

LOCATION IRRI
CALL # SB208.1991.T5 L22.
AUTHOR Laba, I. Wayan.
TITLE Predation of *Cyrtorhinus lividipennis* Reuter on eggs of
planthoppers in rice.
IMPRINT Los Baños, Laguna, 1991.
DESCRIPT 45 leaves : ill.; 28 cm.
NOTE Thesis (M. S.) -- University of the Philippines at Los Baños,
1991.
NOTE Bibliography: p. [38]-45.
KEYWORDS (NAL) Rice; Insect pests; Fulgoroidea; Biological control;
Predatory insects; *Cyrtorhinus lividipennis*;
Predation.

PREDATION OF CYRTORHINUS LIVIDIPENNIS REUTER ON
EGGS OF PLANTHOPPERS IN RICE

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SUBMITTED TO THE FACULTY OF THE GRADUATE SCHOOL
UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES AT LOS BANOS
IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE
REQUIREMENTS FOR THE
DEGREE OF

MASTER OF SCIENCE
(Entomology)

AUGUST 1991

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
INTRODUCTION	1
REVIEW OF LITERATURE	4
Description and Distribution of the Brown Planthopper	4
Biology of Brown Planthopper	5
Description and Distribution of the White-Backed Planthopper	6
Biology of White-Backed Planthopper	7
Description and Distribution of <u>Cyrtorhinus lividipennis</u>	9
Predation and Preference of <u>Cyrtorhinus</u> <u>lividipennis</u>	11
MATERIALS AND METHODS	19
Rearing of Brown Planthopper and White Backed Planthopper	19
Rearing of <u>Cyrtorhinus lividipennis</u>	19
Predation Experiments	22
Preference Experiments	22
Data Analysis	23
RESULTS	25
Predation	25
Preference	30
DISCUSSION	33
Predation	33
Preference	35
SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS	37
LITERATURE CITED	38

LIST OF TABLES

<u>Table</u>		<u>Page</u>
1	Parameters estimated of the functional response equation for <u>C. lividipennis</u> feeding on eggs of BPH and WBPH. IRRI, 1991	27
2	Analysis of preference of <u>C. lividipennis</u> feeding on BPH and WBPH. IRRI, 1991	31

LIST OF FIGURES

<u>Figure</u>		<u>Page</u>
1	<u>Cyrtorhinus lividipennis</u> Reuter	10
2	Box cages for rearing BPH and WBPH	20
3	Mass rearing procedure of <u>C. lividipennis</u>	21
4	Functional responses of <u>C. lividipennis</u> male and female adults feeding on BPH eggs. IRRI, 1991	26
5	Functional responses of <u>C. lividipennis</u> male and female to BPH and WBPH eggs. IRRI, 1991	28
6	Functional responses of <u>C. lividipennis</u> male and female adults feeding on WBPH eggs. IRRI, 1991	29
7	The index preference (α) of the mirid to BPH and WBPH eggs. IRRI, 1991	32

ABSTRACT

I WAYAN LABA. University of the Philippines at Los Baños, August 1991. "Predation of the *Cyrtorhinus lividipennis* Reuter on Eggs of Planthoppers in Rice".

Major Adviser: Dr. K.L. Heong.

Laboratory and greenhouse experiments were conducted at the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) in the province of Laguna, Philippines. Predation of both male and female of *Cyrtorhinus* on BPH and WBPH eggs was evaluated in the greenhouse using mylar cages. The predation experiments were conducted using different number of eggs of BPH and WBPH on the rice plants and using both male and female adults of *Cyrtorhinus*. In the preference experiments varying egg densities were made by placing different number of BPH and WBPH gravid females onto rice plant and exposed these eggs.

The functional response of *Cyrtorhinus* was found to fit Holling's Type II model. Searching efficiency (a') and handling time (Th) of *Cyrtorhinus* female ($a' = 0.102$, $Th = 0.044$) was higher than male ($a' = 0.024$, $Th = 0.036$) on BPH. Searching efficiency (a') of *Cyrtorhinus* female ($a' = 0.062$) was higher than male ($a' = 0.023$) on WBPH while handling time (Th) of *Cyrtorhinus* female ($Th = 0.057$) was lower than male ($Th = 0.085$) on WBPH. *Cyrtorhinus lividipennis* female was more effective than *Cyrtorhinus lividipennis* male on both prey BPH and WBPH.

In the experiments with BPH and WBPH eggs, the index preference (ϕ) of *Cyrtorhinus* female for BPH and WBPH eggs varied from 0.2 to 0.8, with a mean of 0.542 (± 0.256), which is not significantly different

from 0.5 (no preference). The index preference of Cyrtorhinus male for BPH and WBPH eggs varied from 0.2 to 0.6 with mean α value 0.443 (\pm 0.144). This is also not significantly different from 0.5.

Using searching efficiency ratio, the Cyrtorhinus female has higher preference for BPH eggs compared to the male. However, Cyrtorhinus lividipennis showed no preference for both BPH and WBPH eggs.