

INSECT PESTS OF *CERI* TERENGGANU, *LEPISANTHES FRUTICOSA* IN PENINSULA MALAYSIA

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Ceri (Cherry) Terengganu, *Lepisanthes fruticosa* (Roxb) Leenh (Sapindaceae) is an indigenous tropical fruit crop and has good potential for commercial development due to its medicinal value and high antioxidant activity in the fruits. Insect pests and diseases is a major concern for future production and information on insect pests of *L. fruticosa* is limited. Therefore, the present study was done in MARDI Gene Bank, Serdang, Selangor and Sintok, Kedah to access the insect pests of *L. fruticosa*. The incidence of major pests was recorded. All parts of the *L. fruticosa* plant were examined such as flower, fruits, leaves, and stems for signs of pest damage. Infested plant parts and immature insects were collected and brought back to the laboratory until adult emergence. Major insect pests recorded consist of fruits borer, *Cryptophlebia ombrodelta* Lower (Lepidoptera: Tortricidae), *Conopomorpha cramerella* Snellen (Lepidoptera: Gracillariidae), *Conogethes punctiferalis* Guenée (Lepidoptera: Pyralidae), and the oriental fruit fly, *Bactrocera dorsalis* (Diptera: Tephritidae). Foliage-feeding insect pests included nine Lepidopterans and two Coleopterans. The incidence of fruit borer was moderately high and the leaf feeders were low when no pest management was implemented. Records and observations of the insect pests on *L. fruticosa* would be useful for pest management strategies.

Keywords: insect, pest, *Lepisanthes fruticosa*, *Ceri* Terengganu, fruit borer