

## EFFECTS OF POPULATION DENSITY AND HOST AVAILABILITY ON THE MIGRATION PROCESS OF BROWN PLANTHOPPER FED USING SUSCEPTIBLE AND RESISTANT RICE VARIETIES

### PENGARUH KEPADATAN POPULASI DAN KETERSEDIAAN PAKAN TERHADAP PROSES MIGRASI WERENG BATANG COKELAT PADA PADI VARIETAS RENTAN DAN TAHAN

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#### ABSTRACT

Brown planthopper, *Nilaparvata lugens* Stal. (Hemiptera: Delphacidae), is an important pest of rice. This pest can cause hopperburn and field failure. This research aimed to determine the effects of population density and host availability on migration of *N. lugens*. The criteria used to justify the effects of host availability and population density on migration of *N. lugens* were based the hardness and tannin tests of the rice stems, fecundity of *N. lugens*, and the life cycle of *N. lugens*. The research was conducted under the temperature of 29.42°C with relative humidity of 61% and Light 12: Dark 12 times, using ten pairs of *N. lugens* brachypterous (F0 constant) and then was added with five male adults on fifth days after the first infestation (F0 changed). The varieties used were IR64, as a resistant variety, and Ketan Lusi, as a susceptible variety. The results showed that the adding of the macropterous males did not affect the number of macropterous, because of that has been preplanned by the F0. Therefore, the percentage of existing macropterous was 51–52%.

Keywords: brachypterous, macropterous, *Nilaparvata lugens*, percentage of migration, population density

#### INTISARI

Wereng Batang Cokelat (WBC) merupakan salah satu hama tanaman padi yang sangat penting. Kerusakan parah dapat menyebabkan hopperburn dan puso (gagal panen). Tujuan penelitian ini adalah mengetahui pengaruh kepadatan populasi dan tanaman inang sebagai tempat migrasi WBC. Parameter yang dikaji untuk mengetahui pengaruh kepadatan populasi WBC dan tanaman inang tempat migrasi WBC berdasarkan tingkat kekerasan dan kandungan tanin batang tanaman padi, fekunditas WBC, dan siklus hidup WBC. Penelitian ini dilakukan pada temperatur 29.42°C dengan kelembapan relatif 61% dan durasi siang hari 12 jam: durasi malam hari 12 jam. Metode yang dilakukan adalah dengan menggunakan 10 pasang imago WBC brachiptera (F0 konstan), kemudian dilakukan penambahan 5 ekor imago jantan pada hari kelima setelah infestasi awal (F0 diubah). Varietas padi yang digunakan yaitu padi varietas IR64 sebagai varietas tahan dan ketan Lusi sebagai varietas rentan. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa penambahan imago jantan makroptera tidak berpengaruh terhadap jumlah keturunan makroptera yang dihasilkan, karena imago (F0) telah merencanakan terlebih dahulu keturunan yang akan dihasilkan. Oleh karena itu, persentase terbentuk keturunan imago makroptera berkisar antara 51–52%.

Kata kunci: brachiptera, kepadatan populasi, makroptera, *Nilaparvata lugens*, persentase migrasi

#### INTRODUCTION

In Indonesia, rice is an important food commodity. In 2014, there was an area of 14.30 million hectares with production of 71.33 million tons of GKG (*Gabah Kering Giling*) (Sembiring, 2015). One year after that, BPS (Statistics Indonesia) estimated that on 2 November 2015, rice production would be 74.99 million tons of milled dry rice (GKG) or increasing of 5.84% than the last year. Hence, it was presumed that will be a surplus of rice production in Indonesia (Soim, 2016). The resistant variety to *N. lugens* mostly cultivated in Indonesia is IR64. Beside of that, Ketan variety (susceptible variety) is also cultivated

to make flour in the manufacture of cakes, bread, baby food and others. The Ketan variety mostly cultivated by farmers is Ketan Lusi. The more consumers need flour, the more flour in good quantity and quality is necessitated (Wardani, 2011).

Brown planthopper, *Nilaparvata lugens* Stal. (Hemiptera: Delphacidae), is an important pest of rice. The outbreak of this pest can cause hopperburn. Hopperburn is caused by the dry climate conditions and the rice has not been cultivated all at once (Waspo, 1999). Those condition causes the host of this pest is available all the time. The macropterous (adult winged *N. lugens*) has a role to migrate after the host is unavailable and the brachypterous (adult

rounded-abdomen *N. lugens*) has a role to produce their offsprings. The outbreak of *N. lugens* can cause the migration of this pest to another rice cultivated. Therefore, the research about the migration behaviour of this pest is necessitated. This research was aimed to determine the effects of population density and host availability on the emergence of macropterous offspring of *N. lugens*. The variety of IR64 (as a resistant variety) and Ketan Lusi (as a susceptible variety) were used as host treatment.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

### *Nilaparvata lugens* Colony

The initial population of *N. lugens* was collected from Janten Village, Juwiring County, Klaten District, Central Java Province, on September 2014.

### Mass Rearing of *Nilaparvata lugens*

Mass rearing of *N. lugens* was conducted in the Laboratory of Applied Entomology, Department of Crop Protection, Faculty of Agriculture, Universitas Gadjah Mada, Yogyakarta, and carried out under temperature of 29.42°C and relative humidity of 61%, and Light 12: Dark 12 hours. The collected *N. lugens* was reared using seeds of Situbagendit variety germinated in a plastic jar (with 6 cm in diameter and 9 in height) covered with white cloth on top and tied with rubber. The freshness of seedlings was maintained daily. The new seedlings were supplied every week or when the seedlings become yellow. Those experiments were repeated until *N. lugens* population reached 13th generation (F13).

### Experimental Design

**Treatments.** This experiment consisted of two treatments: IR64 as resistant variety and Ketan Lusi as susceptible variety. Treatment was done by put the 10 seedlings of each variety into plastic cups (with 6 cm in diameter and 9 in height) covered with white cloth on top and tied with rubber. The freshness of seedlings was maintained everyday. Those seedlings were grown until 7 days in aged and used to conduct an experiment. This experiment was consisted of two batches as described below:

**Effect of host availability on the migration of *Nilaparvata lugens*.** The first batch was conducted using 10 pairs of brachypterous *N. lugens* put into a plastic cup contained 10 seedlings rice for each variety treatment (first infestation). Each treatment was repeated three times and observed daily to count the number of emerged *N. lugens* adults and to maintain the freshness of seedlings.

**Effect of population density on the migration of *Nilaparvata lugens*.** The second batch was employed with the same design as mentioned in the first batch, and the only difference was the addition of five males of macropterous *N. lugens* on fifth day after the first infestation. The criteria used to justify the effects of host availability and population density on migration of *N. lugens* were based on the hardness and tannin tests of the rice stems, fecundity of *N. lugens*, and the life cycle of *N. lugens*.

### **The hardness and tannin tests of the rice stem.**

The hardness test of rice stems was conducted at the Laboratory of Food Technology of Agricultural Products, Faculty of Agricultural Technology, Universitas Gadjah Mada, Yogyakarta. The Universal Testing Machine (BDO-FB0.5TS) in Laboratory of Management Process Engineering, Faculty of Agricultural Technology, Universitas Gadjah Mada was used for testing the texture of rice stems. The two rice stems of 7 days old from each variety was used for that test. The quantity of tannin was tested by a spectro-photometer (Spectronic 200 Thermoscientific), in Chemistry and Biochemistry Laboratory of Food and Agriculture Products, Faculty of Agricultural Technology, Universitas Gadjah Mada using 20 grams of rice stems of 7 days old for each variety.

**Fecundity of *Nilaparvata lugens*.** Nurbaeti *et al.* (2010) stated that the oviposition periods of brachypterous and macropterous adults were 3–4 days and 3–8 days, respectively. Therefore, the fecundity of *N. lugens* was observed on fifth and fourteen days after treatment (first and second batches). Emergence of macropterous adults was began on fifth day and assumed that on fourteen day was the end of laying eggs.

**The life cycle of *Nilaparvata lugens*.** The longevity of nymphs and adult *N. lugens* was observed every two days. Each variety treatment used seedlings in aged 7 day with 3 replications. The first nymphs became second nymphs were separated, put into a new plastic cup, fed by new seedlings, and counted their number. This experiment was repeated until fifth nymphs became adults and observed for recording the number of macropterous and brachypterous emerged (as F0).

The life cycle of *N. lugens* was observed when the first nymphs found from each treatment using 10 replications. Each variety treatment used two seedlings 7 days in aged. This parameter was observed by using F1 of the offsprings produced by F0 from the parameter described before. Longevity for each nymph stadia was observed and their number was counted. After those nymphs became adults, *N. lugens*

was mated using 10 pairs, and seedlings were supplied to determine when the eggs laid on that. Then the eggs found were counted using a stereo microscope (Olympus series SZ-ST). The number of the new hatched nymphs of those eggs were counted.

The life duration of *N. lugens* adult was observed 5 times. This experiment was conducted using the adults of F1 fed using two seedlings of 7 day in aged for each variety treatment. Mortality of adults was recorded. The freshness of seedlings was maintained daily with added water into the plastic cup.

#### Data Analysis

The number of eggs, the number of emerged adults, the number of female brachypterous and macropterous, and the longevity for each stadium were analyzed using independent t-test and  $P = 0.05$  by SPSS 16.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### The Hardness Test and the Quantity of Tannin of the Rice Stem

The hardness of IR64 stems (19.6 N) was higher than that in Ketan Lusi (10.8 N). Asikin (2006) showed that the harder stem of the rice, the lower damage of rice stem borer. However, the quantity of tannin of IR64 (0.92 mg/g) was lower than that in Ketan Lusi (1.21 mg/g). The higher tannin, the more decrease of feeding activity of the insect. This is supported by Debby and Moniharapon (2014) showed that melinjo leaf extract could be used as an antifeedant.

### Effect of Host Availability on the Migration of *Nilaparvata lugens*

**Fecundity of *Nilaparvata lugens*.** The number of eggs produced on IR64 (486.33 eggs) was similar of that in Ketan Lusi (394.67 eggs) ( $t = 2.011$ ,  $df = 4$ ,  $P = 0.115$  (Table 1). In addition, the number of nymphs and adults also was similar in IR64 than those in Ketan Lusi. That result might be due to the temperature of the regime in which is relatively higher than the room temperature normally (25°C). Cannon (1998) reported that agricultural insect pests become more abundant as the increasing of temperature. Zhang *et al.* (2015) also reported that at 40° C, the eggs produced by the diamondback moth, *Plutella xylostella* decreased. Other study (Bale *et al.*, 2002) stated that mostly of the insect have their optimal growth in the warm condition.

**The life cycle of *Nilaparvata lugens*.** The number of adults emerged from Ketan Lusi (97%) was higher than that from IR64 (89%), probably due to the hardness of rice stem in IR64 was higher than Ketan Lusi. The higher hardness of rice stem, the more difficult for nymphs to absorb the nutrients in those stems for their growth and development. Therefore, it might decreased the survival rate of the nymphs to become adults. Previous studies by Serratos *et al.*, 1987; Trumble & Hare, 1997; Mbata *et al.*, 2009 also reported the same results on different species *Sitophilus zeamais*, *Spodoptera exigua*, or *Callosobruchus maculatus*.

*N. lugens* fed using IR64 (92 males and 15.2 days) produced the male adults of macropterous and their

Table 1. The number of eggs, nymphs and F1 adults of *Nilaparvata lugens* fed using resistant and susceptible varieties without adding five males of macropterous on F0 population

Parameter	Variety	
	IR64	Ketan Lusi
Number of eggs	486.33 ± 39.08a	394.67 ± 23.47a
Number of nymph		
Instar 1	285.00 ± 42.72a	224.00 ± 17.90a
Instar 2	268.67 ± 29.72a	224.00 ± 17.90a
Instar 3	267.67 ± 29.04a	224.00 ± 17.90a
Instar 4	259.33 ± 25.17a	219.67 ± 13.69a
Instar 5	256.33 ± 23.73a	219.33 ± 13.37a
Number of Adult		
Emergence	254.67 ± 23.51a (89%)	219.33 ± 13.37a (97%)
Brachypterous	122.33 ± 8.67a	106.33 ± 4.91a
Macropterous	132.33 ± 14.95a	112.00 ± 14.11a

Means ± SE followed by different letter for each row were significantly different according to independent t-test ( $P = 0.05$ ). F0 population = 10 pairs of brachypterous adults.

longevity were similar than those in Ketan Lusi (48 males and 8.2 days) ( $t = 3.370$ ,  $df = 4$ ,  $P = 0.028$ ;  $t = 1.907$ ,  $df = 8$ ,  $P = 0.093$ , respectively) (Table 2 and 3). Furthermore, IR64 (76.33 females and 7 days) also produced the female adults of brachypterous and their longevity was similar than that in Ketan Lusi (56.67 females and 8 days) ( $t = 1.460$ ,  $df = 4$ ,  $P = 0.218$ ;  $t = -0.263$ ,  $df = 8$ ,  $P = 0.799$ , respectively) (Table 2 and 3). In addition to that, the female adults of macropterous fed by Ketan Lusi (64 females) was similar than those in IR64 (40 females) ( $t = -2.176$ ,  $df = 4$ ,  $P = 0.95$ ) (Table 2). This result might be due to the quantity of tannin in Ketan Lusi was higher than that in IR64. This finding was with Al-Mehmadi and Al-Khalaf (2010) on different species *Culex quinquefasciatus* reported that the crude extract of

*Melia azedarach* contain tannins was effective against third instar larvae of *C. quinquefasciatus*. The variety of toxicity was depending on the concentration and period of exposure. Furthermore, Schoonhoven *et al.* (2005) also reported that the chemical compound, especially tannin, reducing palatability level (feeding selectivity) was caused by the astringent in which inhibit the process of feeding, reduce the weight, and change the biology and nutrition composition of the insect.

#### **Effect of Population Density on the Migration of *Nilaparvata lugens***

**Fecundity of *Nilaparvata lugens*.** The eggs produced by *N. lugens* in IR64 (435 eggs) was similar those in Ketan Lusi (409.33 eggs) ( $t = 0.376$ ,  $df = 4$ ,

Table 2. The emergences number of male and female of *Nilaparvata lugens* fed using resistant and susceptible varieties without adding five males of macropterous on F0 population

Parameter	Variety	
	IR64	Ketan Lusi
Number of adults		
♂ Macropterous	92.23 ± 12.20b	48.00 ± 4.93a
♂ Brachypterous	46.00 ± 12.34a	49.67 ± 3.52a
♂	138.33 ± 20.16a	97.67 ± 1.85a
♀ Macropterous	40.00 ± 4.51a	64.00 ± 10.06a
♀ Brachypterous	76.33 ± 12.91a	56.67 ± 3.84a
♀	116.33 ± 17.37a	120.67 ± 12.54a
Adult emergence (%)	52.00	55.00
Macropterous (%)	52.00	51.50
Brachypterous (%)	48.00	48.50

Means ± SE followed by different letter for each row were significantly different according to independent t-test ( $P = 0.05$ ). F0 population = 10 pairs of brachypterous adults.

Table 3. The life cycle of *Nilaparvata lugens* fed using resistant and susceptible varieties without adding five males of macropterous on F0 population

Longevity (day)	Variety	
	IR64	Ketan Lusi
Eggs	3.20 ± 0.20a	3.20 ± 0.13a
Nymph		
Instar 1	9.00 ± 0.00*	9.00 ± 0.00*
Instar 2	3.30 ± 0.15a	3.20 ± 0.13a
Instar 3	2.70 ± 0.15a	2.80 ± 0.13a
Instar 4	2.20 ± 0.13a	2.10 ± 0.10a
Instar 5	2.30 ± 0.15a	2.50 ± 0.17a
Longevity of nymph	19.50 ± 0.16a	19.60 ± 0.22a
Longevity of immature	22.70 ± 0.37a	22.80 ± 0.25a
Adult longevity		
Male	15.20 ± 1.80a	8.20 ± 3.20a
Female	7.00 ± 3.07a	8.00 ± 2.26a
Life cycle	25.90 ± 0.43a	26.00 ± 0.25a

Means ± SE followed by different letter for each row were significantly different according to independent t-test ( $P = 0.05$ ). F0 population = 10 pairs of brachypterous adults. \*Data was constant and could not be analyzed



$P = 0.726$ ) (Table 4). That result might be due to the quantity of tannin in Ketan Lusi was higher than that in IR64. On the other hand, previous study (Park *et al.*, 2004) on different host [sweet persimmon (cv. Fuyu) dan Astringent (cv. Chongdosi)] and different species (*Riptortus clavatus*) showed that the higher quantity of tanning, the more decrease of the eggs produced.

**The life cycle of *Nilaparvata lugens*.** The nymphs produced and adults emerged of *N. lugens* fed by IR64 was similar with in Ketan Lusi ( $t = 0.996$ ,  $df = 4$ ,  $P = 0.376$ ) (Table 4). This result might be due to *N. lugens* adapted to IR64 and Ketan Lusi. Previous research (Hao *et al.*, 2008) reported that the digesting process of the phloem fluid absorbed by *N. lugens* was shorter in resistant gene (resistant variety) than the susceptible gene (susceptible variety).

The number and longevity of male adults of *N. lugens* macropterous on migration population fed using IR64 (70 males and 12.6 days) was higher and longer than those fed on Ketan Lusi (53.67 males and 4.2 days) ( $t = 1.952$ ,  $df = 4$ ,  $P = 0.123$ ;  $t = 4.099$ ,  $df = 8$ ,  $P = 0.003$ , respectively) (Table 5 and 6). Those results might be due to by the low quantity of tannin in IR64, thus the nutrients were absorbed optimally than that in Ketan Lusi. Furthermore, the number and longevity of female adults of *N. lugens* brachypterous on migration population fed using IR64 (69.33 females and 11.2 days) was relatively same than those fed on Ketan Lusi (55 males and 5.2 days) ( $t = 1.502$ ,  $df = 4$ ,  $P = 0.208$ ;  $t = 2.179$ ,  $df = 8$ ,  $P = 0.061$ , respectively) (Table 5 and 6). The quality of IR64 might be more suitable for F1 offspring of *N. lugens* to grow and to develop than that in Ketan Lusi. This results was supported by Lu

Table 4. The number of eggs, nymphs and F1 adults of *Nilaparvata lugens* fed using resistant and susceptible varieties with adding five males of macropterous on F0 population

Parameter	Variety	
	IR64	Ketan Lusi
Number of eggs	435.00 ± 42.00a	409.33 ± 53.73a
Number of nymph		
Instar 1	244.67 ± 25.10a	219.00 ± 5.85a
Instar 2	244.67 ± 25.10a	219.00 ± 5.85a
Instar 3	244.33 ± 24.77a	219.00 ± 5.86a
Instar 4	244.33 ± 24.77a	218.67 ± 5.56a
Instar 5	244.33 ± 24.77a	216.00 ± 3.20a
Number of Adult		
Emergence	244.33 ± 24.77a (99.8%)	216.00 ± 3.21a (98.6%)
Brachypterous	120.00 ± 10.69a	107.00 ± 1.53a
Macropterous	122.00 ± 14.19a	118.67 ± 12.99a

Means ± SE followed by different letter for each row were significantly different according to independent t-test ( $P = 0.05$ ). Five males of macropterous was added in F0 population (10 pairs of brachypterous) on fifth day after first infestation.

Table 5. The emergences number of male and female of *Nilaparvata lugens* fed using resistant and susceptible varieties with adding five males of macropterous on F0 population

Parameter	Variety	
	IR64	Ketan Lusi
Number of adults		
♂ Macropterous	70.33 ± 8.29a	53.67 ± 2.03a
♂ Brachypterous	50.67 ± 4.37a	52.00 ± 2.31a
♂	121.00 ± 12.53a	105.67 ± 4.33a
♀ Macropterous	53.67 ± 9.56a	65.00 ± 12.53a
♀ Brachypterous	69.33 ± 9.06a	55.00 ± 3.00a
♀	123.00 ± 18.52a	120.00 ± 11.14a
Adult emergence (%)	56.00	52.80
Macropterous (%)	51.00	51.00
Brachypterous (%)	49.00	49.00

Means ± SE followed by different letter for each row were significantly different according to independent t-test ( $P = 0.05$ ). Five males of macropterous was added in F0 population (10 pairs of brachypterous) on fifth day after first infestation.

Table 6. The life cycle of *Nilaparvata lugens* fed using resistant and susceptible varieties with adding five males of macropterous on F0 population

Longevity (day)	Variety	
	IR64	Ketan Lusi
Eggs	4.00 ± 0.00*	3.00 ± 0.00*
Nymph		
Instar 1	7.00 ± 0.00*	8.00 ± 0.00*
Instar 2	3.20 ± 0.13a	4.00 ± 0.00b
Instar 3	2.90 ± 0.10a	2.30 ± 0.26a
Instar 4	2.70 ± 0.26a	2.30 ± 0.15a
Instar 5	2.10 ± 0.10b	3.20 ± 0.35a
Longevity of nymph	17.90 ± 0.31a	19.80 ± 0.57b
Longevity of immature	21.90 ± 0.41a	22.80 ± 0.33b
Adult longevity		
Male	12.60 ± 1.86a	4.20 ± 0.86b
Female	11.20 ± 2.65a	5.20 ± 0.73a
Life cycle	25.90 ± 0.41a	25.80 ± 0.33a

Means ± SE followed by different letter for each row were significantly different according to independent t-test (P = 0.05). Five males of macropterous was added in F0 population (10 pairs of brachypterous) on fifth day after first infestation. \*Data was constant and could not be analyzed

*et al.* (2007) and Chandramani *et al.* (2009) stated that the quality of host suitability on the fitness of major insect pest in rice was related to the physical, chemical, and the nutrient composition of the host plant, and that the use of pesticide with the quantity of tannin of 5.65 and 4.5 mg/g produced the adult longevity of 5 to 7.15 days. In addition to that, the percentage of nymphs become adults in IR64 (99.8 %) was similar with Ketan Lusi (98.6 %) (Table 4) Those results described above showed that the population density and the existing of resistant variety (IR64) increased the percentage of the *N. lugens* nymphs become adults than those fed in susceptible variety (Ketan Lusi). Percentage of adults that increased of 52% to 56% in higher population triggered those to migrate. Similar finding was reported by Ritberg and Isman (1992) stated that the population density effects the behaviour of the insect. In addition to that, Khaliq *et al.* (2014) also stated that the response of increase in population density may decrease their rate of increase. Another best example of crowding is *Tribolium castaneum* in which density dependent effect is positively correlated with the adult emergence on the floor surface. Furthermore, Washburn *et al.* (1985) reported that the body size and fecundity of *Pulvinariella mesembryanthemi* were related to their density population, in which indicating the existing of intraspecific competition.

## CONCLUSION

The existing of the macropterous adult (migrated population) did not effect the formation of the macropterous, both in susceptible and resistant varieties.

Because of the the percentage of existing macropterous in both varieties was similar (51 and 52%), before and after the adding of five males macropterous. This result showed that the formation of the macropterous adult has already been planned by F0 and the existing of that insect migration did not effect their offspring.

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