

Review of: "Lavender oil as eco-friendly alternative to protect wood against termites without negative effect on wood properties"

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This study reports on the use of lavender oil (LO) as an alternative to existing wood preservatives. A five percent solution of commercially available LO with a hydrophobic coating was administered to spruce wood and found to be as effective as existing termiticides. However, no durability against brown rot fungus *Rhodonia placenta* was observed.

From a safety-oriented viewpoint, LO is considered effective because it is cost-effective when used against cultural properties.

LO is a sustainable material of vegetable origin, and the fact that it was found to be effective against insect damage is interesting.

Regrettably, LO has almost no effect against *Rhodonia placenta*, but it would be interesting to study its effectiveness against other fungi as well. Also, it would be an added value for LO if it has an anti-fungal effect on other fungi, including yeast and mold.

Since commercially available was employed in this study, it would be possible to add versatility to the results by finding out what kinds of compositions contribute most.

The necessity for lavender oil is not clear. I think there are other insect repellents derived from various plants, such as mint and pyrethrum. If the highly volatile components in LO were the primary factors in the efficacy, a persistence period has been still arguable.