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**Generalist predators function as pest specialists: examining diet composition of spiders and ladybeetles across rice crop stages**

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**Conflict of interest**

The authors declare that they have no competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

**Author contributions**

All authors conducted the experiments; G.-C. Hsu and C.-K. Ho designed and wrote the manuscript; G.-C. Hsu and J.-A. Ou performed the statistical analyses.

**Statement on inclusion**

Our study brings together authors from different regions, including scientists based in the region where the study was carried out. All authors contributed to the research and study design from the onset, ensuring that the diverse perspectives they represent were taken into account.

**Data availability**

We will archive our data in the Dryad Digital Repository should the manuscript be accepted.