

HISTOPATHOLOGY OF CHAMOMILE INFECTED WITH *MELOIDOGYNE* *INCOGNITA* AND *ROTYLENCHULUS RENIFORMIS*

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Abstract

Histopathological responses in *Meloidogyne incognita* and *Rotylenchulus reniformis* infected roots of chamomile (*Matricaria chamomilla* L) were studied. *M. incognita* larvae entered into roots by a puncturing action of the stylet and inter and intracellular penetration and reached the stele region where cells were damaged. Hypertrophy and hyperplasia of the surrounding cells lead to the formation of galls on the roots. Reproduction of *M. incognita* was shown where egg-masses and eggs in gelatinous matrix were observed in infected roots. Nematode cause severe damage to the vascular tissues by xylem disruption. Histological alternations induced by *R. reniformis* revealed that the hypertrophied cells and / or syncytia were commonly associated with nematode infection.