

## Intisari

Pengendalian hama tikus sawah di Kabupaten Sleman menggunakan burung predator, *Tyto alba javanica* sejak 2002, didukung dengan pemasangan gupon di sawah pada tahun 2004. Sejauh mana gupon itu dihuni informasinya belum diketahui. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengetahui keefektifan gupon dihuni oleh *T. alba javanica* dan peran predator ini dalam mengendahkan tikus sawah. Lokasi penelitian di Kecamatan Seyegan, Minggir dan Moyudan, Kabupaten Sleman. Gupon sampel sebanyak 10 unit diambil secara acak di setiap kecamatan. Gupon yang dihuni oleh *T. alba javanica* diindikasikan oleh adanya burung, telur, bekas telur, pellet sisa pencernaan, bulu, dan faeces. Gupon dianggap efektif jika minimal 80% dihuni atau pernah dihuni oleh *T. alba javanica*. Informasi tentang peran burung predator ini dalam pengendalian hama tikus sawah diperoleh dengan wawancara terhadap 20 petani responden yang diambil secara acak di ketiga kecamatan. Data sekunder tentang luas serangan hama tikus di tiga kecamatan didapatkan dari Balai Statistik Nasional Kabupaten Sleman. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa gupon yang dipasang di Kabupaten Sleman khususnya Kecamatan Moyudan, Minggir dan Seyegan sebanyak 86.7 %, menunjukkan gupon tersebut efektif (>80% dihuni). Burung predator ini merupakan agens pengendalian hayati hama tikus sawah yang penting di Kabupaten Sleman yang antara lain diindikasikan oleh berkurangnya luas serangan tikus sawah dan diduga populasi tikus rendah sehingga *T. alba javanica* dilaporkan memangsa kadal, ikan, katak, anak kucing dan kelinci.

Kata kunci: padi, *Tyto alba javanica*, gupon, tikus.

### *Abstract*

*The control of the ricefield rat in Sleman Regency uses predatory bird, *Tyto alba javanica*, since 2002 and in 2004 the nest box were installed to support the bird role. The extent to which the cages are inhabited, the information is unknown. This study aimed to determine the effectiveness of the cages inhabited by *T. alba javanica* and the role of this predator in controlling the ricefield rat. Research localities were in Districts of Seyegan, Minggir and Moyudan, Sleman Regency. The samples of 10 units of the nest boxes were taken randomly in each district. The bird inhabited by *T. alba javanica* was indicated by the presence of birds, eggs, eggshell, digestive leftover pellets, feathers, and faeces. The nest boxes considered effective if at least 80% are inhabited or have been inhabited by *T. alba javanica*. Information on the role of these predatory birds in the control of ricefield rat was obtained by interviews with 20 respondent farmers taken randomly in all three districts. Secondary data on the extent of rat pest attacks in three districts were obtained from the Sleman Regency National Statistics Office. The results showed that the nest boxes installed in Sleman Regency especially Moyudan, Minggir and Seyegan Districts were 86.7%, indicating that the nest boxes were effective (> 80% inhabited). The predatory bird is an important biological control agent for the ricefield rats in Sleman Regency, which was indicated by, among others, a reduction in the area of rat attacks and was thought to be a low rat population so that *T. alba javanica* was reported to prey on lizards, fish, frogs, kittens and rabbits.*

*Key word:* paddy, *Tyto alba javanica*. nest box, rat