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# FIELD EVALUATION OF FIVE WHEAT VARIETES AGAINST INSECT PEST INFESTATION

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**Abstract** - The experiment was conducted to evaluate the infestation status of insect pest on different wheat variety. Five wheat variety (BARI GOM -24, BARI GOM-25, BARI GOM-27, BARI GOM-28 and BARI GOM-29) were used as a test crop to conduct the study. The experiment was laid out in Randomized Complete Block Design with three replications. Total 5 insect pests were found from this experiment among wheat aphid and wireworm as major and leaf hopper, grass hopper and cereal leaf beetle as minor insect of wheat. The highest insect pest was found in grain filling stage and lowest was found in panicle initiation stage. In grain filling stage, the lowest number of aphid (6.26) was recorded from BARI GOM-29 and the highest number of wheat aphid (9.11) was found in BARI GOM-24. Effect of different varieties of plant height, filled grain, unfilled grain, weight of 1000 grain and yield showed significant. The highest yield (3.56  $\text{tha}^{-1}$ ) was recorded in BARI GOM-29 and the lowest yield 2.29  $\text{tha}^{-1}$  was recorded in BARI GOM-25. The highest percentage of infested spike  $\text{hill}^{-1}$  was recorded in BARI GOM-27 and lowest was found in BARI GOM-29. The lowest yield loss (31.53%) was recorded in BARI GOM-29. This might be due to physical resistance of the varieties. BARI GOM-29 recommended to wheat growers as it is found the most resistant/tolerant wheat cultivar against wheat insect pest with maximum grain yield as compared to other cultivars.

**Keywords**—Field evaluation, Wheat, Variety, Insect pest, Infestation

## I. INTRODUCTION

Wheat (*Triticum aestivum* L.) is one of the cereal food crops ranked third worldwide after maize and rice [1]. The largest area of wheat cultivation in the warmer climates exists in the South-East Asia including Bangladesh [2]. In Bangladesh, wheat is the second most important cereal crop. It contributes to the national economy by reducing the volume of import of cereals for fulfilling the food requirements of the country [3]. Wheat supplies mainly carbohydrate (69.60%) and reasonable amount of protein (12%) where fat (1.72%) and mineral elements (16.20%) [4]. The total area under wheat was 4.3 lac ha while the total production was 13 lac ton in 2015. To meet the local demand Bangladesh imports huge quantity of wheat from abroad every year. The wheat yield in this country is low (2.16  $\text{t ha}^{-1}$ ). There are several reasons that can explain the yield variation, which cover both biotic and abiotic factors. Among the biotic factors, unavailability of high yielding varieties [5], incidence of diseases and pests [6] and abiotic factors such as high temperature [7], moisture stress [8] and nutrient deficiency [9-10] are responsible for lower productivity of wheat in the tropics and sub-tropics. Insects can be major threats to wheat producers by direct feeding or as vectors or carriers of disease. In our country, the major wheat insect pests are Aphids, Hessian fly, Cinch Bug, Cutworms, Grasshoppers, Cereal Leaf Beetle, Stink Bug and True Armyworm etc. Beneficial arthropods and some insects are



work as natural enemies in wheat held. Parasitoid wasps and spider were more tolerant and active to prey [11]. Plant resistance is defined as the genetically inherited traits in a plant of a population, or a race or variety of a certain species; resulting in less damage than in other (susceptible) individuals which lack these genetic characteristics. In this way, plant resistance conditioned by the presence of certain genes that express the presence or absence of certain chemical or morphological traits that interfere with the ability of an herbivore to utilize a plant, and the plant to tolerate the attack [12-13]. For better production of wheat proper variety selection is very important. Because now a day's different high variety used have a significant effect on yield and yield contributing characters of wheat. Under optimum sown condition, differences among the genotypes were found to be significant in respect of grain yield. Ground cover at 4-5 leaf stage, days to anthesis, maturity and flag leaf emergence, plant height, grain filling duration and 1000-grain weight, and insignificant for biomass at final harvest, ground cover at anthesis chlorophyll content of the flag leaf [14]. Therefore, by enhancing local production it is possible to save huge foreign currency of Bangladesh. Development of resistant variety, easy and adaptable agronomic practices and per hectare yield increment is the factors to be considered for expansion of wheat. Considering the above facts, the present research work laid out to know the infestation status of insect and pests on different wheat varieties and to evaluate the varietal performance.

## II. MATERIALS AND METHODS

The experiment was conducted at the central farm of Sher-e-Bangla Agricultural University (23° 74' N latitude and 90° 35' E longitude), Dhaka, Bangladesh. Five wheat variety (BARI GOM -24, BARI GOM-25, BARI GOM-27, BARI GOM-28 and BARI GOM-29) were used as a test crop to conduct the study. The experiment was laid out in Randomized Complete Block Design with three replications. Seeds have been collected from Bangladesh Agriculture Research Institute (BARI). Each experimental unit plot size of 3.0 m × 2.0 m has had received homogenous agronomic practices. Seeds were sown continuously maintained distance 20 cm line to line and 5 cm plant to plant. Heavy irrigation was done at 30, 45 and 60 days after sowing (DAS) respectively followed by weeding.

Petridishes fine camel hair brush, sweep net, aspirator were used for sample collection. Aspirator was used for collecting small insects. Hand magnifying glass, insect collection box and bottles with ethanol were used for identification. Stereoscopic microscope fitted with camera was used for taking exclusive photograph. Incidence of major insect pests of wheat was recorded for the entire cropping season and as a major pest aphid, wireworm, and grass hopper and cereal leaf beetle as minor insect were observed. Data were taken

from selected plant at tillering, panicle initiation and grain filling stages to identify the intensity of infestation by the major insect pests of wheat.

Data were collected on number of insect and pests plot<sup>-1</sup>, number of healthy and infested tiller plot<sup>-1</sup>, plant height, number of spike hill<sup>-1</sup>, number of filled and unfilled grains spike<sup>-1</sup>, weight of 1000-grain (g) and yield (t ha<sup>-1</sup>). The mean values of all the characters were calculated and analyses of variance were performed by the F (variance ratio) test. The significance of the differences among the mean values of treatment in respect of different parameters was estimated by the Duncan's Multiple Range Test (DMRT) at 5% level of probability [15].

## III. EXPERIMENT AND RESULT

### 1. Insect Pest Incidence

#### 1.1 Tillering stage

Statistically significant variation was found at tillering stage for wheat aphid, wireworm as major insect pests and leaf hopper, grass hopper and cereal leaf beetle as minor insect of wheat (Table 1). In case of wheat aphid the lowest number of aphid (5.31) was recorded from BARIGOM-29 which was statistically similar with BARIGOM-28 and the highest number of wheat aphid (7.71) was found in BARIGOM-24. In case of wireworm the lowest number of wireworm (3.54) was recorded from BARI GOM-29 and the highest number of wireworm (4.89) was found in BARIGOM-25. In case of minor insect the lowest number of leaf hopper (2.73) was recorded from BARIGOM-29 and the highest number of leaf hopper (3.94) was found in BARIGOM-27. The lowest number of grass hopper (3.32) was recorded from BARIGOM-29 and the highest number of grass hopper (4.03) was found in BARIGOM-27. In case of cereal leaf beetle the lowest number of beetle (2.90) was recorded from BARIGOM-29 and the highest number of beetle (3.53) was found in BARIGOM-24. Results of this work are in accordance with those of [16-21].

Table 1. Varietal performance on number of insect pests of wheat plot<sup>-1</sup> at tillering stage

| Variety               | Major insect |          | Minor insect |             |                    |
|-----------------------|--------------|----------|--------------|-------------|--------------------|
|                       | Wheat Aphid  | Wireworm | Leaf Hopper  | Grasshopper | Cereal leaf beetle |
| BARIGOM-24            | 7.71a        | 4.51b    | 3.56b        | 4.03a       | 3.53b              |
| BARIGOM-25            | 6.09b        | 4.89a    | 3.19c        | 3.62c       | 3.30c              |
| BARIGOM-27            | 6.18b        | 4.03c    | 3.94a        | 4.35b       | 3.98a              |
| BARIGOM-28            | 5.62c        | 4.4b     | 3.5b         | 3.97b       | 3.56b              |
| BARIGOM-29            | 5.31c        | 3.54d    | 2.73d        | 3.32d       | 2.9d               |
| Level of Significance | **           | *        | **           | *           | **                 |



In a column means having similar letter(s) are statistically identical and those having dissimilar letter(s) differ significantly as per 0.05 level of probability

### 1.2 Panicle initiation stage

Statistically significant variation was found at panicle initiation stage for wheat aphid, wireworm as major insect pests and leaf hopper, grass hopper and cereal leaf beetle as minor insect of wheat (Table 2). In ease of wheat aphid the lowest number of aphid (5.82) was recorded from BARIGOM-29 which was statistically similar with BARIGOM-28 and the highest number of wheat aphid (8.47) was found in BARIGOM-24. In ease of wireworm the lowest number of wireworm (3.77) was recorded from BARIGOM-29 and the highest number of wireworm (5.43) was found in BARIGOM-25. In ease of minor insect the lowest number of leaf hopper (2.93) was recorded from BARIGOM-29 and the highest number of leaf hopper (4.28) was found in BARIGOM-27. The lowest number of grass hopper (3.61) was recorded from BARIGOM-29 and the highest number of grass hopper (4.78) was found in BARIGOM-27. In ease of cereal leaf beetle the lowest number of beetle (3.04) was recorded from BARIGOM-29 and the highest number of beetle (4.22) was found in BARIGOM-27. Freier *et al.* [22] observed that wheat productivity is seriously affected by different wheat insects. Anonymous [23] reported that aphids can cause damage to plants in several ways. They can reduce plant growth directly as they remove plant sap. Some aphids inject a toxin with their saliva that injures the plant host. Russian wheat aphid (*Diuraphis noxia*) is another important aphid pest of winter wheat.

Table 2. Varietal performance on number of insect pests of wheat plot at panicle initiation stage

| Variety               | Major insect |          | Minor insect |             |                    |
|-----------------------|--------------|----------|--------------|-------------|--------------------|
|                       | Wheat Aphid  | Wireworm | Leaf Hopper  | Grasshopper | Cereal leaf beetle |
| BARIGOM-24            | 8.47a        | 4.91b    | 3.86b        | 4.42b       | 3.87b              |
| BARIGOM-25            | 6.7b         | 5.43a    | 3.47c        | 3.98c       | 3.55c              |
| BARIGOM-27            | 6.8b         | 4.3c     | 4.28a        | 4.78a       | 4.22a              |
| BARIGOM-28            | 6.17c        | 4.78b    | 3.81b        | 4.37b       | 3.86b              |
| BARIGOM-29            | 5.82c        | 3.77d    | 2.93d        | 3.61d       | 3.04d              |
| Level of Significance | **           | *        | **           | *           | **                 |

In a column means having similar letter(s) are statistically identical and those having dissimilar letter(s) differ significantly as per 0.05 level of probability

### 1.3 Grain filling stage

Statistically significant variation was found at panicle initiation stage for wheat aphid, wireworm as major insect pests and leaf hopper, grass hopper and cereal leaf beetle as minor insect of wheat (Table 3). In ease of wheat aphid the lowest number of aphid (6.26) was recorded from BARIGOM-29 which was statistically similar with BARIGOM-28 and the highest number of wheat aphid

(9.11) was found in BARIGOM-24. Because aphids population have been found greatly disturbed by environment events [24]. Khan *et al.* [25] found aphid population peak in 4th week of April in Arid zone. These differences might be due to differential environmental conditions and variety of the experimental sites from those observed in the present study.

In ease of wireworm the lowest number of wireworm (4.09) was recorded from BARIGOM-29 and the highest number of wireworm (5.27) was found in BARIGOM-25. In ease of minor insect the lowest number of leaf hopper (3.22) was recorded from BARIGOM-29 and the highest number of leaf hopper (4.20) was found in BARIGOM-27. The lowest number of grass hopper (3.96) was recorded from BARIGOM-29 and the highest number of grass hopper (4.81) was found in BARIGOM-27. In ease of cereal leaf beetle the lowest number of beetle (3.20) was recorded from BARIGOM-29 and the highest number of beetle (4.08) was found in BARIGOM-27.

Table 3. Varietal performance on number of insect pests of wheat plot at grain filling stage

| Variety               | Major insect |          | Minor insect |             |                    |
|-----------------------|--------------|----------|--------------|-------------|--------------------|
|                       | Wheat Aphid  | Wireworm | Leaf Hopper  | Grasshopper | Cereal leaf beetle |
| BARIGOM-24            | 9.11a        | 5.27a    | 4.2b         | 4.81b       | 4.08b              |
| BARIGOM-25            | 7.21b        | 5.84b    | 3.77c        | 4.33c       | 3.78c              |
| BARIGOM-27            | 7.31b        | 4.63b    | 4.66a        | 5.20a       | 4.53a              |
| BARIGOM-28            | 6.64c        | 5.14c    | 4.14b        | 4.75b       | 4.11b              |
| BARIGOM-29            | 6.26c        | 4.09d    | 3.22d        | 3.96d       | 3.20d              |
| Level of Significance | **           | *        | **           | *           | **                 |

In a column means having similar letter(s) are statistically identical and those having dissimilar letter(s) differ significantly as per 0.05 level of probability

## 2 Evaluation of variety

**2.1 Plant height:** The analysis of variance for plant height of different varieties of the experiment shows significant at harvest (Table 4). The tallest plant (99.17 cm) was recorded in BARIGOM-29 which was statistically significant in variety BARIGOM-27 and the shortest plant (96.75 cm) was obtained in BARIGOM-28.

Table 4. Yield contributing characters and yield of different variety of wheat

| Variety     | Plant height (cm) ± SE | Number of Spike hill <sup>-1</sup> ± SE | Number of filled grain spike <sup>-1</sup> ± SE | Number of unfilled grain spike <sup>-1</sup> ± SE | Weight of 1000 grain (g) ± SE | Yield (t ha <sup>-1</sup> ) ± SE |
|-------------|------------------------|---|---|---|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| BARI GOM-24 | 96.82±0.22b            | 4.24±0.04ab                             | 46.10±0.42c                                     | 3.16±0.07a  | 51.33±0.87ab                  | 2.32±0.02d                       |
| BARI GOM-25 | 97.34±0.15b            | 4.15±0.02ab                             | 40.78±0.29b                                     | 3.03±0.04a  | 53.65±0.34a                   | 2.29±0.03d                       |
| BARI GOM-27 | 99.35±0.24a            | 4.28±0.08ab                             | 49.16±0.84a                                     | 2.99±0.09a  | 39.47±0.49d                   | 2.83±0.04c                       |
| BARI GOM-28 | 96.75±0.30b            | 4.30±0.05b                              | 46.22±0.15b                                     | 3.24±0.03a  | 46.52±0.33c                   | 3.11±0.09b                       |



|                       |             |            |             |            |              |            |
|-----------------------|-------------|------------|-------------|------------|--------------|------------|
| BARI GOM-29           | 99.17±0.01a | 4.48±0.14a | 47.56±0.19b | 2.51±0.24b | 52.84±0.81ab | 3.56±0.02a |
| Level of Significance | **          | NS         | **          | *          | **           | **         |

In a column means having similar letter(s) are statistically identical and those having dissimilar letter(s) differ significantly as per 0.05 level of probability

**2.2 No. of Spike hill<sup>-1</sup>:** The analysis of variance for number of spike hill<sup>-1</sup> of different varieties shows non significant relationship at harvest (Table 4). The highest number of spike hill<sup>-1</sup> (4.48) was recorded in BARIGOM-29 which was statistically significant in variety BARIGOM-24, BARIGOM-25 and BARIGOM-27 and the lowest number of spike hill<sup>-1</sup> (4.30) was obtained in BARIGOM-28. Similar trends were observed by Jan *et al.*, [26] and Irfan *et al.*, [27] who stated that different varieties respond differently due to difference in their genetic makeup.

**2.3 No. of filled grain spike<sup>-1</sup>:** The analysis of variance for number of filled grain spike<sup>-1</sup> of different varieties of the experiment shows significant at harvest (Table 4). The highest number of filled grain hill<sup>-1</sup> (49.16) was recorded in BARIGOM-27 and the lowest number of filled grain hill<sup>-1</sup> (46.10) was obtained in BARIGOM-24. This variation was found due to genetically variation. Similar results were reported by Akmal *et al.* [28] and Nadeem [29], who also observed significant differences among the cultivars for no. of grain spike<sup>-1</sup>.

**2.4 No. of unfilled grain spike<sup>-1</sup>:** The analysis of variance for number of unfilled grain spike<sup>-1</sup> of different varieties of the experiment shows significant at harvest (Table 4). The highest number of unfilled grain hill<sup>-1</sup> (3.24) was recorded in BARIGOM-28 which was statistically similar BARIGOM-24, BARIGOM-25 and BARIGOM-27 and the lowest number of unfilled grain hill<sup>-1</sup> (2.51) was obtained in BARIGOM-29.

**2.5 Weight of 1000 grain:** The analysis of variance for number of weight of 1000 grain of different varieties of the experiment shows significant at harvest (Table 4). The highest weight of 1000 grain (53.65) was recorded in BARIGOM-25 and the lowest of weight of 1000 grain (39.47) was recorded in BARIGOM-27. As reported by Ali *et al.*, [30] this larger variation in grain weight may be due to diverse genetic make-up of wheat cultivars and their differential response to prevalent environment during grain filling stage.

**2.6 Yield (t ha<sup>-1</sup>):** The analysis of variance for yield of different varieties shows significant variation at harvest (Table 4). The highest yield (3.56 t ha<sup>-1</sup>) was recorded in BARIGOM-29 and the lowest yield (2.29 t ha<sup>-1</sup>) was

recorded in BARIGOM-25 which was statistically similar in BARIGOM-24.

### 3 Insect infestation

**3.1 Number of infested spike hill<sup>-1</sup>:** The highest number of infested spike hill<sup>-1</sup> 0.14 was recorded in BARIGOM-28 and the lowest number of infested spike hill<sup>-1</sup> 0.08 was obtained in BARIGOM-25 (Table 5). It was found that the highest percentage of infested spike hill<sup>-1</sup> 2.08% was recorded in BARIGOM-27.

Table 5. Insect infestation effect of different variety of wheat

| Variety     | No. of spike hill <sup>-1</sup> | No. of infested spike hill <sup>-1</sup> | Percent of infested spike hill <sup>-1</sup> | No. of filled grain Spike <sup>-1</sup> | No. of infested filled grain Spike <sup>-1</sup> | Percent of infested filled grain Spike <sup>-1</sup> |
|-------------|---------------------------------|--|--|---|--|--|
| BARI GOM-24 | 4.24                            | 0.09                                     | 1.62   | 46.1                                    | 2.12   | 3.52   |
| BARI GOM-25 | 4.15                            | 0.08                                     | 1.32   | 40.78                                   | 2  | 3.23   |
| BARI GOM-27 | 4.28                            | 0.12                                     | 2.08   | 49.16                                   | 2.71   | 4.24   |
| BARI GOM-28 | 4.3                             | 0.14                                     | 1.92   | 46.22                                   | 3.16   | 4.16   |
| BARI GOM-29 | 4.48                            | 0.13                                     | 1.63   | 47.56                                   | 2.89   | 3.43   |

**3.2 Number of infested filled grain spike<sup>-1</sup>:** The highest number of infested filled grain spike<sup>-1</sup> 3.16 was recorded in BARIGOM-25 and the lowest number of infested filled grain spike<sup>-1</sup> 2.00 was obtained in BARIGOM-24 (Table 5). It was found that the highest percentage of infested spike hill<sup>-1</sup> 4.24% was recorded in BARIGOM-27.

**3.3 Yield loss (%):** The highest yield loss (49.56%) was recorded in BARIGOM-24 and the lowest yield loss (31.53%) was recorded in BARIGOM-29 (Table 6). This is might be due to physical resistance of variety. In above experiment result showed that variety BARIGOM-29 was lowest infested by different insect pest and yield this variety was best variety.

Table 6. Insect infestation effect of different variety of wheat

| Variety     | Yield (t ha <sup>-1</sup> ) | BARI recommended average yield (t ha <sup>-1</sup> ) | Yield Loss (%) due to pest & other reason |
|-------------|-----------------------------|--|---|
| BARI GOM-24 | 2.32                        | 4.60   | 49.56                                     |
| BARI GOM-25 | 2.29                        | 4.40   | 47.95                                     |
| BARI GOM-27 | 2.83                        | 4.70   | 39.78                                     |
| BARI GOM-28 | 3.11                        | 4.90   | 36.53                                     |
| BARI GOM-29 | 3.56                        | 5.20   | 31.53                                     |



#### IV. CONCLUSION

Conclusively, it is urged that integrated use of varietal resistance and chemical control are effective for managing aphid infestation on wheat crop without any risk of grain toxicity. In above experiment result showed that variety BARIGOM-29 was lowest infested by different insect pest and yield this variety was best variety.

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