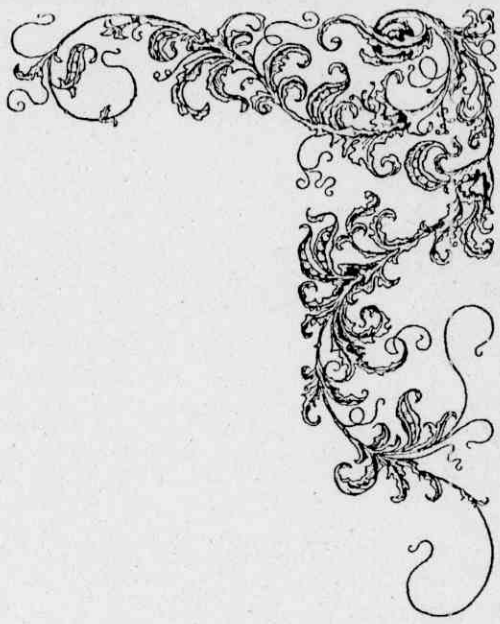
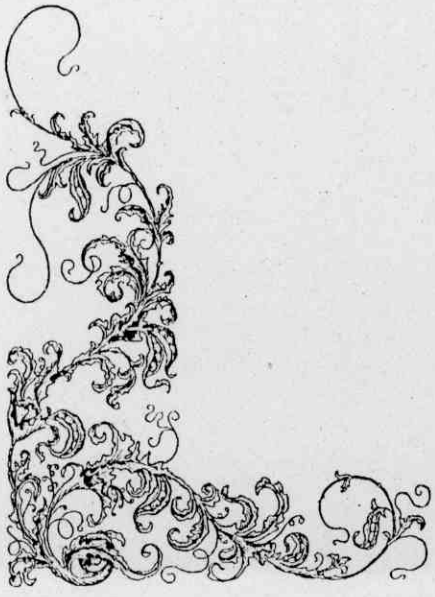


# INTRODUCTION



# INTRODUCTION

The Angoumois grain moth, *Sitotroga cerealella* (Olivier) is a serious pest of cereals in most countries and it is now a major pest of cereal grains all over the world.

The main damage is caused by the larvae, which feed internally on the grains, rendering them neither fit for human consumption nor for sowing. However, in spite of the considerable losses caused by this moth, little work has been done on it in Egypt.

Most of the studies carried out on this insect have been directed mainly towards the chemical control methods. Pirimiphos-methyl (Actellic) and malathion as organophosphorus insecticides were used as a potential protectants for grain and their products against stored product insects, **(Lavigne, 1991).**

Recently, natural plant products are presently in the focus of research efforts because of their mammalian safety and their efficacy against pest. Much research has been conducted on the effectiveness of plant products for insects control in stored grains **(Boff *et al.*, 1996).**

Promising results against stored product pests with plant extracts, dusts and oils as pest control agents were reported by several investigators (**Su, 1985 & 1989; El-Lakwah *et al.*, 1992, 1993, 1995, 1996 and 1998; Mohamed, 1997; Shemais and Al-Moajel, 2000**).

The present work investigates certain biological aspects of *S. cerealella*. Also, the effectiveness of some insecticides and extracts of certain plant seeds and leaves against the infestation of this insect species was investigated.