EFFECT OF ETHANOL EXTRACT OF *Poronia punctata* MYCELIA ON THE FOOD INTAKE AND LOCOMOTION OF N2 WILD STRAIN *Caenorhabditis elegans*

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ABSTRACT

MEJORADA, IAH JEYNA C., Department of Biological Sciences, College of Arts and Sciences, Central Luzon State University, Science City of Muñoz, Nueva Ecija, Philippines, **JULY 2019, EFFECT OF ETHANOL EXTRACT OF *Poronia punctata* MYCELIAL ON THE FOOD INTAKE AND LOCOMOTION OF N2 WILD STRAIN *Caenorhabditis elegans***

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Poronia punctata commonly known as nail fungus is a saprobic coprophilous species that grows in animal dung which can also grow in soil with more or less nutrients. In determining the potential fat reducing effect, the ethanol extract of its mycelia was tested in N2 wild strain of *Caenorhabditis elegans*. Nematode lethality test, pharyngeal behavior assay and locomotion assay were conducted. Results revealed a decrease in pharyngeal pumping that was recorded at 10 µg/mL (18.00 pumps per minute), the roaming locomotion increased (17.60 body bends per minute) as well as the dwelling locomotion (1.2 reversals per minute) after 120-hour post treatment application. It was also found out that at the concentration of 10 µg/mL is slightly toxic to the nematodes.

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