

**EFFECT OF TEMPERATURE, MOISTURE AND RELATIVE HUMIDITY ON
SURVIVAL AND INFECTIVITY OF *HETERORHABDITIS
INDICA* (RHABDITIDA: HETERORHABDITIDAE) NATIVE TO
SOUTH ANDAMAN'S, INDIA**

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Abstract

Studies on the survival and infectivity of *Heterorhabditis indica* (Andaman isolate) was carried out in laboratory by simulating the abiotic parameters *viz.*, temperature, soil moisture and relative humidity, in sandy loam soil collected from Chidiyatapu, South Andaman, India. It was found that for survival and infectivity of *H. indica*, 8 % soil moisture and temperature of 24° C at a relative humidity of 100 % was optimum, resulting in maximum infectivity of 75.3 %. Moisture levels above or below 8 % and temperatures above or below 24° C at 100 % relative humidity led to decrease in survival and infectivity of nematodes.