

## Insects Associated with Zingiberaceae Plants

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### ABSTRACT

Zingiberaceae plants are largely cultivated in Indonesia as medicinal and spice plants. Various insects species were associated with these plants. Some were important insect pests, others cause minor damages. Insects which damage Zingiberaceae plants are *Mimegralla coeruleifrons* (Diptera: Micropezidae), *Eumerus figurans* (Diptera: Syrphidae), *Aspidiella hartii* (Hemiptera: Diaspididae), *Agrotis ipsilon* (Lepidoptera: Noctuidae), *Udaspes folus* and *Kerana diocles* (Lepidoptera: Hesperiidae), *Pan chaetothrips indicus* (Thysanoptera: Thripidae), *Attacus atlas* (Lepidoptera: Saturniidae), Bagworms (Lepidoptera: Psychidae), *Pentalonia nigronervosa* (Hemiptera: Aphididae), *Exopholis hypoleuca* (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae) and *Valanga nigricarnis* (Orthoptera: Acrididae). *M. coeruleifrons* and *A. hartii* are insect pests in all centra producing ginger in the country. The presence of *M. coeruleifrons* strongly associated with wilt and fungus diseases. Infestation of *A. hartii* on fresh ginger caused poor quality of ginger that lead to export rejection to some countries and lower price in local market. Attempts to combat the insect pests have been initiated, however, further research still needed in order to find successful control methods.

Key-words: Insects, Zingiberaceae plants