

Infestation of mistletoe *Dendrophthoe pentandra* (L.)Miq on various canopy shading and plants diversity in Purwodadi Botanic Garden: A study on medicinal plant *Cassia fistula* L.

Solikin

Purwodadi Botanic Garden, Research Center for Plant Conservation and Botanic Gardens - Indonesian Institute of Sciences
Jl. Raya Surabaya Malang km 65 Purwodadi Pasuruan East Java

Abstract

Mistletoe *Dendrophthoe pentandra* (L.)Miq is a parasitic plant commonly found parasitizing and infesting medicinal plants such as *Cassia fistula* L. This research aimed to investigate the infestation of *D. pentandra* on *C. fistula* on various trees canopy shading, infested host number and plant diversity. Study was conducted in Purwodadi Botanic Garden which located in Purwodadi, Pasuruan, East-Java during January-March 2020. Data Collection was conducted by explorative and descriptive methods in each block locations in the garden. Sampling plots were determined by purposive sampling method using 20x20 m per plot in each block where the tree of *C. fistula* found. The canopy shading was categorized as : open (4) = light interception > 90%, rather open (3) = light interception = 60-90%, rather shady (2) = light interception 30-60%, shady (1) (light interception < 30%). The result showed that the infestation of *D. pentandra* was affected significantly by the plant canopy shading and the infested host number in the blocks. The highest infestation of mistletoe *D. pentandra* on *C. fistula* was found in the open canopy and the highest infested host plants in the block III.D with the parasite number 13 per plant. The tree plant diversity in the blocks tend to have negative correlation to the infestation of *D. pentandra* on *C. fistula* with $r = -0.18$.

Keywords: *Dendrophthoe pentandra*, *Cassia fistula*, infestation, mistletoe, medicinal plant.

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Introduction

Mistletoe is shoot parasitic plant commonly found parasitizing and infesting wild and cultivated plants. Some species of the mistletoes have special characteristics for compatibility or specificity to their hosts which were determined by chemical, physiological and physical processes at the mistletoe-host interface (de Buen & Ornelas, 2002; Fadini, 2011). They live and only found on particular plant species as hosts such as *Viscum articulatum* on *Dendrophthoe pentandra* (Solikin, 2016) and *Psittacanthus schiedeianus* on *Liquidambar styraciflua* (de Buen & Ornelas, 2002). The other mistletoes are generalist (Norton & Carpenter, 1998; de Buen & Ornelas, 2002) which parasitizing many plant species such as *D. pentandra* (360 species) (Xiao & Pu, 1988), *Viscum album* (452 species) (Barney et al., 1998); *Dendrophthoe falcata* (401 species) (Hawksworth et al., 1993); and *Scurrula pulverulenta* (81 species) (Pundir, 1995). Solikin (2016) reported that *D.pentandra* parasitized 86 plant species in Purwodadi Botanic Garden such as *Cassia fistula*, *Sweitenia macrophylla*, *Mangifera indica*, *Citrus hystrix*, *Syzygium samarangensis* and

Annona squamosa. Although *D. pentandra* grow as a parasitic plant, it has has potential used for medicinal plants as antioxidant, antidiabetes (Artanti et al., 2012) and antibacterial (Hardiyanti et al., 2018).

Parasitization and infestation of mistletoes reduced growth, diminished vigor, premature mortality, impaired quality and quantity of wood, reduced fruit set, and heightened susceptibility to attack by other agents such as insects or fungi (Devkota, 2005), from mild to severe (Ward, 2005; Shen et al., 2010) which caused death of the hosts such as mistletoe *Amyema preissii* on *Acacia victoriae* (Reid et al., 1992). Barreda et al. (2012; 2013) reported that infestation of *Viscum album* had inhibited growing and caused mortality rates more than twice that of noninfested trees of scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris* L.).

Infestation and distribution the mistletoes on the host plants depend on biotic and abiotic factors such as infested host plants, dispersers, plants diversity, compatibility between host and parasite, and light interception in the plant canopy layers. Birds have important role on dispersal of the mistletoe seeds (Aukema & del Rio, 2002) such as the seeds of *D. pentandra* in Purwodadi Botanic Garden.

D. pentandra is hemiparasite (Solikin, 2016; 2020) which have green leaves for producing photoassimilates and obtaining water and nutrients from its hosts (Kuijt, 2009). Light is needed by this parasite for photosynthesis, seeds germination and plant growth. Thus, canopy shading by neighbour trees affect light interception on host canopy layer, seeds germination and growth of the

* Corresponding Author:

Solikin

Purwodadi Botanic Garden, Research Center for Plant Conservation and Botanic Gardens – Indonesian Institute of Sciences. Jl. Raya Surabaya Malang km 65 Purwodadi Pasuruan East Java 67163

Phone: +62343615033 Fax: +62343615033

e-mail: solikin@lipi.go.id ; lipisolikin@gmail.com

parasite. De Buen & Ornelas (2002) stated that light interception limited the postdispersal growth of the parasites, e.i. seed adhesion, seed germination, seedling establishment and seedling survival.

Cassia fistula is belongs to the family Leguminosae which was planted in several blocks in Purwodadi Botanic Garden as conserved plant which was reported as a dominant host for *D. pentandra* (Solikin, 2014a). Studies of *C. fistula* shown that this species has been evaluated as antimicrobial, antifungal, antipyretic, analgesic, larvicidal, antiinflammatory, antioxidant, antitumor, hepatoprotective, hypoglycemic activities, antidiabetic activity, and laxative property (Thirumal et al., 2012).

Investigation the infestation of *D. pentandra* on *C. fistula* on various neighbour trees canopy shading, host infested number and plant diversity is interesting because there is no information about this study, especially in Indonesian Botanic Gardens. It use and important to cultivate and control mistletoes for developing *C. fistula* as medicinal plant.

This research aimed to investigate the infestation of *D. pentandra* on *C. fistula* in various trees canopy shading and infested host number in Purwodadi Botanic Garden.

Methods

Time and location

Research was conducted in Purwodadi Botanic Garden (Fig. 1) during January - March 2020. The garden is located in Purwodadi District, Pasuruan Regency, East Java Province, Indonesia at about 300 m asl with area 85 hectares. Climate data from climate station in Purwodadi Botanic Garden during 2014 - 2019 was recorded average of precipitation, rainy day, air relative humidity (RH), minimum and maximum temperature, i.e. 2232 mm per year, 152 days per year, 74.33%, 20.37 °C and 30.82 °C, respectively (Tab. 1).

Data Collection and analysis

Data Collection was conducted by explorative and descriptive methods in any block locations in the garden. Sampling plots were determined by purposive sampling method using 20x20 m in each block where the tree of *C. fistula* found. There were 16 blocks determined and 18 plots made where *C. fistula* found (III.C, III.D, III.E, V.D, VI.B, IX.B, IX.C, XI.I, XII.F, XIII.D, XV.A, XX.F, XX.G, XIV.C, XXII.D, XXII.E). Tree species in each plot and block were invented, identified and counted their species and specimen number.

Vegetation analysis is conducted to determine tree plant species composition and indice of important value (IVI) plant domination (C), Shannon diversity (H'), evenness (E'). *D. pentandra* in plots and host parasited plants in the blocks was counted to know their relation to the parasite infestation and prevalence. Infested host prevalence by parasite show the proportion between the infested host and the total host number. The neighbour tree canopy cover or shading around and the top canopy of *C. fistula* in each plot location were categorized qualitatively as : open (4) = light interception > 90%, rather open (3) = light interception = 60-90 %, rather shady (2) = light interception 30 - 60%, shady (1) (light interception < 30%). Infested host by *D. pentandra* in the blocks was categorized as : 0 = not found; 1= too little (1-2 host); 2= little (3-4 host); 3 = lot (5-6 host); 4 = too lot (> 6 host). Shannon diversity, domination and evenness Indice were counted according to Maqurran (2004). IVI was counted according to Krebs (1994). Data was analysed by Microsoft excel and nonparametrical statistic using MINITAB 13 program. Kruskal-Wallis test was used to determine differences between tree canopy shading, host infested plants and the parasite number. Pearson correlation test (r) was used to know correlation between Shannon diversity and parasite number; tree species number and parasite number; trees specimen number and parasite number.

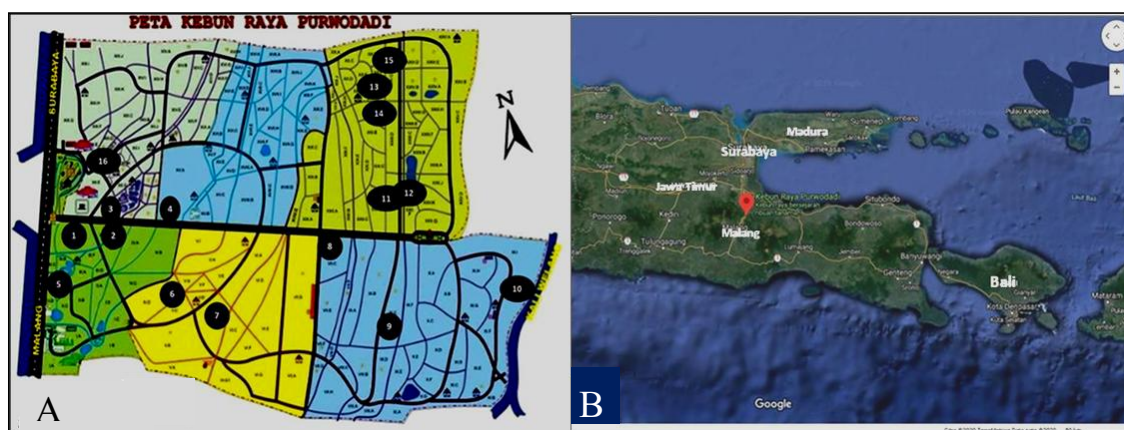


Figure 1. Research location: A. Map of Purwodadi Botanic Garden (Purwodadi Botanic Garden, 2013), **x** = sampling plots; B. **📍** = Location of Purwodadi Botanic Garden

Table 1. Climate data in Climate Station of Purwodadi Botanic Garden during 2014 – 2019

Year	Precipitation (mm/year)	Rainy day (days/year)	Relative humidity (%)	Temperature (°C)	
				Minimum	Maximum
2014	1.676	157	72.66	20.30	30.68
2015	1.568	141	74.64	19.89	30.28
2016	3.134	162	74.45	20.27	30.29
2017	3.554	193	72.45	20.45	31.32
2018	1.939	143	75.07	20.62	31.66
2019	1.564	115	76.71	20.70	30.70
Average	2.239	152	7.433	2.037	3.082

Results

Tree plant diversity and composition

The results showed that there were 63 species, 55 genera and 20 family of tree plant species found around *C. fistula* in all plots in the garden (Tab. 2). There were six species dominating around *C. fistula* such as *Swietenia macrophylla* King., *Jacaranda obtusifolia* Bonpl., *Albizia saman* (Jacq.) Merr. and *Terminalia microcarpa* Decne with IVI 29.45, 26.48, 19.87, and 15.49, respectively (Tab. 2).

The highest plant diversity (H') was reached in the plot in block III.C (2.41) and the lowest was in XII.F (0.88) (Table 4). Plant diversity in all block locations was high ($H' = 3.157$) (Tab. 4). There is not significant correlation statistically between plant diversity on parasite infestation on the host ($P > 0.05$) (Tab. 3).

Table 2. Relative density (RD), relative frequency (RF), relative domination (RDom) and important value index (IVI) of the plant species around *Cassia fistula* L. in Purwodadi Botanic Garden

No.	Species	Family	RD	RF	RDom	IVI
1	<i>Cassia fistula</i> L.	Leguminosae	18.11	20.00	13.47	51.58
2	<i>Swietenia macrophylla</i> King.	Meliaceae	8.64	6.67	14.15	29.45
3	<i>Jacaranda obtusifolia</i> Bonpl.	Bignoniaceae	19.75	5.83	0.90	26.48
4	<i>Albizia saman</i> (Jacq.) Merr.	Leguminosae	3.29	3.33	13.25	19.87
5	<i>Terminalia microcarpa</i> Decne	Combretaceae	2.06	2.50	10.93	15.49
6	<i>Ceiba pentandra</i> (L.) Gaertn.	Malvaceae	2.47	2.50	5.08	10.05
7	<i>Diospyros malabarica</i> (Desr.)Kostel.	Ebenaceae	4.53	3.33	2.17	10.03
8	<i>Enterolobium cyclocarpum</i> (Jacq.)Griseb	Leguminosae	1.23	1.67	6.75	9.65
9	<i>Pterocarpus indicus</i> Willd.	Leguminosae	2.06	2.50	3.97	8.53
10	<i>Wrightia arborea</i> (Dennst.) Mabb	Apocynaceae	2.47	1.67	0.73	4.87
11	<i>Madhuca longifolia</i> (J. König ex L.) J.F. Macbr.	Sapotaceae	1.23	1.67	1.80	4.70
12	<i>Lagerstroemia loudonii</i> Teijm&Binn.	Lythraceae	0.82	1.67	1.74	4.23
13	<i>Lagerstroemia duperiana</i> Pierre ex Gagnep	Lythraceae	0.82	1.67	1.72	4.21
14	<i>Mangifera indica</i> L.	Anacardiaceae	1.23	1.67	0.50	3.40
15	<i>Metroxylon sagu</i> Rotb.	Arecaceae	2.06	0.83	0.49	3.38
16	<i>Syzygium sexangulatum</i> (Miq.)Amsh.	Myrtaceae	0.82	1.67	0.72	3.21
17	<i>Livistona rotundifolia</i> (Lam.) Mart.	Arecaceae	1.23	1.67	0.12	3.02
18	<i>Gliricidia sepium</i> (Jacq.)Walp.	Leguminosae	0.82	1.67	0.47	2.96
19	<i>Diospyros celebica</i> Bakh.	Ebenaceae	1.23	0.83	0.71	2.78
20	<i>Kigelia africana</i> (Lam.) Benth.	Bignoniaceae	0.41	0.83	1.52	2.76
21	<i>Eucalyptus globulus</i> Labill.	Myrtaceae	0.82	0.83	1.09	2.75
22	<i>Parkia timoriana</i> (DC) Merr.	Leguminosae	0.41	0.83	1.44	2.68
23	<i>Miliusa horsfieldii</i> (Bennett) Baill. ex Pierre	Annonaceae	1.65	0.83	0.14	2.62
24	<i>Streblus asper</i> Lour.	Moraceae	1.65	0.83	0.12	2.60
25	<i>Peltophorum pterocarpum</i> (DC) K.Heyne	Leguminosae	0.41	0.83	1.24	2.48
27	<i>Caryota rumphiana</i> Mart.	Arecaceae	0.82	0.83	0.73	2.39
28	<i>Acacia oraria</i> F.Muell.	Leguminosae	1.23	0.83	0.28	2.35
29	<i>Ficus callosa</i> Willd.	Moraceae	0.41	0.83	1.05	2.30
30	<i>Aleurites moluccana</i> (L.) Willd.	Euphorbiaceae	0.41	0.83	1.02	2.26
31	<i>Voacanga</i> sp.	Apocynaceae	0.82	0.83	0.51	2.17
32	<i>Tectona grandis</i> L.f.	Verbenaceae	0.41	0.83	0.92	2.16
33	<i>Adonidia merrillii</i> (Becc.) Becc.	Arecaceae	1.23	0.83	0.08	2.15
34	<i>Firmiana malayana</i> Kosterm.	Sterculiaceae	0.82	0.83	0.46	2.12
35	<i>Spathodea campanulata</i> L. Beauv.	Bignoniaceae	0.41	0.83	0.79	2.04
36	<i>Albizia chinensis</i> (Osbeck) Merr.	Leguminosae	0.41	0.83	0.76	2.01
37	<i>Eucalyptus alba</i> Reinw. Ex Blume	Myrtaceae	0.41	0.83	0.76	2.01

38	<i>Delonix regia</i> (Hook.) Raf.	Leguminosae	0.41	0.83	0.73	1.98
39	<i>Bombax ceiba</i> L.	Malvaceae	0.82	0.83	0.28	1.94
40	<i>Cinnamomum verum</i> J. Presl.	Lauraceae	0.41	0.83	0.59	1.84
41	<i>Cinnamomum camphora</i> (L.) J.Presl.	Lauraceae	0.41	0.83	0.52	1.76
42	<i>Albizia procera</i> (roxb.) Benth.	Leguminosae	0.41	0.83	0.49	1.74
43	<i>Areca macrocalyx</i> Zipp ex Blume	Arecaceae	0.82	0.83	0.06	1.71
44	<i>Alstonia scholaris</i> (L.)R.Br.	Apocynaceae	0.41	0.83	0.47	1.71
45	<i>Erythrina variegata</i> L.	Leguminosae	0.41	0.83	0.47	1.71
46	<i>Vitex pinnata</i> L.	Verbenaceae	0.41	0.83	0.47	1.71
47	<i>Elaeis guinensis</i> Jacq.	Arecaceae	0.41	0.83	0.42	1.67
48	<i>Plumeria alba</i> L.	Apocynaceae	0.41	0.83	0.28	1.53
49	<i>Kopsia arborea</i> Blume	Apocynaceae	0.41	0.83	0.20	1.44
50	<i>Pimenta dioica</i> (L.) Merr.	Myrtaceae	0.41	0.83	0.20	1.44
51	<i>Anadenathera peregrina</i> (L.) Speg	Leguminosae	0.41	0.83	0.18	1.43
52	<i>Anthocephalus</i> sp	Rubiaceae	0.41	0.83	0.18	1.43
53	<i>Dehaasia</i> sp	Lauraceae	0.41	0.83	0.18	1.43
54	<i>Plumeria rubra</i> L.	Apocynaceae	0.41	0.83	0.18	1.43
55	<i>Syzygium acuminatissimum</i> (Blume) DC	Myrtaceae	0.41	0.83	0.18	1.43
56	<i>Actinorhiza callapparia</i> (Blume) H. Wendl & Drune ex	Arecaceae	0.41	0.83	0.13	1.37
57	<i>Lannea coromandelica</i> (Houst.) Merr.	Anacardiaceae	0.41	0.83	0.13	1.37
58	<i>Morinda citrifolia</i> L.	Rubiaceae	0.41	0.83	0.13	1.37
59	<i>Maniltoa rosea</i> (K. Schum)Meeuwen	Leguminosae	0.41	0.83	0.06	1.30
60	<i>Syzygium nervosum</i> A.Cunn. Ex DC.	Myrtaceae	0.41	0.83	0.05	1.29
61	<i>Cassia leptophylla</i> Vogel	Leguminosae	0.41	0.83	0.03	1.27
62	<i>Dysoxylum</i> sp	Meliaceae	0.41	0.83	0.02	1.26
63	<i>Mischocarpus</i> sp.	Sapindaceae	0.41	0.83	0.02	1.26

Table 3. Kruskal Wallis test and Pearson correlation of some variables of canopy shading

Relationship of variables	Kruskall Wallis	Pearson Correlation
Infested host x parasite infesting	P = 0.018	-
Canopy Shading x parasite infesting	P = 0.030	-
Shannon diversity Index x parasite number	-	r= -0.17; P = 0.53
Domination index x parasite number	-	r= 0.26 ; P = 0.34
Evennes index x parasite number	-	r=-0.37 ; P = 0.17
Species number in plot x parasite number	-	r= -0.08 ; P = 0.77
Species number in plot (site) x parasite number	-	r= -0.19 ; P = 0.49
Specimen number in plot x parasite number	-	r= -0.39; P = 0.14
Infested hosts x parasite number	-	r= 0.82 ; P = 0.00

Table 4. Domination index (C), evennes index (E'), diversity index (H'), host prevalence, host species, host specimen and parasite number in each Block. Note : *) *Cassia fistula* L.

No.	Block	Canopy shading	Plot number	C	E'	H'	Host in block	Host prevalence *)	Parasite number	Species number		Specimen number	
										Plot	Block	Plot	Block
1	XXII.D	2	1	0.14	0.98	2.04	0	0.00	0	8	67	8	143
2	XXII.E	2	1	0.24	0.94	1.50	1	0.00	0	5	29	10	56
3	XX.G	2	1	0.16	0.94	1.95	0	0.00	0	8	63	13	114
4	XX.F	2	2	0.22	0.97	1.55	0	0.00	0	5	56	22	76
5	XIII.D	2	1	0.25	1.00	1.38	1	0.00	0	4	36	4	42
6	IX.B	3	1	0.20	1.00	1.61	2	2.27	9	4	14	5	18
7	IX.C	3	1	0.28	0.96	1.32	2	0.00	0	4	53	6	67
8	XLI	3	2	0.32	0.95	2.17	0	0.00	0	10	36	12	50
9	III.C	3	1	0.10	0.94	2.41	2	2.27	6	13	15	18	15
10	XXIV.	1	1	0.32	0.84	1.35	0	0.00	0	5	5	16	50
11	VI.B	1	1	0.16	0.97	1.88	1	0.00	0	7	11	9	35
12	III.D	4	2	0.37	0.81	1.12	4	27.27	13	4	57	23	75
13	III.E	4	2	0.45	0.85	1.65	4	20.45	7	7	5	12	35
14	XII.F	4	2	0.52	0.63	0.88	3	13.64	5	4	6	10	22
15	XV.A	4	1	0.28	0.96	1.33	3	2.27	4	4	20	6	50
16	V.D	4	2	0.23	0.85	1.77	2	0.00	0	8	67	23	55
Total number in all plots in the blocks				0.09	0.78	3.21							

Infestation and prevalence of *D. pentandra* on various canopy shading

There is significant affect between the trees canopy shading and parasite infestation on *C. fistula* ($P < 0.05$) (Tab. 3). The most infestation of the parasite on *C. fistula* was found in open location III.D (Fig. 2) with parasite population 13 parasites per plant. Infested host number in the blocks affect significantly on parasite number infesting on *C. fistula* ($P < 0.05$) (Tab. 3). The highest infested host number by *D. pentandra* was in block III.D with infested host prevalence 27.27 % (Tab. 4).



Figure 2. A. *D. pentandra* on *Cassia fistula* in block III.D; B. *D. pentandra*

Discussion

Plant diversity in plots in the blocks is categorized to be low ($H' < 1$), moderate ($1 < H' < 2$) and high ($H' > 2$) (Kent & Paddy 1992). These variation is caused by the difference of species and specimen number in the plots. The lowest value of H' (0.88) in the block XII.F is caused by the lowest species and specimen number in the plot (Tab. 4). In contrast, the highest H' (2.41) in III.C is caused the highest species and specimen number in the plot (Tab. 4). Plant diversity in all plots in the blocks around *C. fistula* is high ($H' > 2$). It is caused by many tree species and specimens number, i.e. 63 species and 203 specimens, respectively. Actually, plant diversity in the garden is very high. It is related to the function of the garden for plants conservation, especially plants from dry lowland area in Indonesia. Purwodadi Botanic Garden has collected living plant 2157 species, 997 genera and 179 families in the garden until 2020. It is not included plants for reforestation, road side avenue, forested area and wild plants.

Swietenia macrophylla is the most dominant species around *C. fistula* with IVI 29.45 (Tab. 2). This species is to be dominant in the garden which planted for reforestation, road side avenue and arboretum. It is also found growing wild in the garden. Reforestation with *S. macrophylla* was conducted for soil and water

conservation for many years ago and also to be used as shading and climbing place for particular plants collection such as rattans. *Pterocarpus indicus* and *Albizia saman* were also planted for the same as function on *S. macrophylla* in the garden. The distribution of *S. macrophylla* in the garden have potential to be broad because it has samara seed type which has potential to disperse by wind far from the main plant. So their seedling can be almost found in almost areas in the garden.

The plants domination index in all plots in the blocks are relatively low ($C < 0.5$) except in XII.F was moderate ($0.75 > C > 0.5$) (Krebs, 1994). It is indicate that there is no domination particular plant species around *C. fistula*. It is also shown by evenness index (E') in all plots > 0.75 , except in XII.F. $= 0.63$. The $E' > 0.75$ shows that the ecosystem in the plots is stable. In contrast, $0.5 < E' < 0.75$ such as in XII.F is moderate which shows the ecosystem less stable.

Plant diversity, domination, and evenness in all blocks has not significant correlation ($P > 0.05$) to parasite number of *D. pentandra* in given areas with $r = -0.17$ and $P = 0.53$; $r = 0.26$ and $P = 0.34$; $r = -0.37$ and $P = 0.17$, respectively (Tab. 3). The correlation between species number and specimen number in all plot site locations and parasite number also not significant with $r = -0.079$; $P = 0.771$ and $r = -0.385$; $P = 0.141$, respectively. However, there is a tendency of negative correlation between plant diversity, plant species and specimen number with parasite number infestation on *C. fistula*, i.e. $r = -0.169$, $r = -0.079$, and $r = -0.385$ respectively (Tab. 3). Tree plant diversity correlates to diversity of stucture and canopy of plant species in a community. It affects light interception and infestation of mistletoe *D. pentandra* which need much light for its seeds germination and growth. *Swietenia macrophylla*, *Albizia saman*, *Terminalia microcarpa* and *Pterocarpus indicus* which were found in shady plots such as XX.D (143 species) and XX.G (114 species) have higher structure and larger canopies than those on *C. fistula*. They will shade and reduce light interception on the canopy of *C. fistula* so there is not *D. pentandra* on *C. fistula* in plots XXD and XX.G foud. Luo et al. (2016) also reported that the infestation parasite (*D. pentandra*) in a community with higher plant species richness(16.5) and diversity index (2.27) is lower (1.8) than those in community with low richness (3.5) and diversity index (0.8).

The occurrence of infested hosts whether on *C. fistula* or other plant species is important for distribution and infestation of *D. pentandra*. There is positive and significant correlation ($P < 0.05$) between the number of infested hosts and the parasite number on *C. fistula* with $r = 0.817$ and P-Value = 0.000 (Tab. 3). It indicates that infested host number have important role on the distribution and infestation of the mistletoe *D. pentandra* on *C. fistula*. Luo et al. (2016) also reported significant relationship between the abundance of infested individual hosts and mistletoes infection in plantation.

Birds distribute seeds of the parasite in given infested plant or to other uninfested plants after perching,

excreting and depositing the seeds on the branches and twigs. There were specialist and generalist birds which have important role on the seeds mistletoe dispersal such as *D. pentandra*. The birds from genera *Dicaeum* such as *Dicaeum concolor* “flower pecker” is categorized as specialist mistletoes, whereas yellow-vented bulbul (*Pycnonotus xanthopygos*) as generalist frugivorous (Luo et al. 2016). Yellow-vented bulbul “trucukan” (*P. goavier*) and “kutulang” (*P. aurigaster*) as frugivorous birds were also found in the garden as fruits eater such as the fruits of mistletoes. They will disperse and distribute the seeds of mistletoes to new host plants which far from the main host because they able to move and fly more far than the specialist birds. The specialist birds (flower peckers) are nomadic birds and they move and fly no far, effectively 1-10 m (Aukema & del Río, 2002) so they will be intensifying the seeds dispersal on infested plants or other hosts near them. Davidar (1983) reported that *Dicaeum concolor* as specialist bird has territorial around clumps of fruiting mistletoes, restricting their feeding to these areas and will aggregate mistletoes distribution on the host plants by seeds depositing on the hosts. Consequently, this species may have a short dispersal range and may contribute to the smaller scale of aggregation in the plantation. In contrast, the dietary generalist yellow-vented bulbul “trucukan” (*P. goavier*) “kutulang” (*P. aurigaster*) as reported on *P. jocosus* (Linnebjerg, Hansen, & Olesen, 2009) is more likely to visit uninfected trees for social interactions and self-maintenance activities such as preening. They tend to spend more time foraging on mistletoe fruits and usually fly long distances.

Canopy shading by neighbor plants relate to light capturing by plants canopy and mistletoes life on branches and twigs. Canopy shading will affect growth, infestation and distribution of mistletoes (Norton & Ladley, 1998; Aukema & del Río, 2002; Roxburgh & Nicolson, 2005), especially for survival of hemiparasite (de Buen & Ornelas, 2002). *D. pentandra* need much light for its growth and development so this parasite is commonly found in the top or outer plants canopy where much light intercepted. Light is needed by hemiparasites for photosynthesis to produce carbohydrate to support plant growth and development.

Light incidence on the plant canopies limited the post-dispersal growth of the parasites, e.i. seed adhesion, seed germination, seedling establishment and seedling survival of the mistletoes (de Buen & Ornelas, 2002). The seeds germination, seedlings growth and survival of *D. pentandra* to be better on trees with open canopies than shady canopy. Solikin (2014b) also reported that seed germination of *D. pentandra* need much light for better germination and plant growth. It is also showed that the parasite grow well in the garden and found more on the branches or twigs intercepting much sunlight (Solikin, 2014b, 2016). Norton & Ladley, (1998) also reported that establishment of the parasite *Alepis flavida* in *Nothofagus salandri* forests of New Zealand was better on branches experiencing higher light levels. Table 4 showed that the infestation of *D. pentandra* on *C. fistula* in the open canopy such as in III.D higher than that in shady canopy (XX.F). There is significant

different between canopy shading and the parasite number infesting on *C. fistula* with $P = 0.018$. The highest number of parasites was found in open canopy.

This research can be concluded that the infestation of *D. pentandra* (L.) Miq affected significantly by the plant canopy shading and the infested host number. The highest infestation of mistletoe *Dendrophthoe pentandra* on host *Cassia fistula* L. in Purwodadi Botanic Garden was in the open canopy and the highest infested host plants in the block III.D with the parasite number 13 per plant. The tree plant diversity in the blocks tend to have negative correlation to the infestation of *D. pentandra* on *C. fistula* with $r = -0.18$.

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