

Abstracts

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Out of nineteen Sri Lankan medicinal plant extracts tested in a *Artemia* toxicity assay none is toxic to the shrimp larvae, all showed LC_{50} 30ug/ml. The plants which showed LC_{50} 2500 ug/ml are Centella asiatica, urb, Cardiospermum halicacabum, Trim, Tinospora cordifolia Miers, Andrographis paniculata (Burm f) Nees and Munronia pumila wight. These extracts also decreases the effect of Aflatoxin B₁, to the shrimp larvae. In addition these extracts showed a survival promoting action to the shrimp in modified Artemia assay. Survival promoting plants show immunomodulating activity through the classical pathway of human complement system (17). The modified assay may be used as a preliminary test for immunomodulating activity.