The dominance and proportions of plankton in Pacific white shrimp \textit{(Litopenaeus vannamei)} ponds cultivated with the intensive system in Bulukumba Regency, South Sulawesi, Indonesia

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Abstract. This study aimed to evaluate plankton in Pacific white shrimp \textit{(Litopenaeus vannamei)} cultivation in Bulukumba Regency, South Sulawesi. The study was conducted in six intensive ponds for 84 days from November 2019 to February 2020. Plankton samples were collected every 10 days for 8 weeks based on the day of culture (DOC) of Pacific white shrimp since the first rearing in the pond using plankton net (mesh size of 25 µm). Then, planktons were preserved to 5% formalin buffer in 250 mL of sterile plastic. Next, the plankton densities and compositions were analyzed quantitatively and qualitatively. The results showed that plankton dominance in Chlorophyta species and the presence was evenly distributed across all shrimp ponds in the field. The number was relatively stable in all shrimp DOCs and was the highest proportion as well; Chlorophyta (73 to 83%), Diatom group (7.75 to 15.63%), and blue-green algae (BGA) group (7.13 to 13.50%). Plankton can be used as a biomonitor of pollution and shrimp health in dominance and the percentage proportion of each species. Regular monitoring is highly recommended to minimize plankton growth, especially the BGA type that can harm shrimp health in the intensive system.

1. Introduction
Shrimp production has increased by 6.09 million tonnes with USD 36.2 million. It indicates the higher shrimp consumption worldwide in 2015 [1]. The cultivation of Pacific white shrimp \textit{(Litopenaeus vannamei)} is the most cultivated aquaculture commodity globally, reaching up to 90% [2]. Indonesia is one of the countries in Southeast Asia with excellent potential for Pacific white shrimp cultivation and can increase foreign exchange through the aquaculture sector [3].

Plankton (phytoplankton and zooplankton) is microscopic organism living in the water. The existence of plankton has an essential role in maintaining the food chain stability in aquatic ecosystems [4]. Phytoplankton is the primary producer of changing solar energy into chemical energy and nutrient producers in the water cycle. Meanwhile, zooplankton transmits this energy to a higher trophic level as a link between energy producers and consumers [5,6]. However, plankton communities can continuously change temporally and spatially. It encourages a study to explain the effect of these
changes on water quality in aquatic ecosystems [7]. The dynamics of phytoplankton community change are often associated with the bottom-up influence of environmental variables such as temperature [8], light and nutrients, [9] and phytoplankton-zooplankton interactions [10].

Monitoring the activities of the dynamics of the plankton community is necessary for supporting the success of the intensive system of pacific white shrimp cultivation [11–13]. The shrimp intensive farming system severely affects the environment, shrimp, and farmers. Several studies showed that intensive farming systems could cause problems such as wetlands degradation, local pollution, water salination, anoxic sediments accumulation, benthic communities changes, and waters eutrophication [14]. In terms of shrimp health, the application of an intensive system may reduce the immunity system of shrimp due to the high stocking density [15], an increase in infectious diseases such as bacteria [16], fungi [14], viral [18], [19], and parasitic [20], ammonia from leftover feed that may affect shrimp physiology [21].

Monitoring biotic factors such as plankton (phytoplankton and zooplankton) in the intensive system of shrimp ponds helps to understand environmental factors that control shrimp health to maximize shrimp productivity [22]. It is essential because plankton can be the bioindicator for ecological health in aquaculture. For example, microalgae such as diatoms in shrimp ponds are temporary. Cyanobacteria can eventually replace them due to an increase in the concentration of nutrients in the pond, which is actually beneficial for cyanobacteria. In addition, a decrease in water quality parameters such as dissolved oxygen (DO) can also be caused by microalgae, which could affect shrimp growth and physiology. The monitor must be conducted regularly to avoid the occurrence of this microalgae bloom [23].

This study aimed to evaluate plankton as a biological factor based on plankton's dominance, and percentage proportion in Pacific white shrimp farmed using the intensive system in Bulukumba Regency, South Sulawesi. This study was conducted to provide information on biological factors for guidance in maintaining plankton stability in shrimp ponds to increase productivity.

2. Materials and methods
2.1. Study area
The study was conducted in intensive ponds for 84 days from November 2019 until February 2020 in Bulukumba Regency, South Sulawesi, Indonesia (see Figure 1). A total of six shrimp ponds with intensive systems were used as research objects with pond sizes ranging from 2,900 to 4,000 m² and stocking density of Pacific white shrimp averaging 208 fry/m² [17]. Since the first time spread in the pond, samples were taken every 10 days for 8 weeks based on the day of culture (DOC) of Pacific white shrimp. Plankton was collected on the pond water surface using a plankton net (mesh size: 25 µm) and preserved in 5% buffered formalin at 250 mL of sterile plastic [24].

2.2. Sampling procedure
The dominance and proportion of plankton were analyzed quantitative and qualitatively using a microscope (Olympus CX23) at 100× and 400× magnifications. Pond water samples were dripped on a Neubauer hemocytometer and calculated using the cell counting method, the number of each type of plankton that had been observed on one grid multiplied by 10⁴ cells/mL [25]. The plankton obtained was identified referring to the book titled Phytoplankton Identification, Marine Phytoplankton Atlas of Kuwait's Waters, and Identifying Marine Phytoplankton [26].
2.3. Data analysis
Data of plankton obtained were collected, identified, and processed in Ms. Excel 2019 (Microsoft Office). Furthermore, the data were inputted in SPSS 22.0 (IBM, USA) with the ANOVA test to determine the difference in each parameter of each pond, followed by Duncan’s test with a confidence interval of 95%.

3. Results and discussion
The results of plankton dominance showed that the Chlorophyta species had high dominance and were present in all shrimp ponds, with the number was relatively stable in all shrimp DOC. The next dominant plankton group was diatom, whose presence was stable and increased, especially at 20 and 30 DOC of shrimp in ponds 4, 5, and 6 (Figure 2). Meanwhile, the other four types of plankton, namely dinoflagellates, Cyanophyta, protozoa, and blue-green algae (BGA), did not show high dominance. However, in ponds 2 and 6, BGA’s presence appeared higher than other shrimp ponds. Table 1 showed that generally, the plankton found at the intensive ponds of Pacific white shrimp in Bulukumba Regency dominated by Chlorophyta (73 to 83%), followed by the diatom group (7.75 to 15.63%) and the BGA group (7.13 to 13.50%).
Figure 2. The dominance of plankton types (%) in pond 1 (P1), pond 2 (P2), pond 3 (P3), pond 4 (P4), pond 5 (P5), and pond 6 (P6)
Table 1. Percentage proportion (%) of plankton (mean ± SD, n = 8) in the medium for raising Pacific white shrimp at intensive ponds in Bulukumba Regency, South Sulawesi

| Plankton        | P1       | P2       | P3       | P4       | P5       | P6       |
|-----------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Chlorophyta     | 83.00±12.51 | 73.63±6.67 | 81.13±6.19 | 76.63±14.22 | 72.63±20.59 | 77.25±23.73 |
| Cyanophyta      | 7.13±4.79  | 11.50±5.07 | 10.13±6.83 | 9.13±3.94  | 8.75±3.69 | 13.50±6.27  |
| Diatoms         | 8.63±8.33  | 13.75±6.98 | 7.75±4.83  | 13.13±14.12 | 15.63±22.89 | 10.13±18.62 |
| Dinoflagellata  | 1.00±0.92  | 1.13±1.88  | 0.88±1.45  | 1.13±1.45  | 3.13±4.32  | 1.25±1.75   |
| Protozoa        | 1.00±1.85  | 0.50±1.41  | 0.63±1.40  | 1.00±1.85  | 1.00±1.85  | 0.50±1.41   |
| Blue-green algae| 7.13±4.79  | 11.50±5.07 | 10.13±6.83 | 9.13±3.94  | 8.75±3.69 | 13.50±6.27  |

Note: P1 = pond 1, P2 = pond 2, P3 = pond 3, P4 = pond 4, P5 = pond 5, and P6 = pond 6.

Chlorophyta was the type of plankton that dominated all observation ponds. Similar results were also reported by Cremen et al. [33], who stated that the utilization of green water technology could stimulate the growth of beneficial plankton/microalgae groups such as phytoplankton and maintain pond water quality parameters regardless of the high stocking density in the system. In the application of the multi-trophic aquaculture system (IMTA), phytoplankton has an essential role because it not only increases DO levels and captures excess nutrients from animal manure, but it is also useful as a natural feed for oysters. Likewise, oysters can control the density of microalgae and particulate matter in the pond, providing stability for DO levels and better water column transparency [34].

Diatoms are necessary for the shrimp culture system because of their role in maintaining shrimp's water quality and nutrition [35]. In addition, the application of diatoms in shrimp culture using a biofloc system showed the improvement in shrimp productivity parameters such as higher body weight and a feed conversion ratio of 0.47 [36]. Diatoms have been widely used in commercial and industrial applications, such as biofuels, pharmaceuticals, healthy food, biomolecules, nanotechnology, and bioremediation in water pollution [37].

During 80 days of observation, BGA also showed a high percentage, especially in ponds 2 and 6, and the proportion of this type of plankton in all ponds showed a high amount. BGA or Cyanobacteria have multiple characters, such as various habitats (freshwater to marine), free-floating, and Periphyton (attached to pond surface) [38]. This study showed that the high BGA dominance in ponds could cause a certain disease syndrome called hemocyte enteritis in *Penaeus stylirostris*. Clinical symptoms of the disease are characterized by necrosis in the epithelial lining of the middle intestine. They may also be in the dorsal cecum and hindgut gland, decreasing shrimp productivity. The findings indicate that certain *Oscillatoria* sp. and other BGA species are also capable of causing this syndrome and are characterized by bacteria such as *Vibrio* spp. The results of this study support previous studies at a similar location that the population of *Vibrio* spp. had a high number in the 2nd pond that was more than $5.8 \times 10^3$ CFU/g at DOC 70 [17]. These results confirmed an interaction between the increase in the population of BGA and *Vibrio* spp. in shrimp farms. Apart from this, the presence of feces, metabolic waste, to the application of fermentation products, and dolomite at the beginning, middle, and before harvest can also act as a source of nutrients that accumulate in pond water and stimulate the growth of certain types of plankton [25].

Several solutions to control the explosion of BGA in shrimp ponds are 1) reducing the frequency of excessive feeding, 2) application of probiotics and shrimp immunostimulants, 3) utilization of minerals by eating BGA, which is rich in protein, lipids, and carbohydrates can increase their immunity and help the shrimp body's resistance when the pond environment changes [39].

4. Conclusions

Our study findings showed that the dominance and percentage proportion of plankton in the intensive system cultivated with Pacific white shrimp was dominated by Chlorophyta and diatom, with
relatively stable growth in all ponds and shrimp age. However, control of the explosion of blue-green algae should be carefully carried out to optimize the productivity of shrimp farming in South Sulawesi.

5. References
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