

Editor's comment :

- First of all, the manuscript describes one and rather simple experiment, and results obtained are just a starting point for further research, so it may be considered only as a Short research article.
- I have doubts regarding statistical analysis. The authors wrote that experiments were performed in 4 replicates (line 100). If yes, the results presented in Figure 2 and 3 should contain standard deviation of averages. Other problem concerns the sentence 'The evaluation of insecticidal action of neem powder resulted in significant differences ($P < 0.1$) in the comparison between the mortality curves of all doses with the control treatment, even though in some doses the observed difference was unexpressive (Figure 3).' (lines 147-150). Firstly, were all differences in all time points statistically significant? I have doubts. Secondly, $P < 0.1$ is not acceptable in biological sciences. Differences can be considered in the biological sciences as statistically significant only at the level of at least $P \leq 0.05$. Statistical analysis must be performed again and the result of statistical analysis at $P \leq 0.05$ must be marked directly in graphs. Usually it is done by asterisks or letters, depending on statistical tests used for evaluation of the differences.
- Table 1 must be removed, because repeats data which can be easily read from Figure 3.
- If the manuscript is submitted to international, English-language journal, it cannot contain references written in other than English. Some references cited in the manuscript are written in Portuguese (I guess), so they are not available to assessing by reviewers, editors or readers who do not know Portuguese. Thus all these references must be removed from the manuscript. Moreover, list of references must be prepared precisely according to requirements of the Journal.
- According to the Journal requirements COMPETING INTERESTS and AUTHORS' CONTRIBUTIONS should be added.
- Line 136. Instead of 'Sheets' it should be 'Leaves'.

Author's feedback :

- The authors accept the publication in the form of Short research article.
- For questions about statistical analysis. We are sending the summary of the analysis, showing the statistical difference ($P < 0.01$).

	Mortality curves	DF	Chi-square	P value
Leaves	0% – 0.25%	1	16.03	<0.0001**
	0% – 0.50%	1	19.89	<0.0001**
	0% – 0.75%	1	14.31	0.0002**
	0% – 1.0%	1	36.21	<0.0001**
Fruits	0% – 0.25%	1	22.85	< 0.0001**
	0% – 0.50%	1	9.119	0.0025**
	0% – 0.75%	1	13.54	0.0002**
	0% – 1.0%	1	10.82	0.0010**
Bark	0% – 0.25%	1	11.10	0.0009**
	0% – 0.50%	1	7.472	0.0063**
	0% – 0.75%	1	8.645	0.0033**
	0% – 1.0%	1	14.46	0.0001**
Mixture (Leaves + Fruits + Bark)	0% – 0.25%	1	17.86	< 0.0001**
	0% – 0.50%	1	21.60	< 0.0001**
	0% – 0.75%	1	32.55	< 0.0001**
	0% – 1.0%	1	18.01	< 0.0001**

- The authors have removed Table 1.
- The reference list has been prepared with the journal requirements. The cited articles are part of the experimental method and the bibliographic foundation of the article.
- COMPETING INTERESTS: Authors declare that no competing interests exist.
- AUTHORS' CONTRIBUTIONS: This work was carried out in a partnership of all authors. It comprises the undergraduate thesis of the first author, Eduardo Pereira de Sousa Neto, who carried out the research in the laboratory and wrote the text with the authors Alex Beú Santos and José Lucas Guilherme Santos. The authors Anderson Bruno Anacleto de Andrade, EwertonMarinho Costa, Patricio Borges Maracajá, and ThiagoAlvesPimenta contributed with the statistical analysis and as advisors for the writing and bibliographic revision of the manuscript.