

HISTOLOGICAL RESPONSE OF SUSCEPTIBLE AND RESISTANT DATE-PALM CULTIVARS TO *MELOIDOGYNE INCOGNITA* INFECTION

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Abstract

Cellular alteration in *Meloidogyne incognita* infected roots of susceptible and resistant date-palm cultivars were histologically studied. Giant cell formation was favoured in susceptible cultivar "Zaghlool" while in resistance cultivars "Deglet Noor" and "Samani", the infected roots reacted to the nematode infection by forming necrotic area around the invading nematode. In certain cases, malformed small giant cells were observed in association with nematode larval stages.