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INFLUENCE OF SALINITY STRESSES ON HATCHING AND JUVENILE MORTALITY OF ROOT-KNOT NEMATODES, *MELOIDOGYNE INCOGNITA* (RACE 2) AND *MELOIDOGYNE JAVANICA*

ABRAR AHMAD KHAN AND M. WAJID KHAN

Plant Pathology and Plant Nematology Laboratories,
Department of Botany, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh-202002, India.

Abstract

Effect of different soil salinity levels (ECe) of NaCl and $NaHCO_3$ on hatching and mortality of juveniles (J_2) or root-knot nematodes, *Meloidogyne incognita* (race 2) and *M. javanica* were studied in artificial treatment. A direct correlation in hatching and salinity levels were recorded. Inhibition in hatching and juvenile mortality were highest in 5.0 mmhos/cm. At all the salinity levels, per cent mortality increased with an increase in exposure period. Hatching inhibition and mortality percentage of *M. javanica* were slightly greater than *M. incognita* (race 2). Sodium chloride showed a greater effect than $NaHCO_3$ for both the nematodes.