ISOLATION OF ENTOMOPATHOGENIC NEMATODES (HETERORHABDITIDAE AND STEINERNEMATIDAE) FROM PAKISTAN

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Abstract

Entomopathogenic nematodes are a group of parasites that cause debilitation, sterility or death of a large number of insects. Use of these nematodes have proved an effective alternative measure to chemical control of insect pests because of their nonpolluting and environmentally safe properties. Among the large number of insect parasitic groups, the Steinernematid and Heterorhabditid nematodes which are obligate parasites have received much attention by the researchers as they have been recognized highly potential biocontrol agent of many insect pests (Poinar, 1979). Since no information is available on the occurrence of entomopathogenic nematode species in Pakistan, study was therefore carried out for the isolation of entomopathogenic nematodes.

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