

NEMATODE CONTROL IN THE REHABILITATION OF PLANTAIN *MUSA* SPP.

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Abstract

Rehabilitation studies of a 5-year-old plantain orchard was conducted at the National Horticultural Research Institute, Ibadan. Operations included desuckering to one sucker per mat, hilling, fertilizer application and nematode control. Populations of the spiral nematode, *Helicotylenchus multicinctus* and the root-knot nematode, *Meloidogyne incognita* were drastically reduced by the nematicides treatments. Flowering date was shortest with Furadan at 5 g a.i. per mat. Number of matured fingers and total yield increased with nematode control. However, plant height, initial number of arms and fingers, final number of suckers per mat and number of leaves at harvest did not vary significantly among the treatments.