

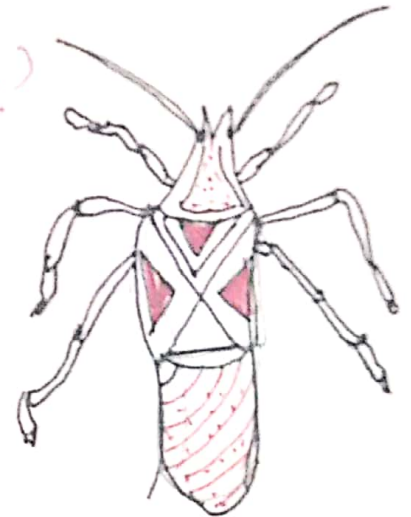
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TOPIC

Rice Bug or Gundhi Bug
(Leptocorisa varicornis)

Classification

- Phylum - Arthropoda
- Class - Insecta
- Order - Hemiptera
- Genus - Leptocorisa
- Species - varicornis



Distribution - It is most serious pest of Paddy crop. The pest is widely distributed in India. In U.P. it causes severe damage to Paddy crop.

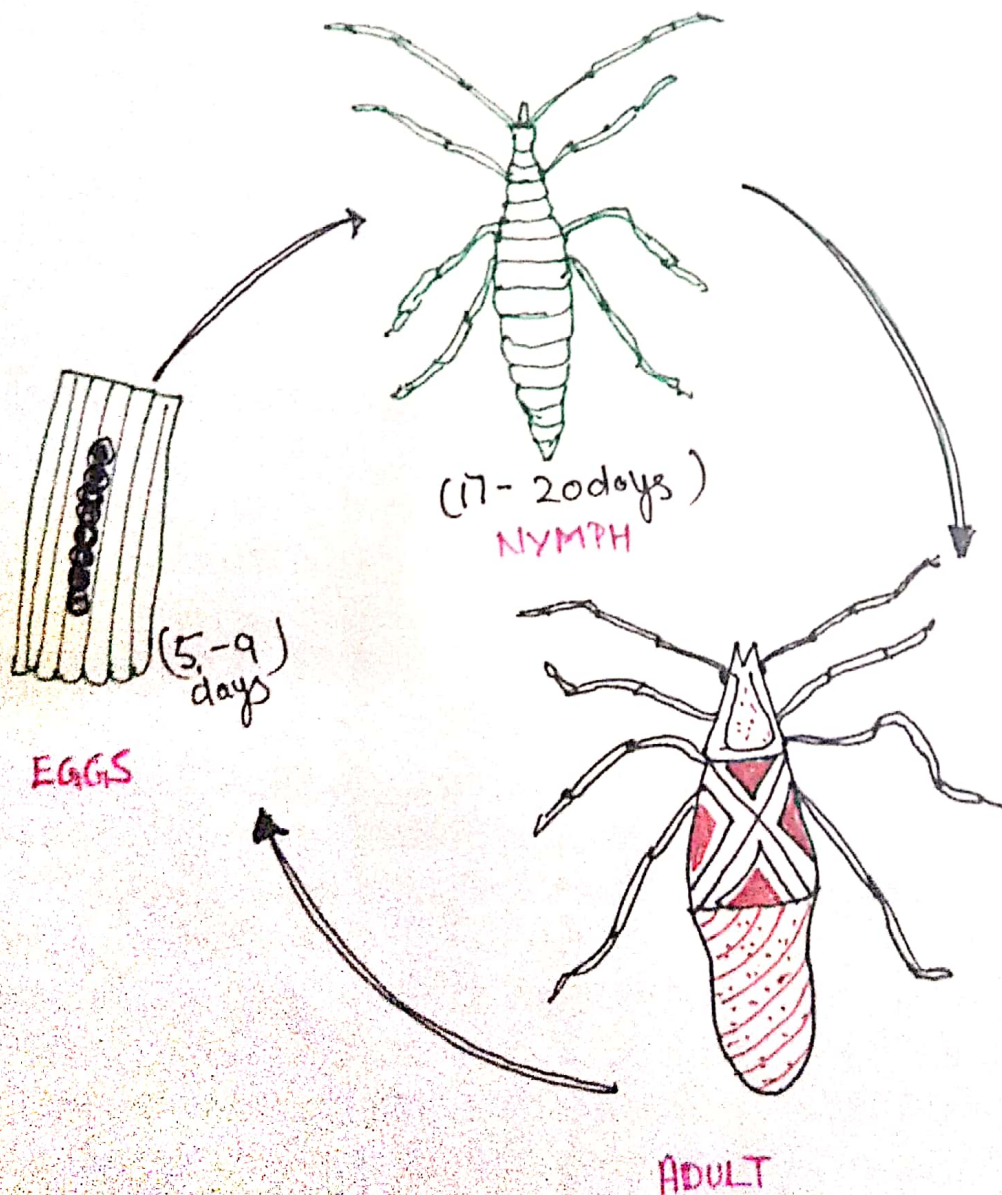
General appearance -

Gundhi bug is green or light brown in colour and about 20mm in length. According to its name 'gundhi' it emits a strong unpleasant smell. It has long legs, 4 jointed antennae and 3 jointed tarsi. It is very active in morning and evening hours. The abdomen of the female is slightly swollen at the base.

Life History / Life cycle

Leptocorisa breeds through out the year. The adult female lays about 24-30 eggs on Paddy leaves in rows.

Eggs are dark in colour, oval and flattened take one week to hatch. Eggs remains attached to the leaf by a gummy substance. The young nymphs have slender green body & longer legs. Nymph generally takes about 20 days to attain full maturity. These grow and moult six times to become adult.



LIFE - CYCLE

The pest Multiplies from July to November, hibernates from December to February and feeds on grasses. from March to June. On paddy it has five broods during the season.

Damage

1. Both nymph and adult suck milky sap from ear heads and tender grains.
2. The attacked seeds are marked by black spot of fungus.
3. Nymph on hatching out of eggs suck sap from tender shoots and leaves.

Prevention and Control

1. Wild grasses and weeds should be removed from around Paddy growing areas.
2. Dust Paddy fields by 2.5% aldrin, 5% chlordane, and 5-10% BHC.
3. Pest may be attracted by light trap and destroyed.
4. spray crude oil emulsion in irrigated field, crude oil form a thin film of oil on the weeds and mud killing the bugs and nymphs.