

The leafhopper and planthopper fauna of rice fields in South East Asia

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Many species of Auchenorrhyncha are found commonly in rice fields in South East Asia. Only a small number of these are important pests of rice, but it is frequently very difficult to distinguish these pest species from others. There is no doubt that many field records of rice pests are doubtful because of the lack of adequate taxonomic literature and expertise.

We have accumulated collections of Auchenorrhyncha from rice fields and surrounding vegetation, especially from the Philippines, but also from Australia, Bangladesh, Indonesia and Sri Lanka. These are being identified with the assistance of specialists throughout the world. We hope eventually to produce a handbook which will enable field workers to make reliable identifications.

At present we have most information from the Philippines where over 50 species have been recorded in and around rice fields. Below we list these species with notes on their abundance and importance as rice pests (table 1). The list is not complete, only those species for which we have identification at least to generic level are included, but these include the commonest species.

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Table 1. An annotated list of the Auchenorrhyncha commonly found in and around rice fields in the Philippines.

FULGOROMORPHA

Family Cixiidae

Myndus maculosus Muir

The only Cixiid species commonly found in rice fields

Family Meenoplidae

Nisia nervosa (Motsch.) (= *atrovenosa* Leth.)

Very common in and around rice fields

Nisia grandiceps Kirkaldy

Uncommon

Nisia alba Melichar

Uncommon

Family Delphacidae

Tropidocephala sp.

Uncommon

Cemus sp.

Several species found, rarely on rice

Peregrinus maidis (Ashmead)

Well known *Sorghum* pest, occasionally collected on rice

Perkinsiella sp.

Some are important sugarcane pests, occasionally collected on rice

Euidellana celadon Fennah

Similar in appearance to *N. lugens*, not common

Sardia rostrata Melichar

Found in low numbers on rice

Sogatella furcifera (Horvath)

"White backed planthopper", very common and important pest

S. longifurcifera (Esaki and Ishihara)

Common on rice

S. kolophon (Kirkaldy)

Less common than *S. geranor*

Sogatodes geranor (Kirkaldy)

Common, closely resembles *S. kolophon*

Sogatodes pusanus (Distant)

Very common

Sogatodes eupombe (Kirkaldy)

Uncommon

Tarophagus proserpina (Kirkaldy)

Occasionally on rice, wellknown taro pest

Nilaparvata lugens (Stål)

"Brown planthopper". Most important planthopper pest of rice in Asia

N. bakeri (Muir)

Appears not to be found on rice, but common in light trap samples

<i>Laodelphax striatellus</i> (Fallen)	Important rice pest in Japan. Confined to N. Luzon in Philippines
<i>Harmalia anacharsis</i> Fennah	Common
<i>Coronacella sinhalana</i> Kirkaldy	Frequent
<i>Opiconsiva dodona</i> Fennah	Uncommon
CICADOMORPHA	
Family Cicadellidae	
Subfamily Hecaliniae	
<i>Hecalus porrectus</i> (Walker)	Common on grasses around rice fields, but do not appear to feed on rice
Subfamily Cicadellinae	
<i>Cofana spectra</i> (Distant)	Common on rice and other grasses
<i>Cofana unimaculata</i> (Signoret) (= <i>Kolla mimica</i> Distant)	Common on rice
Subfamily Typhlocybinae	
<i>Empoasca</i> sp.	Several species commonly on rice
<i>Thaia</i> sp.	Not common in Philippines, but important pests in other parts of S.E. Asia
Subfamily Xestocephalinae	
<i>Xestocephalus</i> sp.	Several species in small numbers
Subfamily Deltocephalinae	
<i>Balclutha</i> sp.	Several species very common
<i>Macrosteles strifrons</i> Anufriev	Very common
<i>Cicadulina bipunctella</i> Matsumura	Common
<i>Deltocephalus</i> sp.	Very common in and around rice fields. Three species provisionally identified — <i>D. samuelsoni</i> Knight, <i>D. pacificus</i> (Osborn), and <i>D. subviridis</i> (Metcalf)
<i>Recilia dorsalis</i> (Motsch.) (= <i>Inazuma dorsalis</i>)	"Zig-Zag leafhopper", well known rice pest
<i>Inemedara distinctus</i> (Motsch.)	Common
<i>Nephotettix</i> sp.	"Green leafhoppers", some species very important vectors of virus diseases
<i>Nephotettix nigropictus</i> (Stål)	Very common on rice and other grasses
<i>Nephotettix virescens</i> (Distant)	Very common and important pest, appears confined to rice
<i>Nephotettix malayanus</i> (Ishihara & Kawase)	Much less common <i>N. cincticeps</i> and <i>N. parvus</i> are recorded from the Philippines but specimens have yet to be seen by us
<i>Exitianus</i> sp.	Very common in dry grassland sites, not frequent on rice
<i>Paramesodes</i> sp.	Resembles <i>Exitianus</i> , one species quite common on grasses in dry areas, uncommon on rice
<i>Scaphoideus</i> sp.	One species quite common in and around rice fields, provisionally identified as <i>S. morosus</i> Melichar