

**EFFECTS OF *Ricinus communis* (CASTOR PLANT)
EXTRACT ON THE WEB-GEOMETRY
AND WEB-BUILDING BEHAVIOR OF
Argiope catenulta (ORB-WEB SPIDER).**



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ABSTRACT

The complex process of orb weaving and the actual orb web of spiders is a good subject in studying behavioral patterns. The use of the orb-web spider *Argiope catenulata* as a model organism to study the effect of the castor plant extract on the CNS. Castor seed extract was given at different concentrations by applying drops through their mouth. Web geometry was measured and counted while the web building behavior was observed and recorded. It had a strong effect on web geometry and behavior as it reaches the highest concentration. All parameters significantly changes indicating the effect of the extract on the senses of the spider except for the number of reverses and eccentricity that is known to give an insignificant result. Our observation shows that concentration affects the absorption of the toxin which affects the spiders CNS.

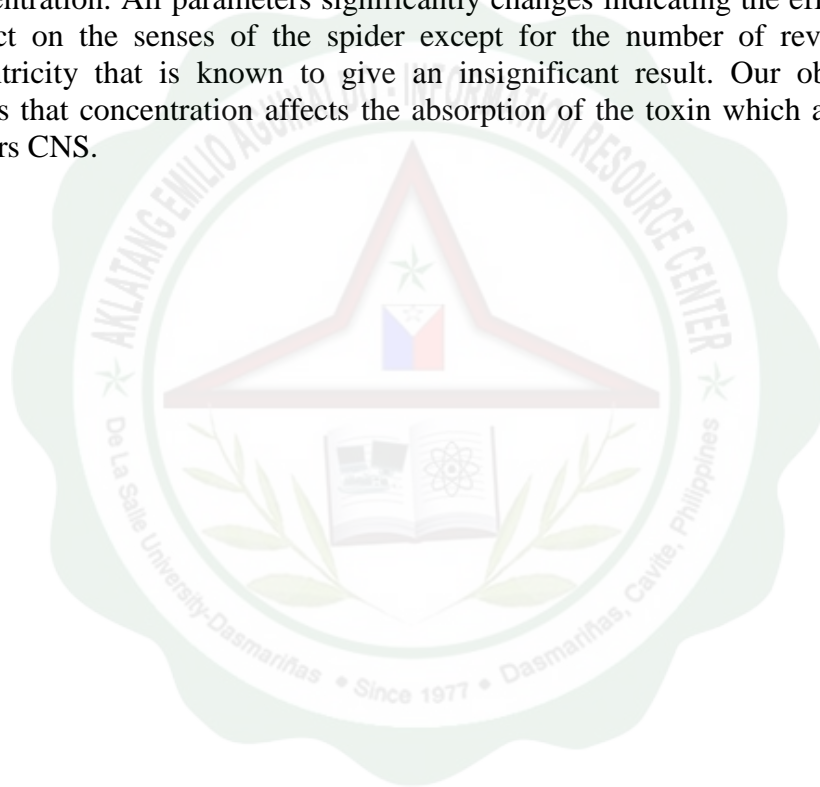


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