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**EFFECT OF DRY TEA DREGS AS SOIL AMENDMENT ON  
GALL FORMATION BY *MELOIDOGYNE JAVANICA* AND  
GROWTH OF SUNFLOWER (*HELIANTHUS ANNUS* L.)**

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**Abstract**

The effect of dried tea dregs (*Camillia sinensis* L.) as soil amendment on the root-knot nematode, *Meloidogyne javanica* infecting sunflower plants and on improving plant growth was studied under greenhouse conditions. Highest reduction of root gall formation was observed where plants were grown in pots treated with 15, 20, 30 and 40g tea dregs/kg soil. Length and fresh weight of both shoot and root increased significantly when plants were treated with the material at the rates of 10, 15 and 20g/kg soil. Although higher rates of the material (30 and 40g/kg soil) were the most effective against the nematode infection but it caused phytotoxicity.