

Bio-efficacy of Herbal Extracts in Controlling House Dust Mites

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KEYWORDS Mortality. Mortality Rate. Respiratory Diseases. Skin Diseases

ABSTRACT House dust mites are the most important source of allergens in domestic environment. The present investigation was undertaken with objective to test the bio-efficacy of different herbal seed extracts in controlling house dust mites among rural household of Udaipur district. Most of the rural households in the study were scheduled tribe and illiterate. Labour work was their main occupation. The findings of the study concluded that respondents were facing varied allergic diseases due to house dust mites. Some of these problems were asthma, coughing, watery eyes, sneezing, eczema, skin rashes etc. Ironically, it was quite depressing to note that rural people were totally unaware about the cause of these problems. Illiteracy, unawareness and lack of exposure were the factors responsible for this. Herbal seed extracts can be used to control house dust mites like *neem*, *karanja* and castor. These seed extracts are locally available, eco-friendly and cost effective too.