

Interpopulation crosses, inheritance study, and genetic variability in the brown planthopper complex, *Nilaparvata lugens* (Homoptera: Delphacidae).

ABSTRACT

Studies on hybridization, inheritance, and population genetics of brown planthoppers that infest rice and weeds were undertaken using starch gel electrophoresis to determine whether the weed-infesting population represents a biological race or a species. F(1) and F(2) generations were produced by crosses between parental insects from the two populations with little indication of hybrid sterility. Gpi, Mdh, and Idh loci were inherited in a simple Mendelian fashion in families of two sympatric populations. Sixteen populations of *Nilaparvata* spp. from eight locations were collected. The Mdh, Idh, Pgm, Gpi, 6Pgd, and Acp loci were polymorphic. The *N. lugens* of rice with high esterase activity were clustered into a group and characterized by the presence of alleles Gpi (110) and Gpi (120), whereas *N. lugens* from weeds with low esterase activity were clustered into another group and characterized by Gpi (100) and Gpi (90). There was a lack of heterozygotes between the common alleles of the two populations. This means that the two groups of individuals belong to different gene pools.

Keyword: Hybridization; Allozymes; Inheritance study; Genetic variability; Brown planthopper complex.