

EFFECTS OF *Jatropha curcas* BASED DIET ON GROWTH PERFORMANCE OF  
*Achachatin marginata* (Swainson)

BY

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## ABSTRACT

Effects of *Jatropha curcas* based diet on the growth performance of *Achachatina marginata* were investigated. Forty-five growing *Achachatina marginata* were randomly selected in each basket with five different treatment groups, and there were three replicates per each treatment, each comprising of three snails. The snails were fed with fresh and dry leaves of *Jatropha curcas* and with their conventional feed (pawpaw leaves). This experiment was carried out for a period of seven weeks. The result revealed that the highest total average weight gain is found with snails fed with fresh *Jatropha curcas* with pawpaw leaves with the value 1.66g, while those fed with only dry *Jatropha curcas* has the least with the value - 1.37g. Also, the average shell length and shell girth increments of snails fed with fresh *Jatropha curcas* and pawpaw leaves are of the highest value having the values 0.17cm and 0.13cm respectively, while that of those fed with only dry *Jatropha curcas* leaves are the lowest with the values -0.36cm and -0.25cm respectively. Result also shows that there is no significant mean difference in weight between fresh *Jatropha curcas* with pawpaw leaves and with only pawpaw leaves (at  $p < 0.05$ ), while there is a significant difference between it and others.