

NEW HOSTS OF ROOT-KNOT NEMATODE IN PAKISTAN

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Abstract

During a recent survey of phytonematodes, heavy galling on roots of cultivated ornamental plants (*Jacquemontia pentantia* (Jacq). G. Don) and chota nunya (*Portulaca quadrifida* L.) growing at the University of Karachi campus was found due to infestation of root-knot nematode. Mature females were obtained from the infested roots and by use of perennial pattern (Eisenback *et al.*, 1981) two common root-knot species viz., *Meloidogyne incognita* (Kofoid & White, 1910) Chitwood, 1949 and *M. javanica* (Treub, 1885) Chitwood, 1949 were identified on both the hosts. *M. incognita* pattern resembles in having a distinct dorsal arch composed of smooth to wavy lines and no lateral incisures while *M. javanica* in having a low dorsal arch and distinct lateral incisures. These hosts are new records of *M. incognita* and *M. javanica* not reported earlier (Zarina & Maqbool, 1991; Maqbool & Shahina, 2001; Khanzada & Khan, 2003).