

Egg: Eggs are cylindrical, greenish and laid in small groups of ten in two rows on the leaves.

Nymph: Young nymph is brown with yellowish green abdomen and a few black spots.

Adult: Adults are flat, 7-9 mm long, brownish black bugs with a prominent scutellum and pronotum having a spine on either side. It is active on the cloudy days and during night. Adults or late nymphal stage aestivate in cracks in bunds.

#### 7. **Earhead bug/ Gundhi bug**, *Leptocorisa acuta*, Alydidae, Hemiptera

Symptom of attack: Leaves turn yellow and later rusted from tip downwards. Appearance of **numerous brownish spots** at the feeding sites / shrivelling of grains. In the case of heavy infestation, the whole earhead may become devoid of mature grains. Its presence in the field is made out by its strong smell.

Nature of damage: Both adults and nymphs do the damage. The nymphs start feeding 3 to 4 hours after hatching. They feed on the leaf sap near the tip/ on milky sap in developing spikelets at milky stage. Sucking of the milky sap causes ill-filled/ partial filled and **chaffy grains**. Serious infestation can reduce the yield by 50%. The straw gives **off-flavour** that is unattractive to cattle.

Egg: Eggs are circular, brownish seed like, 2 mm long, laid in clusters in two rows along the midrib on the upper surface of the leaf-blade.

Nymph: First instar is small, 2 mm long, pale green in colour, which grows to deepen green through different instars.

Adult: Adults are greenish yellow, long and slender, above ½ inch in length with a characteristic buggy odour.

#### 8. **Earhead stink bug/ Shield bug/Red spotted bug**, *Menida histrio*, Pentatomidae, Hemiptera

Symptom of attack: Small dot like discoloration on the grains.

Nature of damage: Both adult and nymph suck the sap/ milk of developing rice grain and cause **pecky rice**. (Grain discoloration is caused by subsequent infections of pathogenic fungi or bacteria on the sucking injuries and such grains are called as pecky rice). Sucking of this pentatomid bug causes comparatively small dot like discolorations on the grain than by *L. acuta*.

Egg: Eggs are laid in masses of 2-6 on leaves.

Nymph: Nymphs are dark brown.

Adult: It is a small brown bug with red and yellow spots.

#### **Minor pests**

1. White leafhopper, *Cofana spectra*, Cicadellidae, Hemiptera
2. Nama vandu/ Stripped bug, *Tetroda histeroides*, Pentatomidae, Hemiptera
3. Blue leafhopper, *Empoasca canara* spp., Cicadellidae, Hemiptera
4. Zigzag leafhopper, *Recilia dorsalis*, Cicadellidae, Hemiptera