

Allelopathic influence of Eupatorium (*Chromolaena odorata* (L.) King and Robinson) on germination and growth of bittergourd (*Momordica charantia*)

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Received October 9, 2010 and Accepted February 11, 2011

ABSTRACT : Allelopathic influence of Eupatorium (*Chromolaena odorata* L. King and Robinson), on the germination and seedling growth of Bittergourd (*Momordica charantia* L.) was studied *in vitro* at College of Agriculture, Vellayani, Kerala. Aqueous leachate of fresh plant parts at 5 and 10 per cent concentrations had considerable negative influence on germination, plumule length, radicle length and vigour index of bittergourd. The dry weight of the seedlings was also affected significantly by the leachate and the lowest value was when treated with leaf leachate. The influence was more with higher concentrations. Decayed plant leachate showed some stimulating effect initially which however did not persist.

Key Words: Allelopathy, bittergourd (*Momordica charantia* L.), Eupatorium (*Chromolaena odorata* L. King and Robinson), inhibitory influence