

**SCREENING OF SOME SUNFLOWER CULTIVARS
AGAINST *MELOIDOGYNE INCOGNITA* ROOT-KNOT NEMATODE
AND ITS CHEMICAL CONTROL**

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Abstract

The resistance/susceptibility of five sunflower cultivars on the basis of number of galls indicated that none of the test cultivar was immune or resistant to *Meloidogyne incognita* root-knot nematode. However, on the basis of root-knot index, cultivar SF-187 was categorized as moderately susceptible, cultivars Romania and Cargill-204 as susceptible and other two cultivars Suncross-843 and NK-212 as highly susceptible. When the efficacy of four chemicals i.e. Carbofuran, Rugby, Carbosulfan and Nimokil was tested against *M. incognita*, it was found that Carbofuran and Rugby were the most effective in controlling the nematode. These two chemicals gave maximum reductions in number of galls and egg-masses and significantly improved plant growth parameters. Nimokil was found to be least effective.