

**DAHLIA COCCINEA, A NEW HOST RECORD OF
MELOIDOGYNE INCOGNITA IN PAKISTAN**

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Abstract

Root-knot nematode (*Meloidogyne* spp.), are considered to be the most serious nematode pest of crop plants. In Pakistan more than 100 host plants have been encountered (Maqbool, 1988, 1992; Maqbool & Shahina, 2001).

In March 2006, plants of Dahlia (*Dahlia coccinea*), an ornamental member of the family Compositae, growing at Crop Diseases Research Institute Garden, Karachi University were found to suffer from severe leaf yellowing. When the plants were uprooted, severe infestation of root-knot nematode was observed. All the plants showed severe root-knot infection.