

**GENETIC ANALYSIS of SELECTED PSB RICE VARIETIES and
EVALUATION of ELITE BREEDING LINES for
RESISTANCE to BACTERIAL BLIGHT
(*Xanthomonas oryzae* pv *oryzae* ex Ishiyama)**

MARLOU CADA ABALOS

**A thesis submitted to the faculty of the Institute of Graduate Studies, Central Luzon
State University, Science City of Muñoz,
Nueva Ecija, Philippines in partial fulfillment
of the requirements for the degree of**

**MASTER OF SCIENCE
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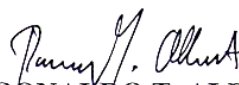
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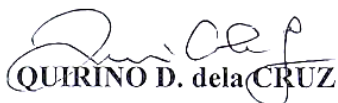
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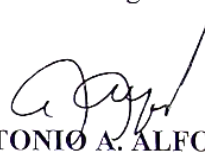
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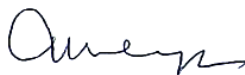
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BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

The author was born on September 26, 1972 in Umingan, Pangasinan. He is the eldest of the two children of Mrs. Lorenza Cada Abalos and the late Mr. Ernesto H. Abalos.

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The author is happily married to Arlene Ortiz-Abalos. They are blessed with two daughters, Carla Joy and Angela Mae, and are now expecting their third child.

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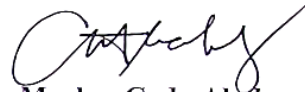
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ABSTRACT

Abalos Marlou Cada, Institute of Graduate Studies, Central Luzon State University, Science City of Muñoz, Nueva Ecija, 3120, JUNE 2004, **GENETIC ANALYSIS of SELECTED PSB RICE VARIETIES and EVALUATION of ELITE BREEDING LINES for RESISTANCE to BACTERIAL BLIGHT** (*Xanthomonas oryzae* pv *oryzae* ex Ishiyama)

Adviser: Dr. Quirino D. dela Cruz

Bacterial Blight (BB) caused by *Xanthomonas oryzae* pv *oryzae* ex Ishiyama is a serious disease and one of the major constraints in rice production in many Asian countries. Effective chemical-based control measures are not available against BB and the use of resistant varieties remains the most important ecological control method. More than 25 genes are available for resistance(R) to BB in rice including the *Xa-21*, *Xa-7*, *Xa-4*, *xa-8*, *xa-5*, *Xa-13*, *Xa-10* and *Om* gene. It was in this light that this study aimed to analyze BB resistance observed in some PSB rice varieties possibly caused by new resistance genes. It also aimed to evaluate backcross progenies for any presence of the *Xa-21* and *xa-5* R genes by using DNA markers and by analyzing their reaction to *Xoo* race 6, the most virulent strain.

Seven BB isolates were used in the inoculation using a clipping method for introducing the bacteria into the plant leaves. Six modern varieties were subjected to genetic analysis for resistance to BB. These included the PSB Rc2, PSB Rc34, PSB Rc56, PSB Rc64, PSB Rc80 and PSB Rc82 varieties. The PSB Rc2 variety was found to contain the *Xa-4* gene; PSB Rc34 had 4 genes effective against races 1, 6 and 9; PSB Rc56 had *Xa-4*, *Xa-14* and an unknown gene found to be very effective for race 8; PSB

Rc64 had *Xa-4*, *Xa-14*, *Xa-7* and a putative new gene that was effective against race 6; PSB Rc80 contained *Xa-4* gene found effective against races 1 and 7; and PSB Rc82 had at least nine different genes that made it resistant to *Xoo* races 1, 6, 7, 8 and 9 based on the analysis of two populations (PSB Rc82 x IR24 & PSB Rc82 x IRBB5). Out of the 56 backcross-derived lines from General Yield Trial and Preliminary Yield Trial tested, only 23 showed consistent resistant reaction to *Xoo* race 6 at 21 days after inoculation (DAI). A DNA marker analysis using the *Xa-21* and RG556a primers, revealed that 13 lines had both the *Xa-21* and *xa-5* genes, respectively. Twelve lines had *Xa-21* gene while five lines had *xa-5* alone. Knowledge on the properties of BB resistance genes, their effectiveness against specific races and the R genes present in certain commercial varieties are useful in the deployment of suitable varieties for locations where specific *Xoo* races are prevalent.

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