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DISTRIBUTION OF PARASITIC NEMATODES AND THEIR IMPORTANCE IN FRUIT PRODUCTION OF BALUCHISTAN

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Abstract

Nine genera and 12 species of plant-parasitic nematodes were recorded in 400 soil and root samples of apple, almond, grape and plum from Baluchistan. *Scutylenechus quettensis* was predominant followed by *Helicotylenchus digonicus*, *H. indicus* in almond, plum, *Pratylenchus penetrans* in apple and *Xiphinema americanum* in grape. Population densities of the nematodes, monitored from May-November 1985 showed peaks in September at atmospheric day temperature of 20-25°C at 20-25 cms soil depths in almond, plum and apple and at 15-20 cms depth in grapes.