

Parasitization of parasitic plants on fruit plants in Bangkalan regency and Malang City, Indonesia

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ABSTRACT

Parasitic plants is one of medicinal plant which grow as parasite and have potential to inhibit growing their hosts such as on fruit plants. Research aimed to know the parasitic plants and their hosts was conducted in Bangkalan Regency and Malang City East Java. The research used explorative and descriptive methods in homeyards or gardens on along edge of road sides tracked by inventory and recording the parasitic plants and their hosts obtained. The results showed that there were five species of parasitic plants which were parasitized on seventeen species of fruit plants as hosts. Mango (*Mangifera indica* L.) was the most dominant species of the fruit plant as a host of the parasitic plants in Malang City and Bangkalan Regency with IVI 73.57 and 172.79 respectively. *Dendrophthoe pentandra* (L.) Miq was the most dominant parasitic plant in Bangkalan Regency with IVI 162.51, whereas *Macrosolen cochinchinensis* (Lour.) Tiegh was the most dominant parasitic plant in Malang City with IVI 88.08.

Key words: Parasitic plant, Dominant, *Mangifera indica*, *Dendrophthoe pentandra*, *Macrosolen cochinchinensis*

Introduction

Parasitic plants are commonly found growing as parasites both on wild and cultivated plants species. Solikin (2014a) reported that there were 46 species of medicinal plants that had been parasitized by parasitic plants in Purwodadi Botanic Garden, whereas 17 of the plants species were parasitized by the parasites in agroforests in Pemping Island Batam (Solikin, 2017). Sometimes the parasite was found as a hyperparasite on other parasitic plants such as *Viscum articulatum* on *Dendrophthoe pentandra* (Solikin, 2016).

The parasites will inhibit plants growth and production by competition of water and nutrients absorption also photosynthates from their hosts. The parasitization of the parasites caused up to 75% growth inhibition, damage and death of distal

branches on *Cassia fistula* in Purwodadi Botanic Garden (Solikin, 2016). The parasitic plants also caused reducing growth, yield and quality of wood and increase management operational costs of forests area (Department of Natural Resources Canada, 2012). Ohene (2011) reported that severe infection of the parasitic plants caused decreasing fruit production of citrus in Ghana.

Bediako *et al.*, (2013) also reported that the parasitic plant caused stunted growth, mortality and reduced yield of citrus, i.e. 65%, 55%, and 95% respectively in Central Ghana. Thus, they must be controlled to optimize the fruit plants growth and yield.

Inventory of the parasitic plants and their hosts is needed to know their species and domination also controlling the parasitic plants on the host plants. It is also important to control the parasitic plants as parasites or to cultivate them as medicinal plant sources.

Although the parasitic plants are known as parasite, they have been known and used by people as cancer drugs such as *Dendrophthoe pentandra* on mango for colon anticancer agents (Hardi, Wicaksono and Permana, 2013). It was also potential source for natural antioxidant and antidiabetes compounds (Artanti *et al.*, 2012). *Viscum articulatum* was used as a hypertension drug (Bachhay *et al.*, 2012), anticancer (Mutha *et al.*, 2010), diuretics (Jadhav *et al.*, 2010), antioxidants (Kuo *et al.*, 2010), antiulcer (Naganjaneyulu *et al.*, 2011), antiepileptic (Geetha *et al.*, 2010), and immunomodulatory (Lu *et al.*, 2011).

The efficacy of the parasite as a drug can be attributed to some chemical compounds contained in parasitic plants such as alkaloids, flavonoids, saponins, phenolic fractions of methanol-water and steroids (Daniel *et al.*, 2012). Tripathi *et al.* (2013) reported that phenolic compounds in *Scurrula atropurpurea* and *Macrosolon cochichinensis* had broad spectrum for antibacterial activity.

This research is aimed to know diversity, composition, evenness and dominance of the parasitic plants on the fruit plants in Bangkalan Regency and Malang City.

Materials and Methods

Location and Time

The study was conducted in Malang City and Bangkalan Regency East Java Province. Observation in Malang City was conducted in August 2014 and September 2018; Whereas in Bangkalan Regency carried out in August 2018. The observation of the parasitic plants and their hosts in Malang City was conducted in districts of Lowokwaru, Klojen, Sukun, Kedungkandang and Blimbing. Whereas study in Bangkalan Regency was conducted in districts of Burneh, Kamal, Arosbaya, Bangkalan and Socah (Figure 1).

Method

The study was conducted by exploring methods (Rugayah *et al.*, 2004) in home gardens around residential and gardens areas that were located around the road side passed. Data collection was conducted by inventory, identification and calculation of the species of the parasites and their hosts which were found and seen along the road that was passed during exploration. Observation and calcu-



Fig. 1. Location map of the researches

lation of the parasitic on host plants were carried out using binocular and hand counters.

Identification of the parasites and their hosts was conducted directly in the field by observing their morphological characters. Binocular was used to observe position of parasites on top branches. Taking photographs and making herbarium specimens were conducted for species identification.

The parasitic plants species determination referred to Backer and van den Brink (1965) and Barlow (1997).

Composition, dominance, diversity and evenness indice of the parasitic and their hosts were calculated by : a) Important Value Index (Krebs, 1994) ; b) Shannon Diversity Index (Maqurran, 2004); c) Domination Index (Maqurran, 2004); d) Evenness Index (Maqurran, 2004).

a. Important Value Index (IVI)

$$IVI = RD + RF \quad .. (1)$$

(Krebs, 1994)

$$\text{Relative Density (RD)} = \frac{\text{Individual number of species}}{\text{Total individual for all species}} \times 100$$

Relative Frequency (RF)

$$= \frac{\text{Frequency of a species}}{\text{Total frequency value of all species}} \times 100$$

b. Shannon diversity index

$$| H | = - \sum_{i=1}^n P_i \ln P_i$$

(Maqurran, 2004)

$$P_i = \frac{n_i}{N}$$

n_i = The number of individuals of the i species;
 N = Total number of individuals for all species
 H' = Shannon's diversity index

c. Domination Index (Simpson's domination index)

(Maqurran, 2004)

$$C = \sum_{i=1}^n \left[\frac{n_i^2}{N} \right] \quad (3)$$

C = Simpson's domination index
 n_i = i -species important value index
 N = Total important value

d. Evenness index of plant species

(Maqurran, 2004)

$$e' = \frac{H'}{\ln S}$$

e' = Species evenness index
 H' = Shannon's diversity index
 S = Number of species found
 The evenness index range is as follows:
 $0 < e \leq 0.5$: Ecosystem is in stress and low evenness
 $0.5 < e \leq 0.75$: Ecosystem is in less stable condition and moderate evenness
 $0.75 < e \leq 1.0$: Ecosystem is in a stable condition and high evenness.

Results and Discussion

Species of the parasitic plants

There were five species of the parasitic plants which parasitized the fruit plants both in Malang City and Bangkalan Regency, i.e. *Dendrophthoe pentandra* (L.)

Miq., *Macrosolen cochinchinensis* (Lour.) Tiegh., *Scurrula atropurpurea* (Bl.) Dans., *Scurrula ferruginea* (Jack) Dans., and *Viscum articulatum* Burm. f. (Table 1). *S.atropurpurea* and *S. ferruginea* were not found on the fruit plants in Bangkalan Regency, while *V. articulatum* was not found in Malang City (Table 1).

The parasitic plants which were found both in Bangkalan Regency and Malang City were categorized as hemiparasite which required light for their photosynthesis and growth. Therefore the parasites position was generally found on branches or twigs exposed to direct sunlight. Solikin (2014a) reported that the position of the parasites on fruit trees was generally spread between branches III to VI from main stem, even for large host trees their position was on branch VII which was relatively opened and receive much directly sunlight. On these branches, the birds as the main spreader of the parasites is also more free to perch and disperse the seeds released simultaneously by their faeces or the seeds were vomited after eaten.

Table 1 showed that *S.atropurpurea* and *S. ferruginea* were not found on the fruit plants in Bangkalan Regency, whereas *V. articulatum* was not found in Malang City. It is likely to be caused by their species as a source of seeds to disperse by the birds have not been found. The birds eat the seeds and then bring out them together with their faeces. The seeds will stick when they fall and attach to stem bark when the birds perch on the tree. It is an important factor for the parasitic plants dispersal because their dispersal in the community is mainly conducted by the birds. *V. Articulatum* (Figure 2E) which was not found in Malang, grew as a hyperparasite attached to the other parasitic plants especially on *D. pentandra* (Figure 2 A) in Bangkalan Regency. It was agreed with Solikin (2016) who reported that *V. articulatum* was commonly lived and grew as hyperparasite on other parasitic plants such as *D. pentandra* in Purwodadi Botanic Garden.

V. articulatum was not found parasitized the fruit

Table 1. The parasitic plants on the fruit plants in Malang City and Bangkalan Regency East Java

Species	Family	Malang City	Bangkalan Regency
<i>Dendrophthoe pentandra</i> (L.)Miq.	Loranthaceae	V	V
<i>Macrosolen cochinchinensis</i> (Lour.) Tiegh	Loranthaceae	V	V
<i>Scurrula atropurpurea</i> (Bl.) Dans	Loranthaceae	V	-
<i>Scurrula ferruginea</i> (Jack) Dans.	Loranthaceae	V	-
<i>Viscum articulatum</i> Burm. f.	Santalaceae	-	V

Note : V = Found - = Not Found

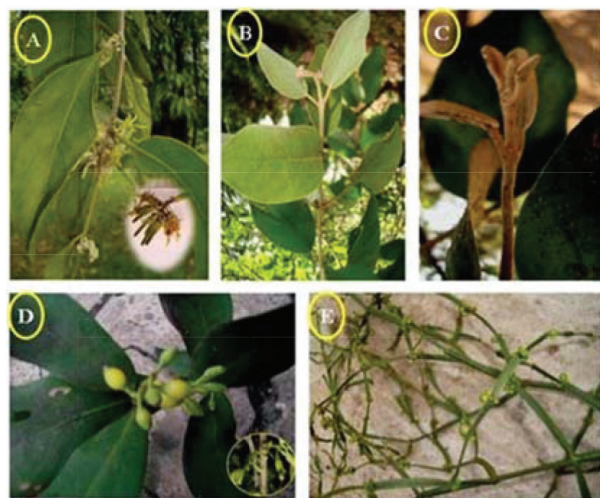


Fig. 2. Species of parasitic plants on the fruit plants in Malang City and Bangkalan Regency East Java: A) *Dendrophthoe pentandra* B) *Scurrula atropurpurea*. C) *Scurrula ferruginea* D) *Macrosolen cochinchinensis*, E) *Viscum articulatum*

plants in Malang city. This may be caused by this species as the parasite source both on the fruit plants and other plant species was not found so there are not fruits that will be dispersed by birds to the host plants. Solikin (2016) reported that *V. articulatum* was a hyperparasite which was its life, population and distribution depended on other parasites, especially *D. pentandra*. Table 2 and Table 3 showed that *D. pentandra* was found both in Bangkalan Regency and Malang City but only in Bangkalan Regency *V. articulatum* was found. It may be found in other time or locations because the composition and population of the parasitic plants

is dynamic. It is possible because of its dependency to other parasitic plants as hosts such as *D. Pentandra*. Solikin (2016) reported that the population of *V. articulatum* was depended on the population of *D. pentandra* as a host in Purwodadi Botanic Garden. This indicated that availability of hosts and parasites as sources parasites influenced the dispersal of the parasitic plants.

Parasitization of the parasites into host plants are preceded by sticking their seeds to surface of stem bark. It can be occurred by vomited or eated seeds by birds fall along with their faeces on the branches when they perched. Aril of the seeds contain sticky viscum which cover the seeds and is not digested in stomach of the birds. The seed the parasites such as *D. pentandra* which was stucked to the surface of stem bark begin to germinate at about 11 days after sticking (DAS). The leaves will grow until 8 blades at 114 days after seed germinated with plant length about 10 cm (Solikin, 2014b). At the time of the parasite leaf and haustorium grow extensively, inhibition of the host plants growth increase until their branches dry and dye.

Host Plants

The fruit plants as host of the parasitic plants were different between Malang City and Bangkalan Regency. There were 14 species, 12 genera and 12 families of the fruit plants parasitized by parasitic plants in Malang City (Table 4). whereas in Bangkalan Regency, there were 8 species, 8 genera and 5 families of the fruit plants which were parasitized by the parasitic plants (Table 5). It was indicated that the species number of the fruit plants in

Table 2. Relative density (RD), relative frequency (RF) and important value index (IVI) of parasitic plants in Malang City East Java

Species	Family	RD	RF	IVI
<i>Macrosolen cochinchinensis</i> (Lour.) Tiegh	Loranthaceae	46.81	41.27	88.08
<i>Dendrophthoe pentandra</i> (L.)Miq.	Loranthaceae	14.89	16.67	31.56
<i>Scurrula atropurpurea</i> (Bl.) Dans.	Loranthaceae	36.17	38.89	75.06
<i>Scurrula ferruginea</i> (Jack) Dans.	Loranthaceae	2.128	3.175	5.30

Table 3. Relative density (RD), relative frequency (RF), and important value index (IVI) of parasitic plants in Bangkalan Regency East Java

Species	Family	RD	RF	IVI
<i>Macrosolen cochinchinensis</i> (Lour.) Tiegh	Loranthaceae	10.49	9.30	19.79
<i>Dendrophthoe pentandra</i> (L.) Miq.	Loranthaceae	81.12	81.40	162.51
<i>Viscum articulatum</i> Burm.f.	Santalaceae	8.39	9.30	17.70

Malang which has been parasitized by parasites more than those in Bangkalan Regency. Mango (*Mangifera Indica* L.) was the most dominant fruit plant in Malang City and Bangkalan Regency as a host of the parasite with IVI 73.57 and 172.79 respectively (Table 4, Table 5).

The fruit plants consisted of 10 major or popular fruits species such as as mango (*Mangifera indica*), avocado (*Persea americana*), sweet starfruit (*Averrhoa carambola*) and guava (*Psidium guajava*) and 4 minor or less popular fruit such as kepel (*Stelechocarpus burahol*), menuwa (*Annona reticulata*) and cerme (*Phyllanthus acidus*). The popular fruit plants were planted by many residents because of their high economic value and relatively easy to cultivate such as mango, avocado, sweet starfruit and guava. Whereas less popular fruits have low economic

value and are rarely cultivated by the residents so they tend to be rare and endangered such as kepel (*Stelechocarpus burahol*), cerme (*Phyllanthus acidus*), menuwo (*Annona reticulata*) and mulberry (*Morus alba*). There were 37 species of woody edible fruits in Malang City (Solikin 2015b) and 38 species of woody edible fruit plants in Madura including Bangkalan Regency (Solikin, 2012) which had potential to be parasitized by the parasitic plants. This meant that the species of the fruit plants which have been parasitized by the parasitic plants were 37.84% (Table 2) and 21.62% (Table 3) in Malang City and Bangkalan Regency respectively. Some species of fruit plants have not been found parasitized by the parasitic plants such as jackfruit (*Artocarpus heterophyllus*), sawo kecil (*Manilkara kauki*), and jamblang (*Syzygium cumini*).

Table 4. Relative density (RD), relative frequency (RF) and important value index (IVI) of the fruit plants which were parasitized by the parasitic plants in Malang City

Species	Local name	Family	RD	RF	IVI	Note
<i>Annona reticulata</i> L.	menuwo	Annonaceae	2.27	2.33	4.60	Mn
<i>Annona squamosa</i> L.	srikaya	Annonaceae	2.27	2.33	4.60	Mn
<i>Averrhoa carambola</i> L.	blimbing	Averrhoaceae	18.18	16.28	34.46	M
<i>Citrus maxima</i> (Burm.) Merr.	jeruk bali	Rutaceae	2.27	2.33	4.60	M
<i>Citrus nobilis</i> Lour.	Jeruk siem	Rutaceae	2.27	2.33	4.60	M
<i>Lansium domesticum</i> Corr.	langsep	Meliaceae	4.55	4.65	9.20	M
<i>Mangifera indica</i> L.	mangga:poh	Anacardiaceae	36.36	37.21	73.57	M
<i>Morus alba</i> L.	besaran	Moraceae	6.82	6.98	13.90	Mn
<i>Nephellium lappaceum</i> L.	rambutan	Sapindaceae	2.27	2.33	4.60	M
<i>Persea americana</i> Mill.	alpukat	Lauraceae	9.09	9.30	18.39	M
<i>Phyllanthus acidus</i> (L.) Schult.	cerme	Euphorbiaceae	6.82	6.98	13.8	Mn
<i>Psidium guajava</i> L.	jambu biji	Myrtaceae	2.27	2.33	4.60	M
<i>Punica granatum</i> L.	delima	Punicaceae	2.27	2.33	4.60	Mn
<i>Stelechocarpus burahol</i> (Bl.)Hook.f.&Th.	kepel	Annonaceae	2.27	2.33	4.60	Mn

Note : M = major; Mn = Minor

Table 5. Relative density (RD), relative frequency (RF), and important value index (IVI) of the fruit plants which were parasitized by parasitic plants in Bangkalan Regency East Java

Species	Local name	Family	RD	RF	IVI	Note
<i>Annona squamosa</i> L.	sarkajeh	Annonaceae	2.82	1.56	4.38	Mn
<i>Mangifera indica</i> L.	pao	Anacardiaceae	84.51	88.28	172.79	M
<i>Nephellium lappaceum</i> L.	bunglon	Sapindaceae	4.93	3.13	8.05	M
<i>Persea americana</i> Mill.	apokat	Lauraceae	1.41	1.56	2.97	M
<i>Psidium guajava</i> L.	jembuh	Myrtaceae	0.70	0.78	1.49	M
<i>Spondias pinnata</i> (L.f.) Kurz.	kedundung	Anacardiaceae	0.70	0.78	1.49	Mn
<i>Syzygium samarangensis</i> (Bl.) Merr.& Perry	klampok	Myrtaceae	0.70	0.78	1.49	M
<i>Tamarindus indica</i> L.	accem	Leguminosae	4.23	3.13	7.35	M

Note : M = major; Mn = Minor

Species Dominance and Important Value Indice

The domination of plants species can be shown by their IVI. Plant species which are able to adapt well to their habitat, they will grow dominance in their community. Species with high IVI have the great ability to maintain their growth and sustainability in the community. (Smith, 1977) stated that the dominance species was able to utilize the environment which was more efficient compared to other species in the same place. These species had $IVI > 10\%$ and they will grow dominance and stable in the ecosystem (Sutisna, 1981).

Table 2 showed that *D. Pentandra* was the most dominant parasitic plant on the fruit plants in Bangkalan Regency but it was not dominance in Malang City. In contrast, *M. cochinchinensis* was the most dominant parasitic plant in Malang City but it was not dominant species in Bangkalan regency.

D. pentandra has the highest IVI in Bangkalan Regency (Table 2) whereas *M. cochinchinensis* had the highest IVI in Malang City (Table 3). It was indicated that the domination of the parasitic plants in the two communities was different. Species and their dominance of the parasitic plants were influenced by their characteristics, location, climate, vegetation, time and ecosystem. Solikin (2014a) reported that there were five species of the parasitic plants obtained in Purwodadi Botanic Garden, i.e. *D. pentandra*, *M. tetragonous*, *S. atropurpurea*, *V. articulatum* and *V. ovalifolium*, whereas in agroforests in Kepala Jeri Island Batam was found three species of the parasitic plants, i.e. *Cassytha filiformis*, *V. stenocarpum* and *D. pauciflora* (Solikin 2016). *D. pentandra* was the most dominant parasitic plant in Purwodadi Botanic Garden, whereas *Cassytha filiformis* was the most dominant parasitic plant in Kepala Jeri Island (Solikin, 2016).

Local abundance of the parasitic plants and degree of constancy of host plants in time and space also affected preference of the parasitic plants in a community (Norton and Carpenter. 1998; Norton and Lange. 1999). *D. pentandra*, *M. cochinchinensis* and *S. atropurpurea* including the parasites which were commonly found and often dominated in several host plant species (Solikin, 2013; 2014a; 2015a). The presence of *D. pentandra* in Bangkalan regency was very dominance and the presence of this parasite can be predicted to be quite long as parasites in various plants species, because it did not only infect local fruit plants, but also other tree species, so this

parasite can be categorized as a wide range parasite. The constancy of the host trees in the same space have potential to increase the dominance of this parasite continually. *D. pentandra* was reported as the parasite species which grow most dominance and the population continued to increase in the Purwodadi Botanic Garden from 2005 - 2013 and it has become a parasite in 46 species of medicinal plants (Solikin, 2014a). The presence this parasite is still the most dominant parasitic plant among other parasitic species in Purwodadi Botanic Garden until now.

The domination of *M. cochinchinensis* in Malang City may be related to the characteristics of parasites and its environment where it may be more suitable for its growing than those in Bangkalan Regency. *M. cochinchinensis* more suitable in rather shaded canopy so it was often obtained in bottom canopy sheets. It also choose rather specific host plants with relative soft wood and bark such as *Mangifera indica*, *Ficus* spp. and *Streblus asper* in Puwodadi Botanic Garden. Soft bark and wood with high moisture content is preferred by parasite, because its haustorium can penetrate stem bark and tissue faster than hard wood to absorb water and minerals from the hosts stem.

Mangoes in Malang City were generally planted in yards or narrow home gardens around residents houses where sunlight cannot be fully received all day on some parts of the plant canopy due to obstructed buildings. This microclimate appears to be suitable for the growth and dispersion of *M. cochinchineensis*. In Bangkalan Regency, mangoes were generally planted in the home yards or home gardens which were relatively large and sunlight can be received fully in most plant canopies and birds can fly and perch more freely among branches. This condition was suitable for the growth and *D. pentandra* dispersal among the plants.

Mango is the most dominant species of the fruit plants as a host of the parasitic plants both in Malang City and Bangkalan Regency. It was shown by the highest IVI among other fruit plants in Malang City and Bangkalan Regency, i.e. 73.57 and 172.79 respectively (Table 2 and 3). This can be caused by the highest population and density of this species among other fruit plants species. The population of productive mango in Malang city was 9871 trees in 2016 (BPS Malang Municipally, 2017) and in Bangkalan Regency was 669778 in 2016 (BPS Bangkalan Regency, 2017). The higher the plant

Table 6. Shannon diversity, evenness and dominance of the fruit plants which were parasitized by parasitic plants in Malang City and Bangkalan Regency East Java

Site	Shannon diversity index(H')	Evenness Index (e')	Dominance Index (C)
Malang City	2.09	0.79	0.19
Bangkalan Regency	0.69	0.33	0.75

Table 7. Shannon diversity, evenness and dominance of the parasitic plants in Malang City and Bangkalan Regency East Java

Site	Shannon diversity index (H')	Evenness Index (e')	Dominance Index (C)
Malang City	1.14	0.82	0.36
Bangkalan Regency	0.30	0.27	0.86

population of mango the higher the chance of the parasitic plants number to parasitize mango. Mourão (2012) stated that increasing density and plant populations will increase the plants population parasitized from neighbor parasitized plants. This was also reported by Mourão *et al.* (2016) on *Mimosa calodendron* that the most abundance of this species as a host plants caused it had been infected by the parasitic plant *Struthanthus flexicaulis* more than other species in plant communities over Ironstone outcrops in the Iron Quadrangle region (Southeast Brazil).

Diversity and Evenness Indices

Species diversity in a community can be shown by its diversity index (H') value; the higher the value, the higher diversity and stability of the community. H' is categorized as low (H' <1), moderate (1 ≤ H' <2), and high (H' > 2) (Kent and Pady, 1992). Diversity Index of the fruit plants which was parasitized by the parasitic plants in Malang Regency and Bangkalan Regency was 2.09 and 0.69, respectively (Table 4). This can be categorized that the fruit plants which were parasitized by the parasitic plants in Malang was higher and more diverse than those in Bangkalan Regency. It may correlated with evenness and domination index of the fruit plants in the two location. Table 6 showed that evenness index value of the fruit plants in Malang City was higher than those in Bangkalan Regency. It indicated that the parasitized of the fruit plants in Malang City more diverse and spread on several species than those in Bangkalan Regency. This was also supported by their domination index in Malang was lower than those on Bangkalan Regency, which was not dominated by certain species. On the other hand, domination index of the fruit plants in

Bangkalan Regency was high (0.75) which means that the parasitized fruit plants dominated by certain species. Table 2 showed that *Mangifera indica* was very dominant species as a host of the parasitic plants in even it was compared to the same species in Malang City. It indicated that this species has high risk to be parasitized by the parasitic plants.

Evenness index of the parasitic plants on the fruit plants in Bangkalan Regency was lower than those in Malang City (Table 7). It showed that the fruit plants tend to be parasitized by certain parasitic plants. Table 3 showed that *D. pentandra* was the most dominant parasitic plants in Bangkalan Regency with the highest IVI (162.51). It indicated that this species is very dominant in the community.

Conclusion

There were four and three species of the parasitic plants which were parasitized the fruit plants as hosts both in Malang City and Bangkalan Regency, respectively. Mango (*Mangifera indica* L.) was the most dominant species of the fruit plant as host of the parasitic plants in Malang City and Bangkalan Regency with IVI 73.57 and 172.79 respectively. *Dendrophthoe pentandra* (L.) Miq. was the most dominant parasitic plant in Bangkalan Regency with IVI 162.51 whereas *Macrosolen cochinchinensis* (Lour.) Tiegh was the most dominant parasitic plant in Malang City with IVI 88.08.

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