

## Status of Natural Parasitism of Rice Yellow Stem Borer, *Scirpophaga incertulas* in Bathalagoda Region, Sri Lanka

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The Rice yellow stem borer, *Scirpophaga incertulas* is one of the major insect pests of rice crop in Sri Lanka. This study was conducted to determine the status of natural parasitism 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. *Tetrastichus schoenobii* was the recorded egg parasitoid. *Poecilotrapphera taeniata*, *Tetrastichus oyyari*, *Tropobraconschoenobil*, 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.

**Keywords:** Rice yellow stem borer, Parasitization, Parasitoids