

**CAPSELLA BURSA-PASTORIS (L.) MEDIC., A NEW HOST OF
HETERODERA SCHACHTII SCHMIDT (1871) IN NORTHERN
AREAS OF PAKISTAN**

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Abstract

Heterodera schachtii Schmidt, 1871, the sugar beet cyst nematode has been found in most of the countries from a wide range of hosts chiefly Chenopodiaceae and the Cruciferae (Weischer & Steudal 1972). During a nematode survey in Naran Area (7500' asl) of the Northern areas of Pakistan in September 1985, lemon shaped cysts (50-60/100 gm of soil) were collected from the roots of a common weed, *Capsella bursa-pastoris*. The cysts were identified on the basis of 20 second stage juveniles (L = 438-470 μ m, spear 25 μ m, tail 48-50 μ m, hyaline, tail length 22-27 μ m with 4 lateral lines and ambifenestrate fenestra, with irregularly arranged bullae). *H. schachtii* has been earlier reported from sugar cane fields (Akhtar 1961) and in cauliflower (Maqbool, 1980). *Capsella bursa pastoris* seems to be a new host of *H. schachtii* from Pakistan.