

NEMATODES ASSOCIATED WITH CHILLI IN SINDH

A. KHAN, K.A. KHANZADA, S.S. SHAUKAT* AND S. SHAHZAD*

*Crop Diseases Research Institute,
PARC, SARC, University of Karachi, Karachi-75270, Pakistan.*

**Department of Botany,
University of Karachi, Karachi-75270, Pakistan.*

Abstract

A survey of nematodes associated with chilli in Hyderabad and Karachi district, Sindh, Pakistan was conducted in 2005 season. Ten localities were surveyed in the two districts and samples of rhizosphere soil were collected. In all eleven stylet bearing nematode genera and twelve species were recorded. The population densities were measured and highest density was that of *Psilenchus* spp. (Mean = 132 / 200 cm³) followed by *Hoplolaimus indicus* (62 / 200 cm³) and *Pratylenchus* spp. (52 / 200 cm³). A cluster analysis of nematodes data of localities was performed that yielded two group of localities. The first group comprises of two subgroups. Subgroup 1a is characterized by the presence of *Hoplolaimus indicus*. The subgroup 1b is characterized by the presence of *Meloidogyne javanica*, *Helicotylenchus indicus* and *Meloidogyne incognita*. The second group has *Tylenchorhynchus annulatus* and *Xiphinema* spp., with high abundance in nematode communities.