

Abstract

The repellency of the essential oil of the shrub *Cleome hirta* and of three identified constituents (phytol, (+)-cedrol, *n*-octacosane) was evaluated against the livestock tick, *Rhipicephalus appendiculatus* and the maize weevil, *Sitophilus zeamais*. In a tick climbing repellency bioassay, the oil exhibited repellency which, at the highest dose, was comparable to that of the commercial arthropod repellent *N,N*-diethyltoluamide (DEET). In a Y-tube olfactometer bioassay, the oil showed higher or comparable repellency against *S. zeamais* relative to DEET at all the doses tested. The potential of *C. hirta* in livestock tick and maize weevil control is discussed.