

For more information, please call/text us at: **0920-911-1398** or visit:
www.philrice.gov.ph | www.pinoyrkb.com | www.openacademy.ph

How to manage Golden Apple Snails

Golden apple snail (GAS) is destructive in the first 15 days after transplanting (DAT) and first 4-30 days after direct-seeding. High yield losses can occur if GAS is not managed properly.

GAS devour the base of young seedlings. They can even consume the young plants in a whole paddy overnight. Signs of GAS damage are missing hills and floating cut leaves on the water surface.

Management options for Golden Kuhol

Naturally occurring biological control agents

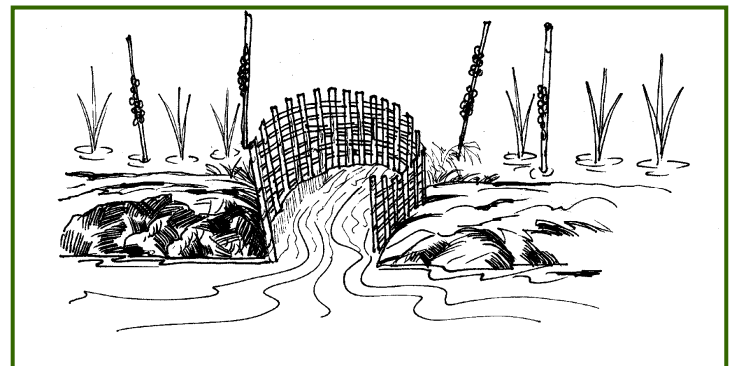
- ✓ Red ants and grasshoppers feed on GAS eggs.
- ✓ Birds also feed on eggs and newly hatched snails.
- ✓ Field rats bite on shells and eat the flesh.
- ✓ Human beings eat the flesh when it is properly cooked.

Cultural Management/Land Preparation

- ✓ Handpick GAS from rice paddies
- ✓ Use plants that contain toxic substances against GAS such as *asyang*, *sambong*, *gugo*, and *makabuhay*
- ✓ Leaves of gabi and banana and old newspapers can be used to attract GAS in canals
- ✓ Construct small canals to confine the GAS (at least 25 cm wide and 5 cm deep)
- ✓ Place a wire or woven bamboo screen on the main irrigation water inlet and outlet. This facilitates collection of trapped GAS
- ✓ Follow the standard seeding rate (transplanted: 40kg certified seeds/ha and 60-80 kg certified seeds/ha for direct seeding)
- ✓ If GAS is a big problem, transplant 25-30-day-old seedlings
- ✓ Maintain 2-3 cm shallow paddy water level starting 3 days after transplanting (DAT)
- ✓ Drain the field occasionally to limit snail mobility and feeding activity



Collect and destroy egg masses of GAS that cling on the plants, bunds and wooden stakes.



Place wire or woven bamboo screen on main irrigation water inlet and outlet to collect GAS

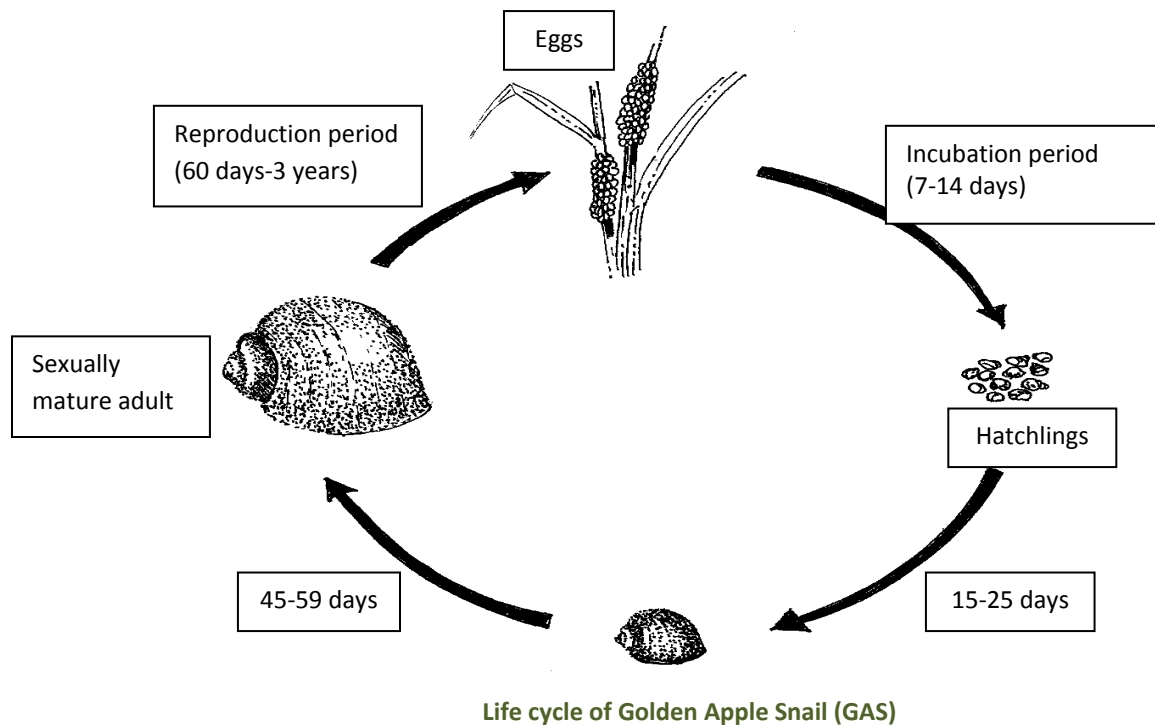
Cultural Management after harvesting

- ✓ Herd ducks
- ✓ Handpick adult GAS
- ✓ Dry land preparation exposes GAS to sunlight

Other Information

Studies showed that:

- Varieties that are least preferred by GAS are PSB Rc36, Rc38, Rc40, and Rc68
- Basal application of complete fertilizer and urea incorporated with the soil at recommended rate during the last harrowing can reduce GAS population up to 54%
- Spot treatment of GAS egg masses with *nicosamide* 250EC reduced cost for GAS management and environmental pollution



Source: delaCruz MS, Ilar GY, & Janiya J. Management options for Golden Apple Snails (GAS). 2010. Rice Self-Sufficiency Plan Rice Technology Updates Seminar.

Management options for golden apple snails (Technology Bulletin 33). PhilRice. 2001.