

Denpasar, 28 July 2023

Dear Dr. Miftahul Ilmi,

I am pleased to submit our manuscript entitled “ **The First Report of Occurrence the Cassava Lace Bug *Vatiga illudens* (Drake, 1922) (Hemiptera: Heteroptera: Tingidae) in Bali, Indonesia**” by I Putu Sudiarta, Shah Mahapati Dinarkaya, Komang Saraswati Devi, I Putu Bawa Ariyanta, Gusti Ngurah Alit Susanta Wirya, Dwi Sugiarta, Dewa Gede Wiryangga Selangga, I Wayan Diksa Gargita, Putu Perdana Kusuma Wiguna, Ketut Ayu Yuliadhi, Putu Shinta Devi for consideration as a *Journal of Tropical Biodiversity and Biotechnology* **Short communications**.

In this manuscript, we identified the Cassava Lace Bug (CLB) in Bali, which is a native cassava (*Manihot esculenta* Crantz, Euphorbiaceae) pest species to the Neotropical Region, mainly in Brazil. In Indonesia CLB was discovered only in Java (Malang, Pasuruan, Blitar, Mojokerto, and Probolinggo), according to the findings of Puspitarini et al. (2021). CLB have not been reported in others locations in Indonesia including in Bali. Base on survey and identification, surprisingly we conclude the CLB in Bali is *Vatiga illudens* (Hemiptera: Heteroptera: Tingidae). It is the first report of novel distribution areas for *V. illudens* in Bali, Indonesia.

We believe that our paper is appropriate for publication by *Journal of Tropical Biodiversity and Biotechnology* because in this study reported information of Alien species, because the species not native in Indonesia, however a native pest species to the Neotropical Region, mainly in Brazil. It is the new information about the distribution of CLB in Indonesia after previously only found in Java.

Our manuscript creates a for future studies to achieve this development, further information about the Cassava Lace Bug (CLB) in Bali, Indonesia. CLB is Alien species, for future is very possible as the key pest in Indonesia. Therefore is necessary to know the distribution of this pest in other regions in Indonesia to design the pest control management, especially for quarantine regulation base.

This manuscript has not been published before and is not being considered for publication elsewhere. We have no conflicts of interest to disclose. If you feel that the manuscript is appropriate for your journal, we suggest the following reviewers:

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Thank you for your consideration.  
Sincerely,



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