



REPELLENCY OF HYDROETHANOLIC EXTRACTS OF *RICINUS COMMUNIS* (EUPHORBIACEAE) TO *SCYPHOPHORUS ACUPUNCTATUS* (COLEOPTERA: CURCULIONIDAE) IN THE LABORATORY.

ABSTRACT

The agave snout weevil *Scyphophorus acupunctatus* Gyllenhal (Coleoptera: Curculionidae) is an ubiquitous insect and the main pest of blue tequila agave, *Agave tequilana* Weber, and other agaves. This study reports the repellent effect of the hydroethanolic extract of the castor oil plant, *Ricinus communis* L. (Euphorbiaceae) wild and 'Mirante' cultivar on the adult's behavior. Females and males visited untreated agave tissue more frequently than agave tissue treated with *R. communis* extracts. Insects visited agaves treated with seed extracts more frequently than those with leaf extracts; therefore leaves of *R. communis* deserve a closer look to identify their properties and gauge their potential use as a repellent.

<http://www.bioone.org/doi/abs/10.1653/024.095.0321>

CEPROBI - IPN

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Revista: Florida Entomologist. Volume: 95, Issue 3, pages 706-710.