NEW HOSTS OF ROOT-KNOT NEMATODE IN PAKISTAN

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Abstract

During a survey of home gardens in Islamabad, ornamental plants viz., *Amaranthus viridus* L., *Rumex dentatus* L., *Tagetes* species and *Zinnia grandiflora* Nut., showed infestation by the root-knot nematodes. The nematodes were identified on the basis of characteristic perineal pattern of the mature females (Eisenback *et al.*, 1981) as *Meloidogyne incognita* (Kofoid & White, 1919) Chitwood, 1949, where the perineal pattern showed a distinct high dorsal arch composed of smooth and wavy striae. The plants appear to be new hosts of the root-knot nematode in Pakistan not previously reported (Gul & Saeed, 1987; Maqbool*et al.*, 1988; Zarina & Maqbool, 1989; Zarina & Maqbool, 1991).