

**THE DAMAGE POTENTIAL OF ROOT-KNOT NEMATODE
(*MELOIDOGYNE* SPP.) POPULATIONS ON
TWO SOYBEAN CULTIVARS**

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Abstract

Green-house experiments were conducted to determine and compare the pathogenicity of 5 isolates of *Meloidogyne arenaria*, including the 2 host races and a population of *Meloidogyne javanica* on 2 soybean cultivars, "Kirby" and "Centennial". "Kirby" was more tolerant to *M. arenaria* and *M. javanica* than "Centennial". Generally, nematode introduction suppressed the growth of soybean. *M. javanica* was more pathogenic on the 2 soybean cultivars than *M. arenaria*. Differences in virulence of *Meloidogyne* species stresses the need to screen soybean cultivars against various field populations while breeding for resistance against the root-knot nematode.