AGE-DEPENDENT SUSCEPTIBILITIES OF BULINUS TRUNCATUS SNAILS TO AN AQUEOUS EXTRACT OF PULICARIA CRISPA (FORSSK.) OLIV. (ASTERACEAE) LEAVES

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Abstract. This study was carried out to investigate the potential use of the herb Pulicaria crispa in the biological control of different developmental stages of Bulinus truncatus, a major snail intermediate host of urinary schistosomiasis. Age-dependent susceptibilities of mature adult snails, immature snails, juveniles, and one-day old egg masses to aqueous extracts of Pulicaria crispa leaves collected from Khartoum (Sudan) and Riyadh (Saudi Arabia) was determined and compared. The results show the juvenile snails are the most susceptible, followed in descending order by one-day old egg masses, immature snails, and mature adult snails. The P. crispa sample collected from Riyadh was significantly more potent against B. truncatus than that collected from Khartoum, as indicated by the least (LC₅₀) and (LC₉₀) values for all B. truncatus ages.