

NEW HOSTS RECORD OF ROOT-KNOT NEMATODES (*MELOIDOGYNE* SPP.) IN PAKISTAN AND IDENTIFICATION OF PHYSIOLOGICAL RACES

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Abstract

Root-knot nematodes (*Meloidogyne* spp.) are considered at the most serious nematode pest of crop plants in Pakistan (Maqbool, 1981; Maqbool & Saeed, 1981; Maqbool *et al.*, 1983; Ghaffar & Hashmi, 1983; Maqbool & Hashmi, 1984; Qureshi *et al.*, 1984). During our recent survey for nematodes, the following 9 plant species were found to be infected by (*Meloidogyne* spp.): bottle gourd (*Lagenaria siceraria*), coleus (*Coleus blumei*), cucumber (*Cucumis sativus*), jute (*Corchorus capsularis*), mint (*Mentha piperita*), oxalis (*Oxalis corniculata*), tuberose (*Polianthus tuberosa*), watermelon (*Citrullus vulgaris*) and withania (*Withania somnifera*). Root-knot specimens were collected from the infested plants and root-knot index (RKI) measured using the scale of Taylor & Sasser (1978).