

**ROOT INVASION OF DIFFERENT PLANT
HOSTS BY JUVENILES OF *MELOIDOGYNE* SPECIES
ENCUMBERED WITH *PASTEURIA PENETRANS* SPORES**

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Abstract

The effects of *Pasteuria penetrans* encumbered juveniles of *Meloidogyne incognita*, *M. graminicola* and *M. javanica* with two levels of attachment (5-10 and > 11 spores / J₂) were studied on the invasion of roots of tomato, barn yard grass, sorghum and egg plant. Invasion by spore encumbered juveniles was significantly less as compared to juveniles without spores. There was no statistically significant difference in root invasions between the two attachment levels in case of tomato, barn yard grass and sorghum. However, a statistically significant difference was observed between the two attachments levels in case of *M. javanica* invading roots of egg plant. The encumbered juveniles (5-10 spores / J₂) of *M. incognita*, *M. graminicola* and *M. javanica* caused 41.76 % reduction in invasion of tomato roots, 24.58 and 33.13% reductions of barn yard grass and sorghum roots and 11.20 and 19.55 % reductions of tomato and egg plant roots, respectively. The reductions in invasions caused by the juveniles encumbered with > 11 spores J₂ were: 46.47 % in tomato by *M. incognita*; 25.54 and 38.40 % in barn yard grass and sorghum by *M. graminicola* and 23.87 and 43.73 % in tomato and egg plant by *M. javanica*, respectively.