

Review Article

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Biodiversity of Pests of Rice in Odisha

Prakash Chandra Rath, Lotan Kumar Bose*, Hatanath Subudhi,
Srikanta Lenka and Nitiprasad N. Jambhulkar

ICAR-National Rice Research Institute Cuttack-753006, India

*Corresponding author

ABSTRACT

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Major Rice growing district of Odisha was studied pest diversity. Most of the paddy farmers face huge economic losses in paddy cultivation due to damage by insect pest. This study aims to enlist major rice pests that are present in rice fields of all major rice growing district of Odisha are explained in this detail report.

Introduction

Rice is the most important field crop and a good example of changing insect pest scenario in Odisha. After the green revolution in India, there has a constant increase in the number of insect pests, and a concomitant shift in their pest status, diversity and spread (Sain and Prakash, 2008).

It is interesting to mention that the insect pest scenario of the crop gradually changing with gradual changes in crop cultivation practices and climate change, especially the higher temperature. Several major pests have become minor and many minor pests attained

the status of major pests. There are records of many new pests shifting the host and also some invasive pests due to change their habitat (Prakash, 2013). There are many good examples of such changing insect pest scenario in rice crops.

At present the major insect pests of Rice in Odisha are as follows: Yellow stem borer (YSB): *Scirpophaga incertulas* Walker, Swarming caterpillar: *Spodoptera mauritia* Boisd., Asian rice gall midge (ARGM): *Orseolia oryzae* Wood Mason, Brown plant hopper (BPH): *Nilaparvata lugens* Stall., White backed plant hopper (WBPH): *Sogatella furcifera* Horvath, Rice hispa (RH):

Dicladispa armigera Oliv., Rice bug/ Gundhi bug/ Ear head bug: *Leptocorisa acuta* Thunb., Green leaf hopper (GLH): *Nephotettix virescens* Dist., Leaf folder (LF): *Cnaphalocrocis medinalis* Guen., Rice case worm: *Nymphula depunctalis* Guenee, Termite: *Microtermes obesi* Holm., Rice thrips: *Baliothrips biformis* Bagnall, Rice mealy bug: *Brevennis rehi* Lindinger. The infestation status of some important insect pests of rice in Odisha are given as follows.

Stem Borer	: Severe
Gall midge	: Severe
Brown plant hopper	: Medium
Green leaf hopper	: Severe
Leaf folder	: Medium
White backed plant hopper	: Low
Cut worm	: Medium
Hispa	: Low
Gundhi bug	: Low

The rice grain yield is reduced significantly due to attack of different insect pest and diseases at different stages of crop growth. Farmers are confused to take control measure at the time of infestation. To solve this problem, economic threshold levels (ETL) for important insect pests and diseases of rice have been worked out. On the basis of ETL farmer can take decision to control the insect pest and diseases in their field by chemical means.

Insect pest and diseases	Economic threshold level (ETL)
Stem borer	: 10% DH, or 1 egg mass or 1 moth/m ²
Gall midge	: 5% at active tillering stage
BPH and WBPH	: 10 insect/hill at veg. and 20/hill at late stage
Green Leaf Hopper	: 2 insect/hill in tungro, Endemic area

	and 20-30/hill for other areas
Leaf Folder	: 3 damaged leaf/hill post active tillering stage
Cut worms	: 1 leaf/hill
Gundhi bug	: 1 nymph or adult/hill
Rice Blast	: 5-10% disease severity
Brown spot	: 10% disease severity
Sheath blight	: 3-5% tillers affected with 3-4%, disease on lower leaves
Sheath rot	: 3-5% incidence on panicle bearing tillers
Bacterial leaf blight	: 5-10% leaf area damaged
Rice Tungro Disease	: 1-2 infected plants/m ²

The rice stem borers having wide distribution in almost all the rice growing countries and constitute an economically important group of pests. In Odisha, there are five predominant rice stem borer species as follows.

Yellow stem borer (YSB)	: <i>Scirphophaga incertulas</i>
White stem borer (WSB)	: <i>Scirphophaga innotata</i>
Pink stem borer (PSB)	: <i>Sesamia inferene</i>
Stripped stem borer (SSB)	: <i>Chilo polychrysus</i>
Dark headed stem borer (DSB)	: <i>Chilo suppressalis</i>

Rice gall midge, *Orseolia oryzae* remained a wide spread pest up to 1990s with emergence of six biotypes, causing serious losses in new areas like Bihar, North East state of Manipur in addition to some traditional areas of Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Kerala. Suspected biotype occurrence in two places like Warangal in A.P. and Cuttack

in Odisha was observed during 1955 (Khan and Murthy, 1955). Four biotypes of gall midge exist in India (Kalode and Bentur, 1989) and recently one more biotype from Kerala state capable of damaging the newly identified donors has been reported (Anonymous, 1994).

Gall midge Locations in India

Biotypes

GMB1	Warangal, Raipur, Sambalpur and Madurai
GMB2	Cuttack and Bhubaneswar
GMB3	Ranchi and Manipur
GMB4	Sakoli and Srikakulam
GMB5	Moncompu

Cut worms are becoming serious in many rice growing areas in the east part of the country. Recently severe damage was reported to 30,000 ha of rice in Assam. Since last few seasons, some of the cut worms like, the climbing cutworm, *Mythimna albistigma* Moore; ear cutting caterpillar *Mythimna seperata* Walker and leaf eating caterpillar *Spodoptera compta* Moore, have been regularly occurring in coastal Andhra Pradesh and the Eastern States including Odisha.

The most important cut worms of the rice crop in India is the rice swarming caterpillar *Spodoptera mauritia* which was considered as minor pest, now becoming major pest due to climate change. The rice swarming caterpillar, has acquired a status of major pest in Odisha, Bihar, Chhatisgarh and Jharkhand during *kharif*, 2007-09, 2011-12 and devastated paddy crop in early stage (Prakash *et al.*, 2009, Tanwar *et al.*, 2010 and Prakash, 2013). There was a severe outbreak of rice swarming caterpillar in Western Odisha particularly in districts of Sonapur, Bolangir, Sambalpur, Bargarh and Kalahandi in *kharif* 2008. Swarming caterpillar attack was first reported at Birmaharajapur block of Sonapur district during June, 2008 and then it spread to

Tarava, Sonapur and Binica blocks. However, the rice crop recovered from the damage due to timely application of DDVP and endosulfan insecticide. The Agalpur block of Balangir district, Padmapur block of Bargarh district and Banipadar village of Kalahandi were severely affected by this pest during *kharif* 2008. The local climatic condition mainly heavy rainfall, nearby hills, forest coverage and river might have contributed to the pest outbreak (Rath *et al.*, 2014).

The rice hispa, *Dicladyspa armigera* was a minor pest earlier has assumed the status of major pest in irrigated paddy field, lowland boro rice cultivation in West Bengal, Assam and North-East Indian states. In Odisha, hispa outbreak was reported at Bainsia, Ballav and Ambabati grampanchayat of Gondia block of Dhenkanal District during 1st week of September, 2008. About 1300 ha area was affected covering varieties like Annapurna, Pooja, Swarna and Lalat. Besides climatic factors, effect of vast areas of swampy land nearby and unweeded fields might have contributed to hispa outbreak in that locality (Rath *et al.*, 2014).

In rice, increasing incidence of mealy bugs were observed in states of Odisha, Jharkhand and West Bengal during last five year. Severe drought, bad drainage and poor soil increase the mealy bug infestation. Primarily the pest is reported to cause heavy damage in upland rice due to dry atmosphere.

The rice case worm, *Nymphula depunctalis* (Guen.) is a problem in lowland and semi-deepwater rice ecology and an important pest in vegetative stage in Odisha. Usually this pest occurs in low populations in paddy fields with standing water because of its semi aquatic mode of life cycle. It is found in irrigated and rainfed wet land environments and is more prevalent in rainy season.

There are other insect pests of regional significance such as gundhi bug and termites. These are major insect pest of upland rice ecology whereas white grubs are problems in specific upland hill rice.

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