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**LIMNAEA ACUMINATA LAMARCH (PULMONATA : LIMNAEIDAE),  
A PEST ON AZOLLA (AZOLLA PINNATA)**

Azolla, the water fern found in tropical rice fields has attracted the attention of rice agronomists as a source of organic fertiliser since it is capable of fixing atmospheric nitrogen in association with *Anabaena azolla*, a blue green alga. At the Rice Research Station, Moncompu, Kerata the snail *L. acuminata* which occurs in Kuttanad in abundance, was found to feed on the fern. Trials made on the feeding potential of this snails showed that ten numbers of adult snails released in a pot containing 25 g. of Azolla ate up the entire growth of the fern in eleven days. This indicated that this snail could become a potential threat to Azolla multiplication in Kuttanad.

സംഗ്രഹം

ലിംനേയ അക്യൂവിനേറാ എന്ന ഒച്ചു അന്തരീക്ഷ പാകൃജനകം സംഗ്രഹിക്കുവാൻ കഴിവുള്ള അസോളാപായൽ തിന്നു നശിപ്പിക്കുന്നതായി മങ്കൊമ്പു നെൽ ഗവേഷണ കേന്ദ്രത്തിൽ കാണുകയുണ്ടായി.

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