

Chapter 8

Role of Botanicals in Termite Management

Syed Kamran Ahmad, Natalie Dale-Skey, and Md. Aslam Khan

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Abstract Plant-derived pesticides (botanical) deliver a potential alternative to highly hazardous synthetic pesticides for insect pest control. They can be derived by leaves, floral system, fruits or seeds, wood, and/or roots. The active chemical compounds are extracted via drying, grinding, and mixing the plant parts in suitable solvents. Some of the well-known botanical pesticides are pyrethrin, rotenone, sab-

S.K. Ahmad (✉)

Centre for Environmental Research and Studies (CERS), Jazan University,
Jazan, Saudi Arabia
e-mail: entosaiif@rediffmail.com

N. Dale-Skey

The Natural History Museum, London, UK

M.A. Khan

Department of Biology, Faculty of Science, Jazan University, Jazan, Saudi Arabia

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adilla, nicotine, ryanodine, etc. Little attention has been paid to explore the use of botanicals against termites. Most of the studies are limited to the extraction of plant chemicals with water and methanol and to the application against termites to assess their killing potential. The botanical bioassays against termites seem incomplete because either some aerial parts like leaves, fruits, seeds, and stems or roots have been utilized alone. Similarly, oil extraction and plant crude extracts were not assessed for the same plants. Isolation and synthesis of active compound are also very rare. In this chapter, we review the properties of various plant parts and their potential role in termite management, highlighting the gaps concerning the available informations.

Keywords Termite • Botanical insecticides • Resin • Essential oils

8.1 Introduction

Insect pest management relies heavily on synthetic chemicals. Calendar-based and non-judicious use of these pesticides for the control of agricultural and urban insect pests has created severe environmental hazards. Excess use of synthetic pesticides resulted in phytotoxicity, mammalian toxicity, pesticides residues, pesticide resistance in target insect pests, insect outbreaks, and increased production costs (Elango et al. 2012). Plants are well known to have a cumulative defense mechanism and to produce secondary metabolites in order to survive in the ecosystem facing insect infestations. Since immemorial times, the botanical remedies were the only options used against biting arthropods (Birkinshaw and Colquhoun 1998). Unfortunately, major scientific efforts have been directed toward the production of pharmaceuticals, cosmetics, and medicinal stuffs from plants, rather than developing botanical pesticides (Nakayama and Osbrink 2010). The deleterious effects of plant extracts on insects are manifested in several ways, including suppression of calling behavior (Khan and Saxena 1986), growth retardation (Breuer and Schmidt 1995), toxicity (Hiremath et al. 1997), oviposition deterrence (Zhao et al. 1998), feeding inhibition (Wheeler and Isman 2001), and reduction of fecundity and fertility (Muthukrishnan and Pushpalatha 2001). Frequent studies have documented the natural resistance of certain plant species to insect attacks, but most of the studies are incomplete as they were conducted without exploring up to the active compound. Also, the majority of studies are laboratory based, lacking the know-how about environmental errors. Developmental steps toward botanical insecticides are shown in Fig. 8.1.

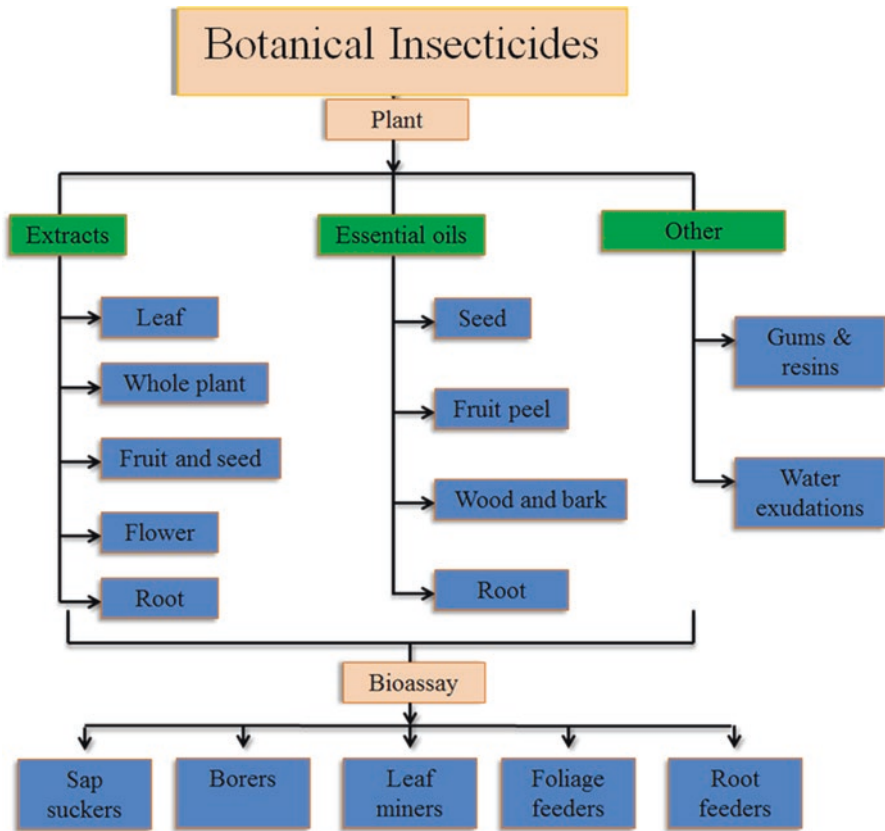


Fig. 8.1 Different plant parts for development of botanical insecticide

8.2 Popular Botanical Insecticides

Despite having a long history, the numbers of successfully isolated and commercialized botanical insecticides are countable on fingers. Rotenone, one of the oldest botanicals, is a colorless, crystalline isoflavone used as a broad-spectrum insecticide. The active chemical component was first isolated in 1895 by a French botanist, Emmanuel Geoffroy, who called it nicouline, from *Lonchocarpus nicou* (Ambrose and Harvey 1936). Later on, the Japanese chemist Nagai Nagayoshi isolated a pure crystalline compound from *Derris elliptica* in 1902 and named it “rotenone.” Rotenone acts as a pesticide, an insecticide, and a fish killer (Fimrite 2007). It is a nonselective insecticide, effective against a range of insect pests like potato beetles, cucumber beetles, flea beetles, cabbage worms, raspberry and asparagus beetles, and various other arthropods. It is known to interfere with nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide (NAD) (a coenzyme found in all living cells) during the formation of ATP (adenosine triphosphate) which is the central unit of intracellular energy and

metabolism (Hayes 1991). Rotenone can be extracted from seeds, stems, and roots of several tropical and subtropical plant species such as *Tephrosia virginiana*, *Pachyrhizus erosus*, *Deguelia utilis*, *Lonchocarpus urucu*, *Derris elliptica*, *Derris involuta*, *Mundulea sericea*, *Piscidia piscipula*, *Millettia*, and *Tephrosia* spp. (Nellis 1994; Barton and Meth-Cohn 1999; Fang and Casida 1999). The rotenone molecule shows the quality trait of being rapidly biodegraded, and the risk of hazardous residues associated with it is low.

Nicotine is another important stimulant alkaloid found among Solanaceae. It has been widely used as an insecticide in the past (Ujváry 1999; Rodgman and Perfetti 2009). Nicotine is found in the leaves of *Nicotiana tabacum*, *N. rustica*, *Duboisia hopwoodii*, and *Asclepias syriaca*, in the range of 2–14% (Metcalf 2007). The active compound was isolated in 1828 by Posselt and Reimann. It is effective against various aphid species including other soft-bodied insects (Matsumura 1975) and acts as an anti-herbivore, disrupting the feeding and consequently killing the insects. Nicotine is an extremely nerve toxic alkaloid that competes with acetylcholine neurotransmitters causing uncontrolled nerve fringe in both insects and mammals (Weinzierl and Henn 1994).

Pyrethrin is derived from pulverized dried flowers of *Chrysanthemum cinerariifolium* and acts on the nervous systems of insects. The Chinese culture has been documented to be the first to use crushed *Chrysanthemum* plants as an insecticide, as early as 1000 BC. To extract pyrethrin, the dried flowers are grinded to produce a fine powder. The extract with organic solvents contains six types of pyrethrins: pyrethrin I, pyrethrin II, cinerin I, cinerin II, jasmolin I, and jasmolin II (Metcalf 2000). It is known to affect the closure of voltage-gated sodium ion channels in the nerve cells of insects, resulting in repeated and extended nerve firings that cause hyperexcitations. This condition leads to the loss of motor coordination and paralysis, followed by the insect death. Pyrethrin is also a potent insect repellent when applied at low doses. The active ingredient is easily photodegraded under the sunlight (Stenersen 2004). After the discovery of synthetic forms of pyrethrins, the use of natural pyrethrin sharply declined. Increase in pyrethroid use resulted in several environmental hazards such as the decline in pollinators (Gemmill-Herren 2016).

The compound sabadilla is an alkaloid derived from a plant known as tropical lily, also known as cevadilla or Indian caustic barley (*Schoenocaulon officinale*) in South and Central America. The extract of dried seed contains cevadine and veratridine alkaloids which are the most active compounds that kill insects (Hayes 1982). The insecticide can be prepared by heating or through an alkaline treatment, in order to activate the active compounds, followed by seed grinding to prepare the dust (Allen et al. 1944). Sabadilla acts similar to pyrethrins and affects the voltage-dependent sodium channels at axons in the nervous systems (Bloomquist 1996). Historically, sabadilla has been used against insect pests of crops, mammals, and human beings.

Ryanodine is another natural plant compound and a slow-acting stomach poison. It proceeds from the wood of Salicaceae plants (Roskov et al. 2014). This naturally occurring insect killer was isolated from the stem wood of *Ryania speciosa*. The alkaloid ryanodine is the major toxic component, corresponding approximately to

0.2% of the total dry wood weight. Much detail on mode of action is not available. However, after ingestion, the insects stop feeding followed by a slow paralysis. The compound is known to interact with open-form ryanodine receptors, a group of calcium channels found in the muscular system of the body (Gaetano and Andrew 2015). The purified form of ryanodine is 700 times toxic as compared to the crude wood dust form (Weinzierl and Henn 1994).

8.3 Botanicals Tested Against Termites

8.3.1 Extracts

Researchers recognized many plants with anti-termite activities (Sakasegawa et al. 2003; Park and Shin 2005; Cheng et al. 2007; Ding and Hu 2010). Duke et al. (2010) suggested the term “greener termiticide” for the first time and elaborated the importance of botanicals in termite management. Plants are naturally supplied with certain chemicals like terpenoids, flavonoids, saponins, etc. or mixtures of chemicals that repel and kill termites or interfere with their gut flora (Boué and Raina 2003; Park and Shin 2005; Verma et al. 2009). Recently, few plant species such as *Pseudotsuga menziesii* (Mirb.), *Lysiloma seemanii* Britton & Rose, *Tabebuia guayacana* (Seem.), *Diospyros sylvatica* Roxb. (Ganapaty et al. 2004), *Curcuma aromatica* Salisb. and *Euphorbia kansui* Gan-Sui (Shi et al. 2008), *Eucalyptus globules* L., lemon grass, *Eucalyptus citriodora* (Hook.), cedar wood, clove bud and vetiver grass (Zhu et al. 2001a), *Taiwania cryptomerioides* Hay. (Chang et al. 2001), *Dodonaea viscosa* (L.) Jacq. (purple hop bush, a termite-resistant shrub), *Ocimum basilicum* L., *Cymbopogon winterianus* Jowitt, *Cinnamomum camphora* (L.) Nees and Eberm., *Rosmarinus officinalis* L. (Sbeghen et al. 2002), and *Coleus amboinicus* (Lour.) (Singh et al. 2004) have been explored for their antifeedant and termiticidal activities. Meepagala et al. (2006) isolated the active compounds “Vulgarone B” (from *Artemisia douglasiana*, Asteraceae), “cnicin” (from *Centaurea maculosa*, Asteraceae), and “apiol” (from *Ligusticum hultenii*, Apiaceae) that significantly caused mortality to subterranean termites in laboratory bioassays. Vulgarone B, cnicin, and apiol also possess other biological activities such as phytotoxic and antifungal properties, suggesting the ecological importance of secondary metabolites in these plants (Meepagala et al. 2003). These compounds reflect the importance of plant secondary metabolites in natural defense mechanisms.

8.3.1.1 Leaf Extracts

Plant leaves are one of the major flavonoid reservoirs with number of attributes. Alshehry et al. (2014) found hexane leaf extract of plants, namely, *Rhazya stricta* Decne, *Lantana camara* L., *Ruta chalepensis* L., and *Heliotropium bacciferum*

Forssk., as promising against the subterranean termite *Psammotermes hybostoma* (Desneux). Yuan and Hu (2012) also reported the repellent, antifeedant, and toxic activities of *Lantana camara* leaf extract against *Reticulitermes flavipes*. Hexane and methanol leaf extracts of *Juniperus* sp. also showed effective performance against termites (Adams et al. 1988). Addisu et al. (2014) used water extracts of *Azadirachta indica* and *Jatropha curcas* leaves against *Macrotermes* spp. with satisfactory results. Similarly, Grace and Yates (1992) discovered Margosan-O (a neem insecticide formulation) with 0.3% azadirachtin and 14% neem oil, highly toxic against the subterranean termite. The leaf extract of *Flourensia cernua* with hexane, diethyl ether, and ethanol showed a high degree of termite toxicity (Tellez et al. 2001). Sharma et al. (1999) studied the toxic effects of six plants, viz., *Acorus calamus*, *L. camara*, *Parthenium hausteneum*, *Pongamia glabra*, *J. curcas*, and *Tagetes erecta*, for their toxic action against *Odontotermes obesus* and reported *A. calamus* rhizomes and aerial parts of *T. erecta* as the most toxic. Thambidurai (2002) achieved the successful prevention of termites for up to 50 days with the use of fermented leaf extracts of *Musa paradisiaca*. Fokialakis et al. (2006) reported *Echinops* sp. as most effective against termites, out of 220 crude extracts tested. A 5% chloroform extract of *L. camara* var. *aculeata* was effective against termites (Verma and Verma 2006), whereas the leaf extract of *Detarium microcarpum* with methanol appeared as an effective antifeedant. Adedeji et al. (2017) treated *Triplochiton scleroxylon* and *Vitex doniana* woods with stem bark and leaf extract compounds of henna (*Lawsonia inermis* Linn.) and reported a reduction in the attack of termites. Shiberu et al. (2013) observed 100% termite mortality with leaf extracts of *N. tabacum* and *Phytolacca dodecandra* after 24 h. Elango et al. (2012) further extended the list of anti-termite plants with *Andrographis lineata* Wallich, *Aristolochia bracteolata* Lam. (Aristolochiaceae), *Datura metel* L. (Solanaceae), and *Eclipta prostrata* L. (Asteraceae).

8.3.1.2 Root Extracts

The toxic and repellent effect of *Zingiber officinale*, *Allium sativum*, *Dennettia tripetala*, and *Capsicum annuum*, as mixed and individual extracts, against *Macrotermes bellicosus* was studied under laboratory and field conditions. All extracts appeared promising, but the mixture of *Z. officinale* with *A. sativum* was the most toxic (Cynthia et al. 2016). Ganapaty et al. (2004) extracted quinines using chloroform from roots of *Diospyros sylvatica* which exhibited high toxicity against *Odontotermes obesus*. *Jatropha curcas* is another plant with insecticidal, molluscicidal, and fungicidal properties (Nwosu and Okafor 1995; Liu et al. 1997; Solsoloy and Solsoloy 1997). The root, stem, and bark solvent extracts of *Jatropha* exhibited potential termiticidal effects (Verma et al. 2013).

8.3.1.3 Fruit and Seed Extracts

The potentiality of plant seeds and fruit peels as termiticides has been investigated across the globe. The seeds of Indian neem tree, *Azadirachta indica*, are a major source of botanical insecticides. They contain many azadirachtin analogs, dominantly “azadirachtin A,” with the remaining analogs sharing a little efficacy (Duke et al. 2010). Hexane extract of *Xylopia aethiopica* fruits and aqueous methanol extract of its seeds were studied for their antifeedant activity against workers of *Reticulitermes speratus*. The crude extract exhibited strong antifeedant activity at 1% concentration. Further isolation of hexane extracts resulted in the discovery of six ent-kaurane diterpenes of which ent-kaur-16-en-19-oic acid exhibited the strongest antifeedant activity against termites (Lajide et al. 1995). Addisu et al. (2014) found that seed extracts in water of *Maesa lanceolata*, *Chenopodium ambrosioides*, and *Vernonia hymenolepis* were effective against *Macrotermes* sp. Escoubas et al. (1995) prepared n-hexane and methanolic seed extracts of *Aframomum melegueta* and isolated various compounds. Among them, [6]-gingerol and [6]-shogoal showed the strongest termite antifeedant activity. Verma et al. (2011, 2013) observed 100% termite mortality with water extracts of nonedible oil seed cake of *J. curcas*. A 100% mortality of termites was also recorded with seed extract of Birbira (*Militia ferruginea*) after 24 h (Shiberu et al. 2013).

8.3.1.4 Wood Extracts

There are few woody plants showing resistance against termite attacks, due to the presence of some active components. These have been isolated and studied for their efficacy against various insect pests. The sapwood extracts of sugar pine, *Pinus lambertiana* Dougl., and related compounds were found having a feeding-deterrent effect against the western drywood termite, *Incisitermes minor* (Hagen) (Scheffrahn and Rust 1983). Similarly, the heartwood extract of *Taxodium distichum* (L.) Rich exhibited feeding deterrence against *Coptotermes formosanus* Shiraki (Scheffrahn et al. 1988). Besides promising termiticidal activity of leaf extracts, the fresh heartwood sawdusts of 12 *Juniperus* species exhibited termiticidal activities (Adams et al. 1988). *Juniperus procera* contains cedrol and cedrene, potentially toxic against termites (Kinyanjui et al. 2000). The heartwoods of *Erismia* sp., *Tabebuia* sp., and *Chamaecyparis thyoides* exhibit an apparent natural resistance to *Reticulitermes flavipes* (Arango et al. 2006). Teak wood and heartwood of *Caesalpinia echinata* Lam. are naturally resistant to termite attacks (Roszaini et al. 2006; Silva et al. 2007). The wood extract of *Catalpa bignonioides* contains four toxic compounds, catalponol, epicatalponol, catalponone, and catapalactone, of which the latter two were the most effective against *R. flavipes* (McDaniel 1992).

The heartwood of *Lonchocarpus castilloi* Standley is a source of some flavonoids such as castillen D and castillen E and showed dose-dependent feeding deterrence against *Cryptotermes brevis* (Walker) (Reyes-Chilpa et al. 1995). Toxifolin and quercetin isolated from Japanese larch wood might be useful as termite control agents (Ohmura et al. 2000). Also, the water extracts of Japanese larch wood,

containing flavonoids in large quantities, proved to be an excellent feeding deterrent against termites (Chen et al. 2004). Two compounds, cedrol and α -cadinol, isolated from heartwood of *Taiwania cryptomerioides*, showed a high anti-termite potential (Chang et al. 2001). Boue and Raina (2003) used five plant flavonoids, genistein, biochanin A, apigenin, quercetin, and glyceollin, for their impact on life attributes of termite *C. formosanus*. Apigenin proved to be the most fatal among all, while biochanin A was also noticed to reduce the fecundity of subterranean termites. The black heartwood of *Camellia japonica* holds some sesquiterpenes, showing termiticidal activity against *C. formosanus* (Arihara et al. 2004). Heartwood of white cypress pine *Callitris glaucophylla* exhibited the potential termite repellency (Watanabe et al. 2005). Finally, the wood vinegar from mixed wooden chips of *C. japonica*, *Pseudotsuga menziesii*, *Quercus serrata*, and *Pinus densiflora* showed high toxicity against *R. speratus* (Yatagai et al. 2002).

8.3.2 Plant Resins

Dipterocarp (Dipterocarpaceae) timber plants are resin exudation trees. Almost all Southeast Asian dipterocarp timbers exude resins (Schulte and Schone 1996). These timber trees exhibit natural resistance against insect pests such as termites and cause substantial mortality to insects feeding on them (Moi 1980). Wood resins of the dipterocarp timber trees contain a variety of terpenoids (Diaz et al. 1966; Bisset et al. 1971). The dipterocarps with sesquiterpenes exhibit greater degree of defense against insects (Messer et al. 1990). The crude resin of *Dipterocarpus kerrii*, containing four sesquiterpenoids closely related to α -gurjunene, is responsible for termiticidal activity against *Zootermopsis angusticollis* (Richardson et al. 1989). Richardson et al. (1991) isolated two uncharacterized sesquiterpenes (1 and 20), from *D. kerrii* resin. Sesquiterpene 20 was more effective against *Neotermes delbergiae* as compared to sesquiterpene 1. Chemical components demonstrating insecticidal properties were isolated and identified from crude resins of many *Dipterocarpus* species. The compounds, viz., alloaromadendrene, humulene, and caryophyllene, are most effective against Southeast Asian termites *Neotermes* sp. (Messer et al. 1990). Sen-Sarma (1963) and Sen-Sarma and Chatterjee (1968) found *Shorea robusta* highly resistant to *Heterotermes indicola* and *Microcerotermes beesoni*. Particle boards made from the wood of *Shorea* spp. exhibited natural protection from *Cryptotermes cynocephalus* (Moi 1980).

8.3.3 Plant Essential Oils

Plant-derived essential oils are mixtures of natural organic compounds responsible for plants' defense against general herbivores (Lima et al. 2013). Also, the essential oils derived from plants may be considered as the most efficient alternative in

controlling insect pests like termites (Alavijeh et al. 2014). The active compounds of essential oils are highly volatile and of short persistence in the environment because of their low molecular weights (Isman 2006). Hence, these oil-based compounds appear environmentally safe and as a feasible alternative to the hazardous insecticides used in pest control (Lima et al. 2010). Various oils from plants such as clove, peppermint, etc. are used by pest control operators against cockroaches, ants, and termites (Isman et al. 2011). Bultman et al. (1979) tested 42 tropical African woods and suggested that insecticidal and termiticidal activities of essential oils may be due to the volatile compounds they contain (Bultman et al. 1979). Pandey et al. (2012) reported a strong termiticidal activity of essential oils extracted from lemongrass (*Cymbopogon citratus*), eucalyptus (*Eucalyptus globulus*), clove (*Syzygium aromaticum*), oregano (*Origanum vulgare*), rosemary (*Rosmarinus officinalis*), cinnamon (*Cinnamomum verum*), and thyme (*Thymus vulgaris*) when tested against *Odontotermes assamensis*. Candlenut (*Aleurites moluccana*) oil, obtained by mechanical pressing of the nut from the kukui plant, was used to treat southern yellow pine (*Pinus* sp.) wood against *Coptotermes formosanus* attacks, with an excellent feeding-deterrent effect (Nakayama and Osbrink 2010). Himmi et al. (2013) applied defatted neem oil (DNO) formulation against *C. gestroi* and reported it as superior to the azadirachtin fraction (91% purity). Lima et al. (2013) tested toxicity of essential oils from *Corymbia citriodora*, *Croton sonderianus*, *Cymbopogon martini*, *Lippia alba*, *L. gracilis*, *L. sidoides*, and *Pogostemon cablin* against *Nasutitermes corniger*. All essential oils were noticed relatively toxic against workers rather than soldiers. The oils from *P. cablin* and *L. sidoides* were up to 25 times more toxic than that from *C. sonderianus*.

Scheffrahn et al. (1988) found ferruginol, manool, and nezukol, isolated from bald cypress *Taxodium distichum* L. wood, as antifeedant against *C. formosanus*. The oil extracted from marigold (*T. erecta*) and sweet orange *Citrus sinensis* proved to be an excellent repellent against *O. obesus*. The marigold oil exhibited maximum repellency, followed by sweet orange oil (Verma et al. 2016). Nagnan and Clement (1990) also studied the commercially available geranylinalool for toxicity against termites. Carter et al. (1978) and Ikeda et al. (1978) isolated the essential oil components, viz., chamaecynone, an acetylenic terpenoid from false cypress *Chamaecyparis pisifera*; 7-methyljuglone, a naphthoquinone from American persimmon *Diospyros virginiana*; and torreyal from Japanese kaya, *Torreya nucifera*, and successfully tested their toxicity against termites. Adams (1991) discovered the repellent activity of essential oils of cedar wood, *Litsea cubeba*, and *Cinnamomum* sp. against termites, later reconfirmed by Lin and Yin (1995). The terpenoids of essential oils, viz., cedrol, citral, citronellal, eugenol, ferruginol, geraniol, limonene, manool, nezukol, and piperitone, are the repelling agents against subterranean termites (Sharma et al. 1994; Cornelius et al. 1997). Zhu et al. (2001b) found nootkatone (sesquiterpene) and other terpenoids in vetiver oil as highly efficient repellents and toxicants against subterranean termites.

Elango et al. (2012) investigated efficacy of solvent extracts of eight medicinal plants including *T. erecta* against the subterranean termite *C. formosanus*. All the crude extracts showed anti-termite activity in a dose-dependent manner and

exhibited significant activity after 24 and 48 h of exposure. Data suggested they were a novel, safer, and renewable source of natural wood preservatives and termiticides. A field study was conducted by Aschalew et al. (2008) to evaluate the efficacy of 11 pesticidal plants against *Microtermes adschaggae* on hot pepper crops. They recorded lower percentages of damaged plants, higher stand counts at harvest, and higher amounts of dry pod yields with *T. minuta*. Similar results were obtained by Ahmed and Abraham (2014) on hot pepper. Aschalew et al. (2005) also reported that *Croton macrostachyus* and *T. minuta* have repellent properties against termites. Raina et al. (2007) used citrus peel and orange oil extract to control *C. formosanus*. They reported that d-limonene (92% constituent of orange oil extract) was responsible for termite mortality. Acda (2009) reported antifeedant, anti-tunneling, repellent, and termiticidal activities of *J. curcas* oil against *C. vastator*. Ede and Demissie (2013) obtained 100% termite mortality with *Jatropha* seed oil in 48 h against *Odontotermes obesus*. Singh and Kumar (2008) tested the leaf, root, and bark of *J. curcas* and oils of *T. erecta* and *Citrus sinensis* against *O. obesus* and *Microcerotermes beesoni* that showed significant losses in termite body weights.

8.4 Plant Extracts and Termite Gut Microbes

Apart from affecting the life and development of termites, some plant compounds are able to disrupt the activity of their gut microbes. However, studies of this kind are relatively rare. Soil treated with seeds of *Withania somnifera*, *Croton tiglium*, and *Hygrophila auriculata* disrupted the bacterial activities in the gut of *Microtermes obesi*. Seed extracts of *W. somnifera* and *H. auriculata* were noticed as highly toxic in a 6-day period. The areas of tunneling and the number of bacterial colonies were also reduced at 100% concentration of *W. somnifera* and *H. auriculata* (Ahmed et al. 2006). Three species of flagellated protists (*Spirotrichonympha leidyi*, *Holomastigotoides hartmanni*, and *Pseudotrichonympha grassii*) inhabit the hind-gut of Formosan subterranean termites (Ohkuma et al. 2000). Doolittle et al. (2007) investigated the ability of three natural products (neem extract, capsaicin, and gleditschia) to reduce their numbers together with other spirochaetes. They noticed that neem extract significantly reduced the population of *P. grassii* and spirochaetes, with most potent effects at 1 ppm concentration, causing 100% termite mortality.

8.5 Conclusion

The list of plants with pesticidal traits appears long enough, but active or principle compound responsible for their effects is just being uncovered. Most studies are confined to grinding plant parts and using them as hexane, ethanol, or water extracts. More detailed plant analyses about compounds characterizing oils extracted from wood, seeds, and bark and crude chemicals extracted from leaves, flowers, fruits,

seeds, barks, stem, and root are needed. Finally, sustainable exploitation of these natural products requires the production of more experimental data on their selectivity and/or target ranges, as most bioassays involving botanical insecticides have been only conducted thus far against a low number of termite species.

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