Abstract

During the agricultural cycle comprising the months from July to December 2005, a methodology for the control of insect pests affecting the foliage of roselle crop was generated in the municipality of Chiautla de Tapia. In the course of this work, a plot located in the same municipality was used in which creole roselle was sowed according to the agricultural technology of the area. The pests were controlled by carrying out four applications of a Gliricidia sepium (Jacq.) diluted extract, alternating them with four applications of neutral soap. In order to verify the treatment effectiveness, the evaluated parameters were: infestation percentage, damage caused by insects, and production. The results show that the plot considered as control, presented an infestation of 79%, whereas the plot to which the treatment was applied, presented an infestation of 21%. As for the damages, the control plot presented 30.08% of damage per plant on average, and the treatment plot presented only 14.89%. The production in the treated plot was 793 Kg/ha, which represents a production increase of 116% with respect to the control plot. In the three parameters evaluated there were significant differences ( =0.05) among treatments. With the treatment implementation, damage to plants is avoided, and an increase in production can be observed.

Keywords
Mata rat, plant extract, damage, insects, losses.