

**MANAGEMENT OF THE ROOT-KNOT NEMATODE,  
*MELOIDOGYNE INCOGNITA* INFECTING COWPEA AS  
INFLUENCED BY INTERCROPPING WITH SEA AMBROSIA,  
JOJOBA AND MARIGOLD AS ANTAGONISTIC PLANTS**

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**Abstract**

Sea ambrosia (Damsisa), jojoba and marigold plants intercropped at densities of 1, 2, 3 and 4 plants with cowpea significantly ( $p \leq 0.01$  and  $0.05$ ) lowered *Meloidogyne incognita*, the root-knot nematode on cowpea as indicated by number of the nematode galls and egg-masses compared to those on cowpea grown alone. The highest percentage reduction in number of the galls and egg-masses was produced on cowpea roots (83.9 & 90.9 %) when cowpea was intercropped with marigold followed by sea ambrosia (74.2 & 81.8 %) and by jojoba (67.7 & 72.7 %) when cowpea was intercropped with four plants of each of the previous plants; respectively. There was a positive correlation between number of the studied plants and percentages reduction in the nematode galls and egg-masses on cowpea plants. In general, plant growth criteria of cowpea significantly ( $p \leq 0.01$  and/or  $0.05$ ) increased when one or two plants of each of sea ambrosia, jojoba and marigold were intercropped with cowpea, being insignificant in other criteria.