



Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs) and Ciguatera Indonesia Studies in Lombok

Indonesian Ciguatera Science Team

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Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs)

- Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs) → rapid and uncontrolled growth of microalgae species in the water that could damages the aquatic ecosytems → one of the <u>10 Plagues of</u> <u>the Seas</u>
- The occurrence of HABs
 → could threaten the ecosystem balance and the life of coastal communities (Duarte et al., 2014)



Harmful effects of algal blooms (GEOHAB, 2000)

- Ocean discoloration
- Mass fish mortality/fish kill
- Toxin contamination of seafood products
- Altering/disrupting the balance of the ecosystem
- Danger to the health of humans (poisoning cases could lead to death)
- Damages to the economy of coastal communities



Ciguatera Fish Poisoning (CFP)

- Ciguatera Fish Poisoning → poisoning disease in human or marine mammals due to consumption of reef fishes that are contaminated by <u>ciguatoxin</u> (CTX) produced by several species of benthic dinoflagellates → Gambierdiscus toxicus and other associated species → Ostreopsis ovata, Prorocentrum lima, P. concavum, P. mexicanum (rhathymum), and Amphidinium carterae (Burkholder 1998; Lehane and Lewis 2000)
- Known symptoms of CFP (deSylva 1994; Lehane dan Lewis 2000) :
 - diarrhea
 - nausea
 - vomitting
 - stomachache
 - reversal of cold-hot sensation
 - muscles and joints pain
 - tingling (often painful)
 - numbness on lips and tongue
 - itch
 - hypotension (low blood pressure)

Records of benthic dinoflagellate species associated with CFP

Benthic dinoflagellates which could potentially caused CFP → Amphidinium sp., G. toxicus, O. ovata, O. siamensis, P. lima, P. concavum, dan P. rhathymum, Gambierdiscus sp., Ostreopsis sp → have been reported and studied from several places in Indonesia:

- Seribu Island
- Belitung Island
- Bali coastal waters
- West coast of South Sumatera
- Bintan Island
- Padang coastal waters
- Lampung Bay
- Weh Island coastal waters
- Gili Matra



Widiarti 2002, Widiarti 2010, Skinner et al. 2011, Widiarti 2011, Thamrin 2014, Dwivayana 2015, Eboni et al. 2015, Oktavian et al. 2015, Seygita et al. 2015, Widiarti & Pudjiarto 2015, Widiarti **et** al. 2016a, Widiarti et al. 2016b, Widiarti & Adi 2016, Widiarti et al. 2019

bHABs and CFP → not yet considered as a major threat to Indonesian coastal communities or ecosystems (no formal report or huge cases) → lack of awareness and studies



Potential threats of harmful algal blooms (HABs) and ciguatera fish poisoning (CFP) in the marine tourism park of Gili Matra islands, Indonesia

A part of the Ciguatera Indonesia project 2022 -2023



"Multidiscipline and beyond borders"

"Ciguatera Indonesia" → research collaboration beyond institutional and country borders which involving researchers, academics, experts, and university students from many different disciplines





HABs and CFP study of the Ciguatera Indonesia

Identify the potentially harmful phytoplankton and benthic dinoflagellate species which could cause HABs and CFP along with their relationship with habitat condition

Estimate the level of anthropogenic pressures and potential economic loss that might be caused by HABs and/or CFP

Disseminate information and increase the local public awareness on the potential danger of HABs and CFP

Gili Matra Marine Tourism Park (Taman Wisata Perairan/TWP) → Gili Trawangan, Gili Meno, Gili Air

Island Profile

 An important conservation and tourism area to the local people and marine biota in the coastal area of West Lombok

Conservation area \rightarrow 2.273,56 ha Important coastal ecosystems:

- Mangrove
- Coral Reef
- Seagrass
- Ecologically vital to some protected and charismatic rare species, such as :
 - Hiu Sirip Hitam (Blacktip reef shark)
 - Hiu Sirip Putih (Whitetip reef shark)
 - Penyu (Sea turtle)
 - Kima (Giant clam)
 - Pari Manta (Manta rays)



Sampling Sites

- Gili Matra Marine Tourism Park (Taman Wisata Perairan/TWP) → Gili Trawangan, Gili Meno, Gili Air
- An important conservation and tourism area to the local people and marine biota in the coastal area of West Lombok
- **16 water column sites** → plankton, water physical-chemical properties
- 6 permanent sites → benthic dinoflagellates from macroalgal and seagrass beds (natural and artificial)





Field Sampling in Gili Matra and Lombok



Plankton sampling & water column parameters measurement Benthic dinoflagellate sampling





Socioeconomics sampling

Fish tissue sampling



Phytoplankton density & diversity

- In total → 202 species of phytoplankton has been identified from the Core, Harbour, and Sustainable Fisheries zones of Gili Meno at two seasons (n =15) \rightarrow 17 potentially harmful species
- Jacknife-2 species estimator with 1000 permutation \rightarrow estimated 215-242 species at the current sampling effort \rightarrow at least 40 missing species
- Species Accumulation Curve $(SAC) \rightarrow$ indicating that the number of identified species was representative to the estimated real species assemblages in Gili Meno



Cyanobacteri Lyngbya sp.

Trichodesmium erythraeum

Diatomae Amphiprora spp. Amphisolenia bidentata Amphora laevis Asterionellopsis glacialis Asterolampra marylandica Bacillaria paxilifera Bacteriastrum delicatulum Bacteriastrum furcatum Bacteriastrum hyalinum Bacteriastrum minus Bellerochea malleus Biddulphia pulchella Cerataulina dentata Cerataulina pelaaica Chaetoceros aeguatorialis Chaetoceros affinis Chaetoceros anastomo

Chaetoceros atlanticus Chaetoceros coarctatus Chaetoceros compressus Chaetoceros costatus Chaetoceros curvisetus Chaetoceros daday Chaetoceros danicus Chaetoceros decipien: Chaetoceros denticulatus Chaetoceros didymus Chaetoceros didymus var. protuberan Chaetoceros distans Chaetoceros diversus Chaetoceros eibeni Chaetoceros gracilis Chaetoceros laciniosus Chaetoceros lauderi Chaetoceros lorenzianus Chaetoceros messanensis Chaetoceros paradoxus Chaetoceros peruvianus Chaetoceros radicans Chaetoceros tenuissimu Chaetoceros teres Chaetoceros tortissimur Chaetoceros wighamii Climacodium frauenfeldianun Corethron criophilum Coscinodiscus granii Coscinodiscus lineatus Coscinodiscus oculus-iridis Coscinodiscus radiatus Cylindrotheca closterium Dactyliosolen phuketensis Detonula cf. conferfacea Ditylum sol Eucampia cornute Eucampia zodiacu Gossleriella tropica Guinardia cylindrus Guinardia delicatula Guinardia flaccida Guinardia striata Gyrosigma spp. Haslea gigantea Helicotheca tamesis Hemiaulus hauckii Hemiaulus indicus

Hemiaulus membranaceus Hemiaulus sinensis C Hemidiscus cuneiformi Lampriscus cf. shadboltianum Lauderia annulata Leptocylindrus danicus Leptocylindrus mediterranius Licmophora abbreviata Licmophora sp. Lioloma elongatun Lioloma pacificum Lioloma sp. Lioloma sp2. Melosira moniliformis Meuniera membranace Navicula directa Navicula spp. Nitzschia bicapitato Nitzschia lonaissima Nitzschia lonaissima var. reverse Nitzschia lorenziana Nitzschia marina Nitzschia rectilonad Nitzschia sigma Nitzschia sp Nitzschia sp2 Nitzschia sp3 Nitzschia sp4 Nitzschia spp. Odontella mobiliensis Odontella sinensis Palmeria hardmanian Planktoniella sol Pleurosiama elonaatun Pleurosiama sp. Proboscia alata Proboscia indica Pseudo-nitzschia spp. Pseudosole

Rhahdonema adriaticun

Rhizosolenia castracane

Rhizosolenia bergonii

Rhizosolenia debyana

Rhizosolenia decipien

Rhizosolenia hebetata

Rhizosolenia hvalina

Rhizosolenia imbricata

Rhizosolenia robusta

Rhizosolenia setiaera

Skeletonema costatum

Stephanopyxis palmeri

Stephanopyxis turris

Stigmophora rostrata

Striatella uninunctata

Thalassiosira spp.

Triceratium favus

Triceratium revale

Triceratium sp.

Unknown diaton

Unknown diatom sp2

Thalassionema javanicum

Thalassiothrix longissimo

Triceratium alternans

Thalassionema nitzschiodes

Thalassionema nitzschioides

Thalassionema nitzschioides var. parvi

Rhizosolenia hebetata f. semispir

Gymnodinium sp2. Gymnodinium sp3. Gyrosigma spp. Karenia spp. Noctilluca scintillan Ornithocercus magni Ornithocercus sp. Ornithocercus thum

Dinoflagellate

Amphidinium sp

Ceratium breve

Ceratium azoricum

Amphisolenia hidentati

Ceratium candelabrun

Ceratium cf. karstenii

Ceratium contortur

Ceratium dens

Ceratium furca

Ceratium fusus

Ceratium aibberu

Ceratium inflatum

Ceratium kofoidi

Ceratium teres

Ceratium macrocero

Ceratium massiliense

Ceratium trichocero

Ceratium tripos

Ceratocorys armata

Ceratocorys gouretti

Ceratocorys horrida

Cladopyxis brachiolat

Chattonella sp.

Dinophysis miles

Dinophysis odiosa

Diplopelta bomba

Diplopelta lenticula

Dictyocha speculum

Gonyaulax sp.

Gymnodinium sp

Goniodoma polvedricum

Diplopelta steinii

Diplopsalid sp1. Diplopsalis lenticula

Peridinium quinquecorn Phalacroma doryphorum Podolamnas bines Prorocentrum compressur Prorocentrum micans Prorocentrum rhathymum Prorocentrum sigmoides Protoperidinium curtipes Protoperidinium depressun Protoperidinium divergens Protoperidinium elegans Protoperidinium oceanicum Protoperidinium pentagonun Protoperidinium quarnerense Protoperidinium stein Pyrocystis fusiformis Pyrocystis hamulus Pyrocystis lunula Pyrophacus horologium Pvrophacus steinii Naked dinoflagellate Naked dinoflagellate sp2 Naked flagellates Unknown dinoflagellate Unknown dinoflagellate sp2 Unknown dinoflagellate sp3



- 17 potentially harmful species of Gili Matra
- 1. Trichodesmium erythraeum → often blooms in Seribu Islands
- Pseudo-nitzschia spp. → Some species produced Domoic Acid, causing Amnesic Shellfish Poisonina (ASP)
- Chaetoceros curvisetus → several blooms cases recorded in Jakarta Bay
- Skeletonema costatum → blooms in Jakarta Bays, particularly in wet season
- 5. Tripos furca → often blooms in Lampung Bay
- 6. Tripos (Ceratium) fusus
- 7. Tripos muelleri (Ceratium tripos)
- 8. Scrippsiella trochoidea
- 9. Chattonella spp. \rightarrow Fish Killer
- 10. Amphidinium spp.
- Gonyaulax spp. → some species cause recent blooms in Ambon Bay
- 12. Karenia spp. → some species produces Brevetoxin, causing Neirotic Shellfish Poisoning (NSP)
- Noctiluca scintillans → often blooms in Jakarta Bay, Lampung Bay, fish killer
- 14. Prorocentrum micans
- 15. Prorocentrum rathymum
- *16. Prorocentrum compressum*
- 17. Prorocentrum sigmoides



Seasonal variation in one Gili Matra island (example: Gili Meno)



- Drastic increase in phytoplankton cell density and diversity during the start of wet season in December 2022 to February 2023
- At the same time ightarrow dominance indeks decrease significantly ightarrow no overdomination of certain species of phytoplankton
- Seasonal differences in phytoplankton communities \rightarrow indicated in nMDS analysis
- Phytoplankton community in Gili Meno relatively similar during the Dry Season (Aug) and Transitional Season II (Oct) → caused by dominance of Cyanobacterial species, *Trichodesium erythraeum*
- Sustainable Fisheries (Fis) zone in Gili Meno → have unique phytoplankton community structure which differs from Harbour (Har) and Core (Cor) zones

SEASON \rightarrow DRIVES THE CHANGES IN PHYTOPLANKTON COMMUNITY STRUCTURES IN GILI MATRA



Pvrocvstis hamulus

Unknown dinoflagellate

Pvrocystis lunula

Unknown dinoflagellate sp2.

Pyrophacus horologium

Unknown dinoflagellate sp3.

Pyrophacus steinii

Protoperidinium quarnerense

Naked dinoflagellate

Protoperidinium steinii

Naked dinoflagellate sp2

Pvrocvstis fusiformis

Naked flagellates

Community Structure

- Evidence of cyanobacterial dominance in Gili Matra (Meno) → Trichodesmium erythraeum dominating the marine ecosystems during Dry Season (Aug) and Transitional Season II (Oct)
- <u>T. erythraeum is categorized</u> <u>HABs species</u> → have recorded blooms in highly eutrophic area such as Jakarta Bay and Seribu Island.
- Seasonal changes influence the shift in dominance → diatom-dominance in Wet and Transitional Season I followed by cyanobacterialdominance in Dry and Transitional Season II

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Parameters affecting the density of phytoplankton genera in Gili Matra

- Most dominant genus → Trichodesium → abundant at waters with higher salinity and nitrates concentration
- Common and abundant diatoms →
 Chaetoceros → more abundant at warmer and turbid water, which rich in phosphate
- Some potentially harmful genus:
 - Ceratium/Tripos → more abundant at higher temperature and pH and did not strongly affected by any nutrient concentration
 - Chattonella → prefer nitrate-rich high salinity water, similar with Trichodesmium
 - Pseudo-nitzschia → more abundant at ammonia-rich waters
 - Prorocentrum → more abundant at turbid waters, which also rich with phosphate



Benthic dinoflagellate population dynamics

80

60

40

May

CR

Aug

Oct

Dec



Oct

1000

500

0

May

Aug



Aug

Oct

Dec

AS



Dec

0

May

- The density of potentially toxic genera $\textit{Gambierdiscus} \rightarrow$ very low
- The most common and abundant genera → Prorocentrum → also known to commonly abundant in macroalga substrates in other area, such as Seribu Island



- Opposite trends → observed in benthic dinoflagellates on <u>seagrass</u> (SG)
- Trends in benthic dinoflagellates in artificial substrate (AS) and coral rubble (CR) → similar



Substrate preference

- Benthic dinoflagellates were found in any kind of substrates
- Prorocentrum → the most abundance dinoflagellate
 → especially on macroalgae and sea grass substrates → usually together with Sinophysis.
- Ostreopsis and Coolia → were often found on nonliving substrates → coral rubble and artificial substrate.
- Gambierdiscus and Amphidinium density → were the lowest among all targeted genera



MA: Macro Algae, SG: Sea grass, CR: Coral Rubble, AS: Artificial Substrate



Relationship of target benthic dinoflagellate genera with water parameters in the Transitional Season I (May)

- The three islands of Gili Matra → have distinct and different water physicalchemical characteristics → affecting the density of target benthic dinoflagellate genera in Transitional Season I (May)
- Sinophysis → generally associated with deeper sites in Gili Trawangan which also contain more nutrients, particularly phosphate
- Prorocentrum → tend to be more abundant at Gili Air which have higher temperature, pH, and more turbid water
- Ostreopsis → tend to be more abundant in Gili Meno which have higher salinity and higher light intensity
- Amphidinium and Gambierdiscus → were not present in the Transitional Season I (May)

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Ciguatoxin analysis (mouse bioassay)

- Ciguatoxin → was <u>NOT DETECTED</u> with mouse bioassay analysis from 31 fish samples → 13 from May 2022, 6 from August 2022, and 12 from February 2023 sampling
- Ciguatoxin concentration → might be <u>below the</u> <u>concentration</u> that required for the laboratory mice to show observable symptoms or lethality
- However → we can't rule out the possibility of low (or very low) concentration of ciguatoxin exist in the reef fish tissue → could be accumulate over time in higher trophic level organisms (particularly, fish and later, human)
- More detailed chemical based analysis → such as ELISA → needed to quantify the concentration of ciguatoxin (if there are any)

Analyzed fish:

- Rabbitfish (Siganidae)
- Parrotfish (Scaridae)
- Barracuda (Sphyraenidae)
- Island Mackerel (Scombidae)
- Grouper (Serranidae)
- Longtail Tuna (Scombridae)





Conclusions

There were 17 potentially harmful phytoplankton species found in Gili Matra, with *Trichodesmium erythraeum* dominates the ecosystem in Dry Season and Transitional Season II

The 6 targeted benthic dinoflagellates were found, with *Prorocentrum* as the most abundant genera, particularly on macroalgae and seagrass

The potentially toxic *Gambierdiscus* was found in very low density, thus currently possess small risk to cause CFP, unless coral reef and environmental deterioration progress to provide more suitable condition for bloom

Seasonal changes heavily influenced the shift in phytoplankton community structure, with dry season generally characterized with dominance of cyanobacteria and wet season with dominance of diatoms

No ciguatoxin was detected in the mouse bioassay of the coral reef fishes collected from Gili Matra and Northern Lombok, indicating no risk of CFP in Lombok so far

Increasing turbidity, nutrient concentration, and disturbances to the ecosystem could trigger rapid growth of HABs species, which usually well adapted to low water quality

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Thank you

Scribo ergo surr