

NEMATOLOGY IN PAKISTAN: PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

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Abstract

Agriculture is the most important sector of Pakistan's economy. It provides the means of livelihood for more than 75 % of its population. It is also the main sources of our foreign exchange earnings. Effective improvement in the agricultural productivity depends on appropriate crop protection from pests and diseases. Among these, the problem of nematodes in agricultural production is of significant importance. These tiny pests cause enormous losses to the farm income by way of reduced yield as well as the quality of the produce. Nematodes as plant parasites play rather destructive role and cause an average damage of up to 20 % or even complete crop loss if coupled with other with other pathogens