2.** Bioassay experimental setup of *A. catechu* LEE and AgNPs against *S. litura*. (A) *S. litura* eggs collected from castor plant leaf, (B) Larvicidal activity setup, (C) Pupal activity setup.



**Fig. 3.** Bioassay experimental setup of *A. catechu* LEE and AgNPs against *H. armigera*. (A) *H. armigera* eggs collected from legume plant leaf, (B) Larvicidal activity setup, (C) Pupal activity setup.



## 2.7. Statistical analysis

The % mortality data of polyphagous insect pests *S. litura* and *H. armigera* its larvae and pupae were subjected to different statistical tools,  $LC_{50}/LC_{90}$ , LCL, UCL, regression, chi-square, etc. All the values were calculated by (IBM) SPSS statistics new version 25.0 version.

## 3. Results

### 3.1. TLC, CC analysis and phytochemical screening

The Ac-LEE was subjected to the TLC plate to identify the bio-efficiency of PCs were examined. From TLC experiment provided 5 fractions which get in the solvent system ratio of ethanol 9: diethyl ether 1 (Fig. 4A). The same principle was applied on CC; the Ac-LEE capable PCs were assessed by CC tightly packed with silica gel, which runs with the 50 ml solvent ratio of ethanol 9: diethyl ether 1, from the experiment totally we achieved 5 fractions (Fig. 4B). From the *A. catechu* extracts evaluated to phytochemical screening, the maximum phytochemicals (Alkaloids, flavonoids, saponins, tannins, triterpenes, coumarins, anthraqui-

nones and phenolics) gathered from higher polarity solvent like Ac-LEE and it has been listed in Table 2.

### 3.2. Ac-AgNPs synthesis

The Ac-LEE of Ac-AgNPs ( $AgNO_3$  + LEE) composite mixture was clearly indicated and confirming through the colour change (dark brown colour) by adding  $AgNO_3$  with Ac-LEE. It is evidently examined in the Fig. 5.

### 3.3. UV, FTIR, and XRD analysis

Colour change is the basic observation of Ac-AgNPs synthesis which subjected into UV and FTIR spectral analysis of Ac-LEE of Ac-AgNPs are clearly explained in Fig. 6 and Fig. 7 and FTIR analysis supports our hypothesis that the bioreduction of  $Ag^+$  ions to  $Ag^0$  carried out by *C. A. catechu* leaf borne metabolite. Indeed, the FTIR spectrum showed major peaks at 3422.49, 2922.44, 2853.81, 1608.95, 1588.38, 1489.26, 1444.39, 1383.51, 1268.82, 1237.65, 1110.98, 1036.97, 888.44, 749.31, 724.33, 608.00, 539.81, 487.41, 429.37  $cm^{-1}$ . Above the peak value is strong and broad, they corre-

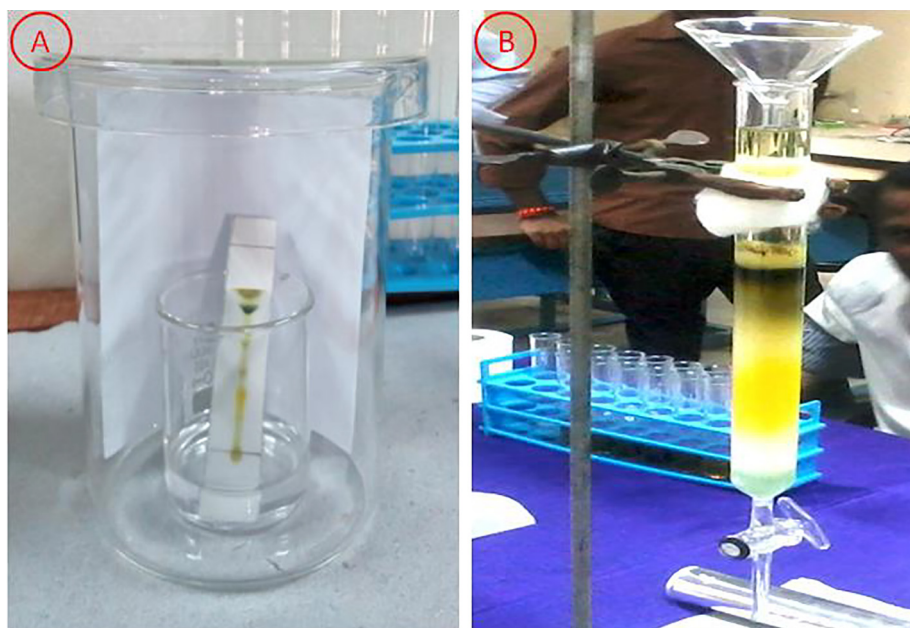


Fig. 4. Various fractionation units. (A) Air shield TLC unit, (B) CC unit.

Table 2

Phytochemical screening of different solvent extracts of *A. catechu*.

Sl. No.	Phytochemical screening	<i>A. catechu</i> , various leaf extracts				
		HNE	DER	DME	EAE	ETL
1.	Carbohydrates	-	+	-	-	-
2.	Alkaloids	-	-	-	-	+
3.	Flavonoids	+	+	-	+	+
4.	Saponins	-	+	-	-	+
5.	Tannins	+	+	+	-	+
6.	Triterpenes	+	+	+	-	+
7.	Resins	+	+	-	-	-
8.	Coumarins	+	+	+	-	+
9.	Anthraquinones	+	+	+	-	+
10.	Phenolics	+	-	+	-	+

HNE: Hexane; DER: Diethyl ether; DME: Dichloromethane; EAE: Ethyl acetate; ETL: Ethanol.

+ = noted for the presence of a phytochemical group.

- = noted for the absence of phytochemical group.

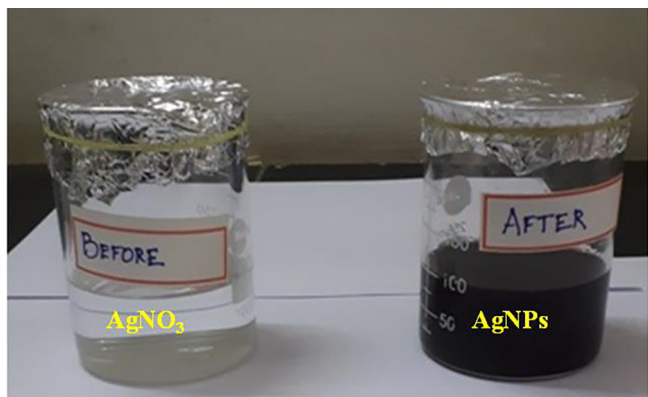


Fig. 5. Colour change observation in *A. catechu* LEE AgNPs.

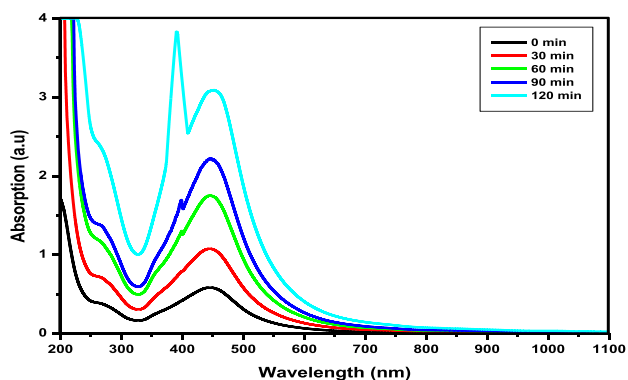


Fig. 6. Spectrum observation of *A. catechu* LEE of AgNPs through UV-Vis.

sponded to functional group like alcohols, phenols (O–H stretch,  $3422.49\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ). Alkanes (C–H stretch,  $2922.44$ ,  $2853.81\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ), 1° amines is medium (N–H bend,  $1608.95\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ), aromatics are medium (C–C stretch (in-ring),  $1588.38$ ,  $1489.26$ ,  $1444.39\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ), alcohols, carboxylic acids, esters, ethers are strong (C–O stretch,  $1268.82$ ,  $1237.65$ ,  $1110.98$ ,  $1036.97\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ), alkenes are strong (=C–H bend stretch,  $888.44$ ,  $749.31$ ,  $724.33\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ), alkynes is broad and strong (–C=C–H: C–H bend stretch,  $608.00\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ),

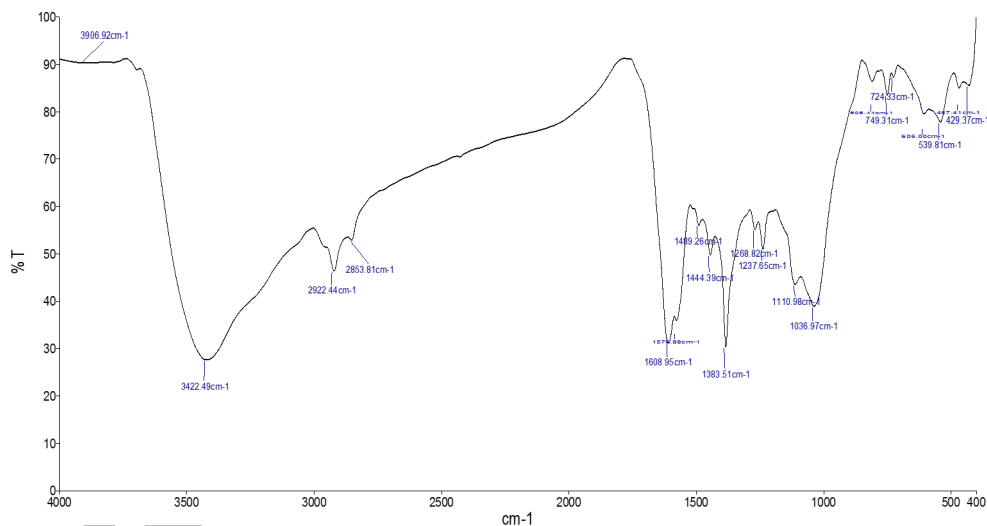


Fig. 7. FTIR spectrum of *A. catechu* LEE AgNPs.

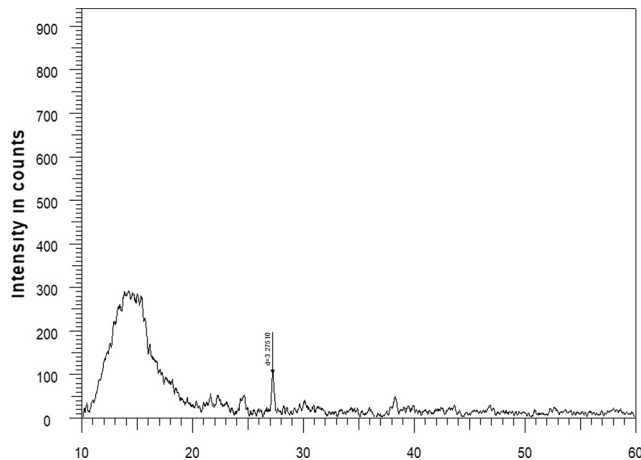


Fig.8. XRD spectrum of *A. catechu* LEE AgNPs.

and alkyl halides is medium (C–Br stretch,  $539.81\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ). The XRD analysis of Ac-LEE of Ac-AgNPs is obviously indicated in (Fig. 8), the appeared peaks were likely matched, and their data were confirming with NIST chemical library.

### 3.4. SEM analysis

Green synthesized Ac-LEE of Ac-AgNPs evaluated by SEM analysis and its image has been displayed in Fig. 9. From the image obviously declared, the Ac-AgNPs adhered with the Ac-LEE, and Ac-AgNPs confirmed the particle size range from 23.5 nm and 53.4 nm. SEM image has been magnified into different range, and Ac-AgNPs particles appeared like beads shaped it was indicated the category of NPs.

### 3.5. Insect toxicity

Polyphagous insect pests, *S. litura* and *H. armigera* larval and pupal toxicity values of Ac-LEE and Ac-AgNPs expressed in Tables 3 and 4. The predominant larval and pupal toxicity were experimentally demonstrated, and the highest toxicity was noticed in Ac-AgNPs than Ac-LEE. The larval toxicity of Ac-LEE and Ac-AgNPs tested against *S. litura* and *H. armigera*  $LC_{50}/LC_{90}$  values were

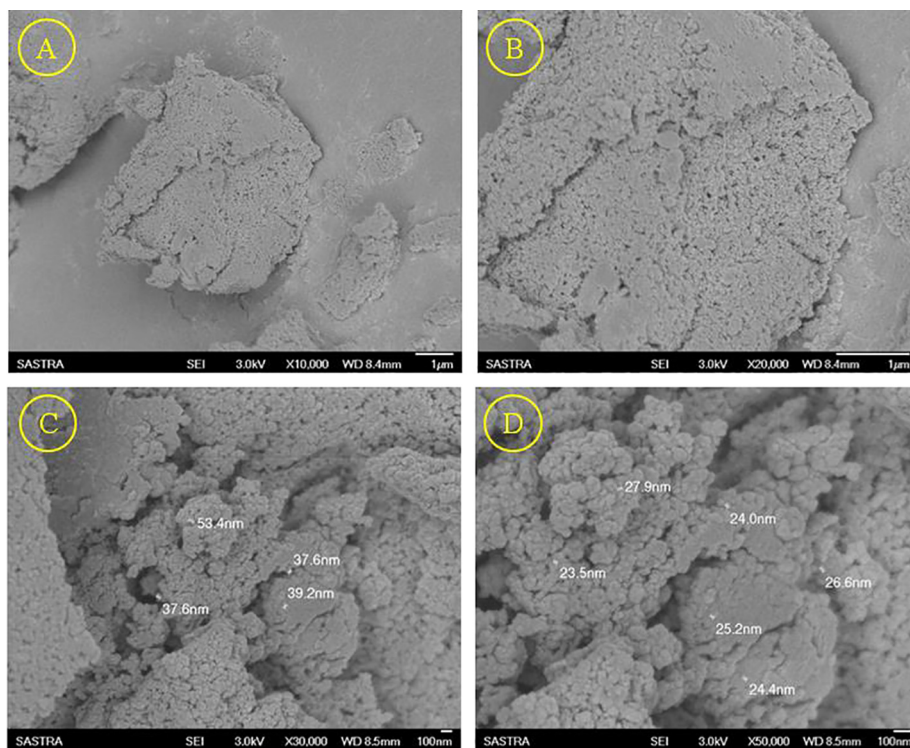


Fig. 9. SEM image of *A. catechu* LEE AgNPs. (Magnified at different range (A) 10000X, (B) 20000X, (C) 30000X, (D) 50000X).

**Table 3**  
Larval toxicity induced by *A. catechu* LLE and AgNPs on the larvae of selected polyphagous insect pests.

Species tested	LC <sub>50</sub> (µg/mL)	95% Fiducial limit (µg/mL)		LC <sub>90</sub> (µg/mL)	95% Fiducial limit (µg/mL)		R-value	χ <sup>2</sup>
		LCL	UCL		LCL	UCL		
LEE of <i>A. catechu</i>								
<i>S. litura</i>	65.47	41.73	82.45	129.27	107.66	178.04	y = 15.03 + 1.65x	8.057
<i>H. armigera</i>	77.35	70.00	84.20	149.43	137.84	165.17	y = 4.88 + 1.67x	3.594
AgNPs								
<i>S. litura</i>	22.32	14.33	28.11	43.51	36.16	60.47	y = 4.24 + 0.54x	8.466
<i>H. armigera</i>	26.17	23.93	28.30	48.16	44.67	52.79	y = 0.50 + 0.52x	2.785

LC<sub>50</sub> = Lethal Concentration brings out 50% mortality; LC<sub>90</sub> = Lethal Concentration brings out 90% mortality; LCL = Lower Confidence Limit; UCL = Upper Confidence Limit; R-value = Regrasion value; χ<sup>2</sup> = Chi- square.

**Table 4**  
Pupal toxicity induced by *A. catechu* LLE and AgNPs on the fresh pupae of selected polyphagous insect pests.

Species tested	LC <sub>50</sub> (µg/mL)	95% Fiducial limit (µg/mL)		LC <sub>90</sub> (µg/mL)	95% Fiducial limit (µg/mL)		R- value	χ <sup>2</sup>
		LCL	UCL		LCL	UCL		
LEE of <i>A. catechu</i>								
<i>S. litura</i>	91.28	59.247	115.01	173.15	143.62	243.33	y = 9.81 + 2.08x	9.257
<i>H. armigera</i>	107.84	98.03	117.16	206.63	190.27	229.05	y = 2.67 + 2.24x	4.857
AgNPs								
<i>S. litura</i>	35.90	21.07	46.67	68.24	55.22	105.15	y = 2.99 + 0.80x	11.921
<i>H. armigera</i>	41.14	37.78	44.38	74.85	69.38	82.18	y = 2.34 + 0.79x	3.368

LC<sub>50</sub> = Lethal Concentration brings out 50% mortality; LC<sub>90</sub> = Lethal Concentration brings out 90% mortality; LCL = Lower Confidence Limit; UCL = Upper Confidence Limit; R-value = Regrasion value; χ<sup>2</sup> = Chi- square.

112.48/ 114.20, 71.04/ 74.78 µg/mL and 176.53/ 185.60 and 92.57/ 96.21 µg/mL respectively. The pupal toxicity of Ac-LEE and Ac-AgNPs tested against *S. litura* and *H. armigera* LC<sub>50</sub>/LC<sub>90</sub> values were 122.31/ 127.25, 85.33/ 88.91 µg/mL and 208.49/ 212.48 and 124.43/ 129.95 µg/mL respectively. The other statistical values were apparently demonstrated in Tables 3 and 4.

## 4. Discussion

### 4.1. Preliminary phytochemical screening

*A. catechu* different leaf extracts were evaluated for identifying the qualitative abundance of phytochemical screening, and that

results were verified in higher number of PCs groups were noticed in high polarity organic solvent like Ac-LEE. In previously, numerous PCs investigations have been reported in various floral sources, and it has efficiently controlled in various stages of insect pests. The PCs could be extracted from various parts of flora as well as species. It is incredibly efficient bio-recourse phyto-insecticidal agents, zero effectiveness on non-target fauna/ flora and PCs are best and supreme alternative recourse against SCPs. (Mkindi et al., 2019; Mungenge et al., 2014; Riaz et al., 2018; Ahmed et al., 2020).

#### 4.2. Ag NPs synthesis

The several previous reports obviously synthesized Ac-AgNPs have murky brown/ reddish in colour. A similar propensity has been noticed in the present observation of selected flora Ac-LEE of Ac-AgNPs. Many reports strongly empathize with our present investigation (Pirtarighat et al., 2018; Morejón et al., 2018; Roy et al., 2019; Sutthanont et al., 2019).

#### 4.3. Ag NPs characterization

**UV-Vis spectral analysis:** The confirmation of Ac-LEE green synthesized Ac-AgNPs have been proven by colour change from yellow to brown it can be experimentally observed by UV-vis spectral analysis. In earlier, many kinds of research have been supported to our present investigation. (Ndikau et al., 2017; Elamawi et al., 2018; Femi-Adepoju et al., 2019; Pilaquinga et al., 2019). **FTIR spectral analysis:** The floral community has several functional groups such as alkaloids, anthraquinones, flavonoids, triterpenes, polyphenols etc., and it could be confirmed and observing through FTIR spectral analysis (Asmathunisha et al., 2010). Therefore, Ac-LEE found various essential function groups and it confirmed their phyto-pesticidal effects while involving with Ac-AgNPs synthesis. Many similar types of works have been observed in previously published experiments (Devaraj et al., 2013; Ajitha et al., 2014; Jyoti et al., 2016; Suresh et al., 2016; Zia et al., 2016). **XRD analysis:** The periodic steps of lyophilization and acquisition Ac-LEE of Ac-AgNPs dried sample subjected to XRD spectral analysis. Results of XRD spectral investigation of Ac-AgNPs crystal structure strongly agreement with earlier reported values (Ramesh et al., 2016; Kumar et al., 2017; Vizuete et al., 2017; Oves et al., 2018; Shanmuganathan et al., 2018). **SEM analysis:** SEM reflected image has been magnified into various range it was produced the exact size and shape (morphology) of NPs. Similar propensity were recorded in many earlier outcome (Rautela et al., 2019; Pilaquinga et al., 2019; Erdogan et al., 2019).

#### 4.4. Insect toxicity

Larval and pupal toxicity of Ac-LEE and Ac-AgNPs were tested against polyphagous insect pests *S. litura* and *H. armigera*, the predominant toxicity was noticed in Ac-AgNPs than Ac-LEE. The similar examinations were noticed in several previously reported insecticidal activities of different insect pests (agricultural/medical pests). The naturally available photoproducts like *F. religiosa* and *F. benghalensis* leaf AgNPs are significantly reduced gut protease activity of *H. armigera* (Kantrao et al., 2017). The environmental safety and predominant *C. cephalonica* larval toxicity was noticed on *O. sanctum* leaf AgNPs (Gogate et al., 2018). The green products of *E. hirta* leaf AgNPs against fourth instar larvae and pupae of *H. armigera*, the selected floral AgNPs provided statistically proven significant insecticidal activity (Durga Devi et al., 2014). The Ag NPs synthesized from different flora of *O. europaea*, *F. carica*, *E. japonica*, *C. limon*, *P. vera* and *M. nigra* prepared different concentrations against various life stages of *D. melanogaster* and their results

were given predominant toxicity were recorded from Ag NPs (Araj et al., 2015). The original novel larvicidal agent prepared from *C. zedoaria* AgNPs, which tested against the larvae of *Cx. quinquefasciatus* and it produced a prime effect as well as a significant an eco-friendly approach (Sutthanont et al., 2019). *S. mammosum* AgNPs showed remarkable larval toxicity discovered against vector mosquitoes and it could be acted as a potential alternative tool against disease-spreading human vectors (Pilaquinga et al., 2019). The exploration of leaf extracts of *C. aromaticus* and *W. tinctoria* AgNPs against *Cx. quinquefasciatus* and it could be produced maximum toxicity to selected medical pest (Dass and Mariappan, 2018).

## 5. Conclusion

Ac-LEE green synthesized Ac-AgNPs could be potential phyto-pesticidal effectiveness against selected polyphagous insect pests. Around the world above 2000, the floral community has been used as medicinal/ pesticidal properties. In globally, it is significantly sufficient ratification giving towards the prevention of many unauthorized SCPs. Based, on the present research, *A. catechu* could be a potential multidirectional bioactive agent to combat the polyphagous insect pests.

## Acknowledgments

This research work was funded by Researchers Supporting Project number (RSP-2020/27), King Saud University, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

## References

- Abbott, W.S., 1925. A method of computing the effectiveness of an insecticide. *J. Econ. Entomol.* 18, 265–266.
- Abinaya, M., Vaseeharan, B., Divya, M., Sharmili, A., Govindarajan, M., Alharbi, N.S., Kadaikunnan, S., Khaled, J.M., Benelli, G., 2018. Bacterial exopolysaccharide (EPS)-coated ZnO nanoparticles showed high antibiofilm activity and larvicidal toxicity against malaria and Zika virus vectors. *J. Trace Elem. Med. Biol.* 45, 93–103.
- Ahmed, M., Peiwen, Q., Gu, Z., Liu, Y., Sikandar, A., Hussain, D., Javeed, A., Shaf, J., Iqbal, M.F., An, R., Guo, H., Du, Y., Wang, W., Zhang, Y., Ji, M., 2020. Insecticidal activity and biochemical composition of *Citrullus colocynthis*, *Cannabis indica* and *Artemisia argyi* extracts against cabbage aphid (*Brevicoryne brassicae* L.). *Sci. Rep.* 10 (1). <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-019-57092-5>.
- Ajitha, B., Reddy, Y.A.K., Reddy, P.S., 2014. Biogenic nano-scale silver particles by *Tephrosia purpurea* leaf extract and their inborn antimicrobial activity. *Spectro. Acta Part A.* 121, 164–172.
- Araj, S.E.A., Salem, N.M., Ghabesh, I.H., Awwad, A.M., 2015. Toxicity of Nanoparticles against *Drosophila melanogaster* (Diptera: Drosophilidae). *J. Nano.* 2015, 1–9.
- Ashokkumar, R., Ramaswamy, M., 2014. Phytochemical screening by FTIR spectroscopic analysis of leaf extracts of selected Indian medicinal plants. *Int. J. Curr. Microbiol. App. Sci.* 3, 395–406.
- Asmathunisha, N., Kathiresan, K., Anburaj, Nabeel, M.A., 2010. Synthesis of antimicrobial silver nanoparticles by callus leaf extracts from saltmarsh plant *Sesuvium portulacastrum* L. *Colloids. Surf. B. Biointerfaces.* 79, 488–493.
- Backiyaraj, M., Elumalai, A., Kasinathan, D., Mathivanan, T., Krishnappa, K., Elumalai, K., 2014. Bioefficacy of *Caesalpinia bonducella* extracts against Tobacco cutworm, *Helicoverpa armigera* (Hub.) (Lepidoptera: Noctuidae). *J. Coast. Life Med.* 2, 685–693.
- Baranitharan, M., Dhanasekaran, S., Murugan, K., Kovendan, K., Gokulakrishnan, J., Benelli, G., 2017. *Coleus aromaticus* leaf extract fractions: A source of novel ovicides, larvicides and repellents against *Anopheles*, *Aedes* and *Culex* mosquito vectors?. *Pro. Saf. Environ. Prot.* 106, 23–33.
- Baranitharan, M., Krishnappa, K., Elumalai, K., Pandiyan, J., Gokulakrishnan, J., Kovendan, K., Tamizhazhagan, V., 2020. *Citrus limetta* (Risso) - borne compound as novel mosquitocides: Effectiveness against medical pest and acute toxicity on non-target fauna. *South African J. Bot.* 128, 218–224.
- Baranitharan, M., Sawicka, B., Gokulakrishnan, J., 2019. Phytochemical profiling and larval control of *Erythrina variegata* methanol fraction against malarial and filarial vector. *Adv. Prev. Med.* 2019, 1–9.
- Baranitharan, M., Dhanasekaran, S., Murugan, K., Kovendan, K., Gokulakrishnan, J., 2016. Chemical composition and laboratory investigation of *Melissa officinalis* essential oil against human malarial vector mosquito, *Anopheles stephensi* L. (Diptera: Culicidae). *J. Coast. Life Med.* 4, 969–973.



- Benelli, G., 2016. Plant-mediated synthesis of nanoparticles: a newer and safer tool against mosquito-borne diseases? *Asian Pac. J. Trop. Biomed.* 6, 353–354.
- Benelli, G., Govindarajan, M., 2017. Green-Synthesized Mosquito oviposition attractants and ovicides: Towards a nanoparticle-based “Lure and Kill” approach?. *J. Cluster Sci.* 28, 287–308.
- Benelli, G., Kadaikunnan, S., Alharbi, N.S., Govindarajan, M., 2017a. Biophysical characterization of *Acacia caesia*-fabricated silver nanoparticles: effectiveness on mosquito vectors of public health relevance and impact on non-target aquatic biocontrol agents. *Environ. Sci. Pollut. Res.* 25, 10228–10242.
- Benelli, G., Pavela, R., Canale, A., Cianfaglione, K., Ciaschetti, G., Conti, F., Nicoletti, M., Senthil-Nathan, S., Mehlhorn, H., Maggi, F., 2017b. Acute larvicidal toxicity of five essential oils (*Pinus nigra*, *Hyssopus officinalis*, *Satureja montana*, *Aloysia citrodora* and *Pelargonium graveolens*) against the filariasis vector *Culex quinquefasciatus*: synergistic and antagonistic effects. *Parasitol. Int.* 66, 166–171.
- Benelli, G., Pavela, R., Iannarelli, R., Petrelli, R., Cappellacci, L., Cianfaglione, K., Afshar, F.H., Nicoletti, M., Canale, A., Maggi, F., 2017c. Synergized mixtures of Apiaceae essential oils and related plant-borne compounds: larvicidal effectiveness on the filariasis vector *Culex quinquefasciatus* Say. *Ind. Crop. Prod.* 96, 186–195.
- Dass, A.K., Mariappan, P., 2018. Insecticidal activity of green synthesized silver nanoparticles using coleus aromaticus and *Wrightia tinctoria* leaf extracts against *Culex quinquefasciatus*. *Vector Biol. J.* 3, 2. <https://doi.org/10.4172/2473-4810.1000131>.
- Devaraj, P., Kumari, P., Aarti, C., Renganathan, A., 2013. Synthesis and characterization of silver nanoparticles using cannonball leaves and their cytotoxic activity against MCF-7 cell line. *J. Nano.* 2013, 1–5.
- Divya, M., Vaseeharan, B., Abinaya, M., Vijayakumar, S., Govindarajan, M., Alharbi, N. S., Kadaikunnan, S., Khaled, J.M., Benelli, G., 2018. Biopolymer gelatin-coated zinc oxide nanoparticles showed high antibacterial, antibiofilm and anti-angiogenic activity. *J. Photochem. Photobiol. B. Biol.* 178, 211–218.
- Durga Devi, G., Murugan, K., Panneer Selvam, C., 2014. Green synthesis of silver nanoparticles using *Euphorbia hirta* (Euphorbiaceae) leaf extract against crop pest of cotton bollworm, *Helicoverpa armigera* (Lepidoptera: Noctuidae). *J. Biopest.* 7, 54–66.
- Elamawi, R.M., Al-Harbi, R.E., Hendi, A.A., 2018. Biosynthesis and characterization of silver nanoparticles using *Trichoderma longibrachiatum* and their effect on phytopathogenic fungi. *Egypt. J. Bio. Pest Con.* 28, 1–11.
- Elumalai, A., Backiyaraj, M., Kasinathan, D., Mathivanan, T., Krishnappa, K., Elumalai, K., 2014. Pesticidal activity of *Rivina humilis* L. (Phytolaccaceae) against important agricultural polyphagous field pest *Spodoptera litura* (Fab.) (Lepidoptera:Noctuidae). *J. Coast. Life Med.* 2, 652–658.
- Elumalai, K., Dhanasekaran, S., Krishnappa, K., 2013. Larvicidal activity of Saponin isolated from *Gymnema sylvestre* R. Br. (Asclepiadaceae) against Japanese Encephalitis vector, *Culex tritaeniorhynchus* Giles (Diptera: Culicidae). *Euro. Rev. Med. Pharma. Sci.* 17, 1404–1410.
- Elumalai, K., Krishnappa, K., Anandan, A., Govindarajan, M., Mathivanan, T., 2010a. Certain essential oil against the field pest army worm, *Spodoptera litura* (Lepidoptera:Noctuidae). *Int. J. Rec. Sci.* 2, 56–62.
- Elumalai, K., Krishnappa, K., Anandan, A., Govindarajan, M., Mathivanan, T., 2010b. Larvicidal and ovicidal efficacy of ten medicinal plant essential oil against lepidopteran pest *Spodoptera litura* (Lepidoptera: Noctuidae). *Int. J. Rec. Sci.* 1, 001–007.
- El-Wakeil, N.E., 2013. Botanical pesticides and their mode of action. *Gesunde Pflanzen.* 65, 125–149.
- Erdogan, O., Abbak, M., Demirbolat, G.M., Birtekocak, F., Aksel, M., Pasa, S., Cevik, O., 2019. Green synthesis of silver nanoparticles via *Cynara scolymus* leaf extracts: The characterization, anticancer potential with photodynamic therapy in MCF7 cells. *PLoS ONE.* 14, 1–15.
- Femi-Adepoju, A.G., Dada, A.O., Otun, K.O., Adepoju, A.O., Fatoba, O.P., 2019. Green synthesis of silver nanoparticles using terrestrial fern (*Gleichenia Pectinata* (Willd.) C. Presl.): characterization and antimicrobial studies. *Heliyon.* 5, e01543.
- Finney, D.J., 1971. Probit Analysis. Cambridge University, London, pp. 68–78.
- Gogate, S., Rahman, S., Dutta, P., 2018. Efficacy of synthesized silver nanoparticles using *Ocimum sanctum* (L.) leaf extract against *Corycyra cephalonica* (S.). *J. Entomol. Zoo. Stu.* 6, 1149–1155.
- Gokulakrishnan, J., Elumalai, K., Dhanasekaran, S., Anandan, A., Krishnappa, K., 2012. Pupical and repellent activities of *Pogostemon cablin* essential oil chemical compounds against medically important human vector mosquitoes. *Asian Pac. J. Trop. Dis.* 3, 26–31.
- Govindarajan, M., 2011. Evaluation of *Andrographis paniculata* Burm.f. (Family: Acanthaceae) extracts against *Culex quinquefasciatus* (Say.) and *Aedes aegypti* (Linn.) (Diptera: Culicidae). *Asian Pac. J. Trop. Med.* 4, 176–181.
- Govindarajan, M., Benelli, G., 2016a. One-pot green synthesis of silver nanocrystals using *Hymenodictyon orixense*: A cheap and effective tool against malaria, chikungunya and Japanese encephalitis mosquito vectors?. *RSC Adv.* 6, 59021–59029.
- Govindarajan, M., Benelli, G., 2016b.  $\alpha$ -humulene and  $\beta$ -elemene from *Syzygium zeylanicum* (Myrtaceae) essential oil: highly effective and eco-friendly larvicides against *Anopheles subpictus*, *Aedes albopictus* and *Culex tritaeniorhynchus* (Diptera: Culicidae). *Parasitol. Res.* 115, 2771–2778.
- Govindarajan, M., Benelli, G., 2016c. Facile biosynthesis of silver nanoparticles using *Barleria cristata*: mosquitocidal potential and biotoxicity on three non-target aquatic organisms. *Parasitol. Res.* 115, 925–935.
- Govindarajan, M., Benelli, G., 2016d. *Artemisia absinthium*-borne compounds as novel larvicides: effectiveness against six mosquito vectors and acute toxicity on non-target aquatic organisms. *Parasitol. Res.* 115, 4649–4661.
- Govindarajan, M., Benelli, G., 2016e. Eco-friendly larvicides from Indian plants: Effectiveness of lavender acetate and bicyclogermacrene on malaria, dengue and Japanese encephalitis mosquito vectors. *Ecotoxicol. Environ. Saf.* 133, 395–402.
- Govindarajan, M., Benelli, G., 2017. A facile one-pot synthesis of eco-friendly nanoparticles using *Carissa carandas*: ovidical and larvicidal potential on malaria, dengue and filariasis mosquito vectors. *J. Clu. Sci.* 28, 15–36.
- Govindarajan, M., Hoti, S.L., Benelli, G., 2016a. Facile fabrication of ecofriendly nanomaterials: biophysical characterization and effectiveness on neglected tropical mosquito vectors. *Enzym Microb. Technol.* 95, 155–163.
- Govindarajan, M., Hoti, S.L., Rajeswary, M., Benelli, G., 2016b. One-step synthesis of poly-dispersed silver nanocrystals using *Malva sylvestris*: an eco-friendly mosquito larvicide with negligible impact on non-target aquatic organisms. *Parasitol. Res.* 115, 2685–2695.
- Govindarajan, M., Jebanesan, A., Reetha, D., 2005. Larvicidal effect of extracellular secondary metabolites of different fungi against the mosquito, *Culex quinquefasciatus* Say. *Trop. Biomed.* 22, 1–3.
- Govindarajan, M., Karuppanan, P., 2011. Mosquito larvicidal and ovidical properties of *Eclipta alba* (L.) Hassk (Asteraceae) against chikungunya vector, *Aedes aegypti* (Linn.) (Diptera: Culicidae). *Asian Pac. J. Trop. Med.* 4, 24–28.
- Govindarajan, M., Khater, H.F., Panneerselvam, C., Benelli, G., 2016c. One-pot fabrication of silver nanocrystals using *Nicandra physalodes*: A novel route for mosquito vector control with moderate toxicity on non-target water bugs. *Res. Vet. Sci.* 107, 95–101.
- Govindarajan, M., Rajeswary, M., 2015. Repellent properties of *Pithecellobium dulce* (Roxb.) Benth. (Family: Fabaceae) against filariasis vector, *Culex quinquefasciatus* Say (Diptera: Culicidae). *J. Med. Herb. Ethnomed.* 1, 103–107.
- Govindarajan, M., Rajeswary, M., Arivoli, S., Tennyson, S., Benelli, G., 2016d. Larvicidal and repellent potential of *Zingiber nimmonii* (J. Graham) Dalzell (Zingiberaceae) essential oil: an eco-friendly tool against malaria, dengue, and lymphatic filariasis mosquito vectors?. *Parasitol. Res.* 115, 1807–1816.
- Govindarajan, M., Rajeswary, M., Hoti, S.L., Benelli, G., 2016e. Larvicidal potential of carvacrol and terpinen-4-ol from the essential oil of *Origanum vulgare* (Lamiaceae) against *Anopheles stephensi*, *Anopheles subpictus*, *Culex quinquefasciatus* and *Culex tritaeniorhynchus* (Diptera: Culicidae). *Res. Vet. Sci.* 104, 77–82.
- Govindarajan, M., Rajeswary, M., Hoti, S.L., Nicoletti, M., Benelli, G., 2016f. Facile synthesis of mosquitocidal silver nanoparticles using *Mussaenda glabra* leaf extract: characterization and impact on non-target aquatic organisms. *Nat. Prod. Res.* 30, 2491–2494.
- Govindarajan, M., Rajeswary, M., Muthukumar, U., Hoti, S.L., Khater, H.F., Benelli, G., 2016g. Single-step biosynthesis and characterization of silver nanoparticles using *Zornia diphylla* leaves: A potent eco-friendly tool against malaria and arbovirus vectors. *J. Photochem. Photobiol. B. Biol.* 161, 482–489.
- Govindarajan, M., Rajeswary, M., Sivakumar, R., 2015. Repellent properties of *Delonix elata* (L.) Gamble (Family: Fabaceae) against malaria vector *Anopheles stephensi* (Liston) (Diptera: Culicidae). *J. Saudi Soc. Agric. Sci.* 14, 128–133.
- Govindarajan, M., Rajeswary, M., Veerakumar, K., Muthukumar, U., Hoti, S.L., Benelli, G., 2016h. Green synthesis and characterization of silver nanoparticles fabricated using *Anisomeles indica*: Mosquitocidal potential against malaria, dengue and Japanese encephalitis vectors. *Exp. Parasitol.* 161, 40–47.
- Govindarajan, M., Sivakumar, R., 2012. Adulticidal and repellent properties of indigenous plant extracts against *Culex quinquefasciatus* and *Aedes aegypti* (Diptera: Culicidae). *Parasitol. Res.* 110, 1607–1620.
- Govindarajan, M., Sivakumar, R., Rajeswary, M., Veerakumar, K., 2013. Mosquito larvicidal activity of thymol from essential oil of *Coleus aromaticus* Benth. against *Culex tritaeniorhynchus*, *Aedes albopictus*, and *Anopheles subpictus* (Diptera: Culicidae). *Parasitol. Res.* 112, 3713–3721.
- Jyoti, K., Baunthiyal, M., Singh, A., 2016. Characterization of silver nanoparticles synthesized using *Urtica dioica* Linn. leaves and their synergistic effects with antibiotics. *J. Rad. Res. App. Sci.* 9, 217–227.
- Kamaraj, C., Rahuman, A.A., Bagavan, A., 2008. Antifeedant and larvicidal effects of plant extracts against *Spodoptera litura* (F.), *Aedes aegypti* L. and *Culex quinquefasciatus* Say. *Parasitol. Res.* 103, 325–331.
- Kantrao, S., Ravindra, M.A., Akbar, S.M.D., Kamala Jayanthi, P.D., Venkataraman, A., 2017. Effect of biosynthesized Silver nanoparticles on growth and development of *Helicoverpa armigera* (Lepidoptera: Noctuidae): Interaction with midgut protease. *J. Asia-Pac. Entomol.* 20, 583–589. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.aspen.2017.03.018>.
- Karthika, V., Arumugam, A., Gopinath, K., Kaleeswaran, P., Govindarajan, M., Alharbi, N.S., Kadaikunnan, S., Khaled, J.M., Benelli, G., 2017. *Guazuma ulmifolia* bark-synthesized Ag, Au and Ag/Au alloy nanoparticles: Photocatalytic potential, DNA/protein interactions, anticancer activity and toxicity against 14 species of microbial pathogens. *J. Photochem. Photobiol. B. Biol.* 167, 189–199.
- Krishnappa, K., Elumalai, K., 2014. Mosquitocidal activity of indigenous plants of Western Ghats, *Achras sapota* Linn. (Sapotaceae) and *Cassia auriculata* L. (Fabaceae) against common malarial vector, *Anopheles stephensi* Liston (Culicidae: Diptera). *J. Coas. Life Med.* 2, 402–410.
- Krishnappa, K., Elumalai, K., 2012a. Chemical composition, larvicidal and ovidical activities of essential oil from *Clausena excavata* against armyworm, *Spodoptera litura* (Fab.) (Lepidoptera :Noctuidae). *Asian Pac. J Trop. Biomed.* 1–6.



- Krishnappa, K., Elumalai, K., 2012b. Larvicidal and ovicidal activities of *Chloroxylon swietenia* (Rutaceae) essential oils against *Spodoptera litura* (Lepidoptera: Noctuidae) and their chemical compositions. *Int. J. Cur. Res. Life Sci.* 1, 003–007.
- Krishnappa, K., Elumalai, K., 2013. Mosquitocidal properties of *Basella rubra* and *Cleome viscosa* against *Aedes aegypti* (Linn.) (Diptera : Culicidae). *Euro. Rev. Med. Pharmacol. Sci.* 17, 1273–1277.
- Krishnappa, K., Mathivanan, T., Elumalai, K., Anandan, A., Govindarajan, M., Mathivanan, T., 2010a. Chemical composition and larvicidal and ovicidal activity of essential oil from *Clausena dentata* against armyworm, *Spodoptera litura* (Fab.) (Lepidoptera : Noctuidae). *Int. J. Rec. Sci. Res.* 8, 188–203.
- Krishnappa, K., Elumalai, K., Anandan, A., Govindarajan, M., Mathivanan, T., 2010b. Insecticidal properties of *Thymus persicus* essential oil and their chemical composition against armyworm, *Spodoptera litura* (fab.) (lepidoptera : noctuidae). *Int. J. Rec. Sci. Res.* 8, 170–176.
- Krishnappa, K., Elumalai, K., Dhanasekaran, S., Gokulakrishnan, J., 2012. Larvicidal and phytochemical properties of *Adansonia digitata* against medically important human malarial vector mosquito *Anopheles stephensi* (Diptera: Culicidae). *J. Vect. Bor. Dis.* 49, 86–90.
- Krishnappa, K., Mathivanan, T., Elumalai, K., 2013. Field evaluation of Plant Oil Formulations (POFs) against the armyworm *Spodoptera litura* (Fab.) with special reference to pest -predator population in groundnut ecosystem (Lepidoptera: Noctuidae). *Int. J. Interdis. Res.* 2, 30–39.
- Kumar, B., Smita, K., Cumbal, L., Debut, A., 2017. Green synthesis of silver nanoparticles using Andean blackberry fruit extract. *Saudi J. Biol. Sci.* 24, 45–50.
- Mathivanan, T., Govindarajan, M., Elumalai, K., Krishnappa, K., Ananthan, A., 2010. Mosquito larvicidal and phytochemical properties of *Ervatamia coronaria* Stapf. (Family: Apocynaceae). *J. Vector Borne Dis.* 47, 178–180.
- Misra, H.P., 2014. Role of Botanicals, Biopesticides and Bioagents in Integrated Pest Management. in *Odisha Review* (College of Agriculture, Bhubaneswar, 2014), pp. 62–67.
- Mkindi, A.G., Tembo, Y., Mbega, E.R., Medvecky, B., Kendal-Smith, A., Farrell, I.W., Patrick, A.N., Steven, R.B., Stevenson, P.C., 2019. Phytochemical analysis of *Tephrosia vogelii* across East Africa reveals three chemotypes that influence its use as a pesticidal plant. *Plants* 8, 1–12.
- Morejón, B., Pilaquinga, F., Domenech, F., Ganchala, D., Debut, A., Neira, M., 2018. Larvicidal activity of silver nanoparticles synthesized using extracts of *Ambrosia arborescens* (Asteraceae) to control *Aedes aegypti* L. (Diptera: Culicidae). *J. Nano.* 2018, 1–8.
- Mungenge, C., Zimudzi, C., Zimba, M., Nhwatiwa, T., 2014. Phytochemical screening, cytotoxicity and insecticidal activity of the fish poison plant *Synaptolepis altermifolia* Oliv. (Thymelaeaceae). *J. Pharm. Phytochem.* 2, 15–19.
- Muthukumar, U., Govindarajan, M., Rajeswary, M., 2015. Mosquito larvicidal potential of silver nanoparticles synthesized using *Chomelia asiatica* (Rubiaceae) against *Anopheles stephensi*, *Aedes aegypti*, and *Culex quinquefasciatus* (Diptera: Culicidae). *Parasitol. Res.* 114, 989–999.
- Namin, F.R., Naseria, B., Razmjou, J., 2014. Nutritional performance and activity of some digestive enzymes of the cotton bollworm, *Helicoverpa armigera*, in response to seven tested bean cultivars. *J. Ins. Sci.* 14, 1–18.
- Ndikau, M., Noah, N.M., Andala, D.M., Masika, E., 2017. Green synthesis and characterization of silver nanoparticles using *Citrullus lanatus* fruit rind extract. *Int. J. Ana. Chem.* 2017, 1–9.
- Negi, B.S., Dave, B.P., 2010. In Vitro antimicrobial activity of *Acacia catechu* and its phytochemical analysis. *Ind. J. Microbiol.* 50, 369–374.
- Nweze, E.L., Okafor, J.I., Njoku, O., 2004. Antimicrobial activities of methanolic extracts of *Trema guineensis* (Schumm and Thorn) and *Morinda Lucida* Benth used in Nigerian. *Biol. Res.* 2, 39–46.
- Oves, M., Aslam, M., Rauf, M.A., Qayyum, S., Qari, H.A., Khan, M.S., Alam, M.Z., Tabrez, S., Pugazhendhi, A., Ismail, I.M., 2018. Antimicrobial and anticancer activities of silver nanoparticles synthesized from the root hair extract of *Phoenix dactylifera*. *Mat. Sci. Eng. C.* 89, 429–443.
- Patel, J.D., Kumar, V., Bhatt, S.A., 2009. Antimicrobial screening and phytochemical analysis of the resin part of *Acacia catechu*. *Pharma. Biol.* 47, 34–37.
- Paulraj, M.G., Ignacimuthu, S., Gandhi, M.R., Shaajahan, A., Ganesan, P., Packiam, S.M., Al-Dhabi, N.A., 2017. Comparative studies of Tripolyphosphate and Glutaraldehyde cross-linked chitosan-botanical pesticide nanoparticles and their agricultural applications. *Int. J. Biol. Macromol.* 104, 1813–1819.
- Pilaquinga, F., Morejón, B., Ganchala, D., Morey, J., Piña, N., Debut, A., Neira, M., 2019. Green synthesis of silver nanoparticles using *Solanum mammosum* L. (Solanaceae) fruit extract and their larvicidal activity against *Aedes aegypti* L. (Diptera: Culicidae). *PLoS ONE* 14, e0224109.
- Pirtarighat, S., Ghannadnia, M., Baghshahi, S., 2018. Green synthesis of silver nanoparticles using the plant extract of *Salvia spinosa* grown in vitro and their antibacterial activity assessment. *J. Nano. Chem.* <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40097-018-0291-4>.
- Rahman, M.A., Sultana, P., Islam, M.S., Mahmud, M.T., Rashid, M.M.O., Hossen, F., 2016. Comparative antimicrobial activity of *Areca catechu* nut extracts using different extracting solvents. *Bangladesh J. Microbiol.* 31, 19–23.
- Rajesh, W.R., Jaya, R.L., Niranjan, S.K., Vijay, D.M., Sahelebrao, B.K., 2009. Phyto synthesis of silver nanoparticles using *Gliricidia sepium* (Jaeq). *Curr. Nanosci.* 5, 117–122.
- Ramesh, S., Grijalva, M., Debut, A., De la Torre, B., Albericio, F., Cumbal, L., 2016. Peptides conjugated to silver nanoparticles in biomedicine—a “value-added” phenomenon. *Biomater. Sci.* 4, 1713–1725.
- Rautela, A., Rani, J., Debnath (Das), M., 2019. Green synthesis of silver nanoparticles from *Tectona grandis* seeds extract: characterization and mechanism of antimicrobial action on different microorganisms. *J. Anal. Sci. Technol.* 10, 1–10.
- Riaz, B., Zahoor, M.K., Zahoor, M.A., Majeed, H.N., Javed, I., Ahmad, A., Jabeen, F., Zuhussnain, M., Sultana, K., 2018. Toxicity, phytochemical composition, and enzyme inhibitory activities of some indigenous weed plant extracts in fruit fly, *Drosophila melanogaster*. *Evidence-Bas. Comp. Alt. Med.* 2018, 1–11.
- Roy, A., Bulut, O., Some, S., Mandal, A.K., Yilmaz, M.D., 2019. Green synthesis of silver nanoparticles: biomolecule-nanoparticle organizations targeting antimicrobial activity. *RSC Advances* 9, 2673–2702.
- Satyavani, K., Ramanathan, T., Gurudeeban, S., 2011. Plant mediated synthesis of biomedical silver nanoparticles by leaf extract of *Citrullus colosynthis*. *Res. J. Nano. Technol.* 1, 95–101.
- Senthilkumar, P.K., Reetha, D., 2009. Screening of antimicrobial properties of certain Indian medicinal plants. *J. Phytol.* 1, 193–198.
- Shanmuganathan, R., Mubarak Ali, D., Prabakar, D., Muthukumar, H., Thajuddin, N., Kumar, S.S., Pugazhendhi, A., 2018. An enhancement of antimicrobial efficacy of biogenic and ceftriaxone-conjugated silver nanoparticles: green approach. *Environ. Sci. Poll. Res.* 25, 10362–10370.
- Sola, P., Mvumi, B.M., Ogendo, J.O., Mponda, O., Kamanula, J.F., Nyirenda, S.P., Belmain, S.R., Stevenson, P.C., 2014. Botanical pesticide production, trade and regulatory mechanisms in sub-Saharan Africa: making a case for plant-based pesticidal products. *Food Sec.* 6, 369–384.
- Stohs, S.J., Bagchi, D., 2015. Antioxidant, anti-inflammatory, and chemoprotective properties of *Acacia catechu* heartwood extracts. *Phyto. Res.* 29, 818–824.
- Suresh, S., Karthikeyan, S., Jayamoorthy, K., 2016. FTIR and multivariate analysis to study the effect of bulk and nano copper oxide on peanut plant leaves. *J. Sci. Adv. Mater. Dev.* 1, 343–350.
- Sutthanont, N., Attrapadung, S., Nuchprayoon, S., 2019. Larvicidal activity of synthesized silver nanoparticles from *Curcuma zedoaria* essential oil against *Culex quinquefasciatus*. *Insects* 10, 1–11.
- Veerakumar, K., Govindarajan, M., Rajeswary, M., Muthukumar, U., 2014. Mosquito larvicidal properties of silver nanoparticles synthesized using *Heliotropium indicum* (Boraginaceae) against *Aedes aegypti*, *Anopheles stephensi*, and *Culex quinquefasciatus* (Diptera: Culicidae). *Parasitol. Res.* 113, 2363–2373.
- Vizuete, K.S., Brajesh, K., Katherine, G., Alexis, D., Luis, C., 2017. Shora (*Capparis petiolaris*) fruit mediated green synthesis and application of silver nanoparticles. *Green Process Synth.* 6, 23–30.
- Zahid, S.M.A., Arshad, M., Murtaza, G., Ali, S., Aaqib, M., Yousaf, R.W., Hussain, S., 2016. Synergistic effect of plant extracts with synthetic insecticides against citrus mealy bug *Planococcus citri* (Pseudococcidae : Homoptera). *J. Agric. Soc. Stud.* 1, 1–7.
- Zia, F., Ghafoor, N., Iqbal, M., Mehboob, S., 2016. Green synthesis and characterization of silver nanoparticles using *Cydonia oblong* seed extract. *Appl. Nano.* 6, 1023–1029.