CHAPTER - 2  

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The Red velvet mite *T. grandissimum* is seen in the garden or open soil in the Tirunelveli district after South west (June-July) and North East monsoon rains during November – December. These mites are seasonal. There is no scientific study on the ecology, biology and therapeutic aspects of these mites. The mites can be collected twice in a year (7-10 days in each season). Hence, it is essential to collect a good number of these mites for continuous analysis. In the present study it has been planned to study the neutraceutical and therapeutic importance of this mite with an additional search on its ecology. The present study includes:

1. Effect of the extracts of red velvet mites on growth and reproduction in Swiss albino mice.
2. Effect of the extract of mites for antimicrobial assays.
3. Effect of the extracts of the mites on immunity in Swiss albino mice
4. Anti-inflammatory effect of the extracts of *T. grandissimum*
5. Eco-biology of the mites.