

## EVALUATION OF ETHANOLIC EXTRACT OF *BACCHARIS GENISTELLOIDES* AGAINST PLAGUES OF STORED GRAINS.

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It is estimated that the damage caused by corn plagues in Brazil reach 10% of the amount of stored grains. The insects responsible for such loss are, among others, *Sitophilus zeamais*, *Tribolium castaneum*, *Sitophilus orizae*, *Sitotroga cerealella* and *Rhyzopertha dominica*.

New ecologically recommendable techniques have been searched in order to discover a natural insecticide. Studies of plants biological activities can lead to the combat of this plagues by direct application of natural compounds or derivatives.

The bioguided study of crude ethanolic extract of *Baccharis genistelloides* led to obtain two active fractions. One was active against *T. castaneum* (60% mortality) and other against *R. dominica* (70% mortality).

Mortality was observed 48h after ventral topical application using a stereomicroscope and efficacy (%) was calculated using known Abbot procedure.

On the other hand, the phytochemical fractionation of stems from *Baccharis genistelloides* allowed the isolation of sitosterol/stigmasterol mixture,  $\beta$ -amyrin and a clerodane-type diterpene, previously isolated from the same species.

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