STATUS ON NATURAL PARASITIZATION OF RICE YELLOW STEM BORER, *Scirpophaga incertulas* IN BATHALAGODA REGION, SRI LANKA

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By

MALALA ALOKA BANDARALAGE REBAKA PRIYADARSHANI BANDARANAYAKE

Export Agriculture Degree Programme
Faculty of Animal Science and Export Agriculture
Uva Wellassa University of Sri Lanka
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ABSTRACT

The Rice yellow stem borer is one of the major insect pests of rice crop in Sri Lanka. This study was conducted to determine the status on natural parasitization of Rice yellow stem borer, *Scirpophaga incertulas* prevailing at pesticide treated and untreated conditions. Egg masses and infested plants with white head symptoms were collected from the experimental sites, reared and kept until the emergence of larvae, pest adult or parasitoids. Parasitized egg masses and parasitized infested plants were counted and emerged parasitoids were identified with the aid of taxonomic key. Weather parameters were subjected to correlation analysis to check whether there is a relationship of the level of parasitization.*Tetrustichus schoenobii* was the recorded egg parasitoid. *Poecilotraphera taeniata, Tetrustichus oyyari, Tropobracon schoenobil,* and *Cotesia flavipes* were recorded as pupae/larvae parasitoids. Significantly high rate of egg and pupae/larvae parasitization was observed in pesticide untreated fields than the pesticide treated fields. Rainfall, maximum temperature, minimum temperature, humidity morning and evening, and sunshine hours did not show any correlation with parasitization during the *Yala* season of 2017. The egg and pupae/larvae parasitization of yellow stem borer occurred in *Yala* season 2017 in Bathalagoda region.

Key words: Rice yellow stem borer, Parasitization, Parasitoids