

OSCHEIUS MAQBOOLI N.SP. AND OBSERVATIONS ON THREE KNOWN RHABDITID SPECIES (NEMATA: RHABDITIDA) FROM SUGARCANE FIELDS OF BALOCHISTAN, PAKISTAN

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Abstract

A new and three known species of the family Rhabditidae were isolated from the soil samples collected from sugarcane (*Saccharum officinarum* L.) fields of Balochistan, Pakistan. *Oscheius maqbooli* n. sp. is an insectivorous species, 0.94-1.34mm long; a=14-18; b=4.8-5.6; c = 6.7-11.0; V = 49-53 %; and is characterized by having spicules = 48-60 μ m; bursa = pseudopeloderan; lateral field with 6 lines; spicules tips hooked. Three newly recorded species were: *Rhabditis marionis* Maupas, 1899; *Dolichorhabditis dolichura* (Schneider, 1866) Andrassy, 1983 *Pellioiditis typica* Stefanski, 1922. Morphometric data, descriptions and drawings are given for each species. The genera *Oscheius* Andrassy, 1976; *Dolichorhabditis* Andrassy, 1983 and *Pellioiditis* (Dougherty, 1953) Timm, 1960 are reported for the first time from Pakistan.