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Bandicoot rat damage in deep water rice fields

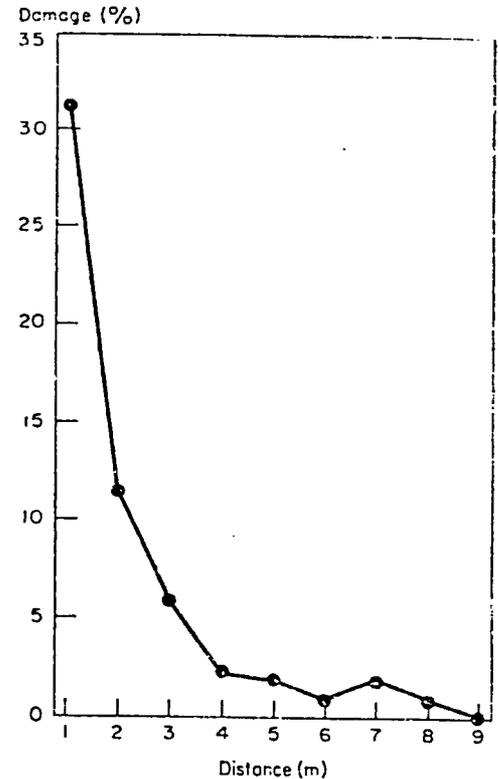
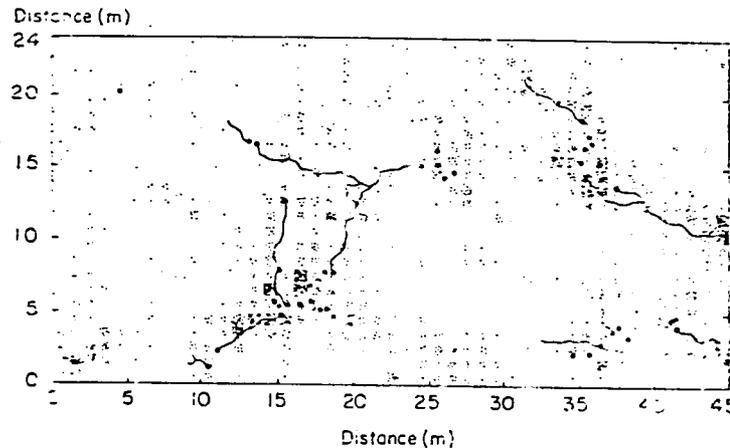
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We studied bandicoot rat damage and distribution in deep water rice in 1982 in the Gazaria Upa-zilla of Dhaka district. The 24 × 45-m plot was divided in 1,080 1-m² subplots and recently cut stems were counted and recorded for

each subplot. The rat burrow openings and runaways were mapped and locations of cut stems were plotted (Fig. 1).

There were 0 to 38 damaged stems/m². At harvest, rat damage was greatest near burrow openings and pathways (Fig. 1). More than 30% of the stems were cut within 1 m of burrow openings (Fig. 2). The pattern of damage indicates that field control operations may be more effective if rodenticides and traps are used near burrow openings rather than randomly placed in the field. S

1. Distribution of rice stems cut by rats during ripening stage in a deep water rice field in Gazaria, Bangladesh, 1982. Each dot represents one cut stem. Burrow openings (open circles) and rat runways (connecting lines) are shown.



2. Relationship of the intensity of rat damage and the distance of burrow openings in a deep water rice field, Gazaria, Bangladesh, 1982.

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