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The survival of *Radopholus similis* infesting coconut in host free soil

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In Kerala, *Radopholus similis* is considered as on important limiting factor in the establishment of coconut seedlings. For its control, it is important to know about its ability to survive in soil in the absence of host. It survived in air dried soil, with a moisture range of 0.1 to 1.0 per cent, for a period of three months. Under moist conditions (irrigated regularly) active population could be recovered up to 15 months. The infested coconut roots did not harbour active population after a period of one month in dry soil and two months in moist soil; but the population that had come out from the severed roots survived under field conditions in moist soil for six months, whereas it survived for only one month in dry soil.

Growth of cowpea and reproduction of *Heterodera cajani* as influenced by certain root-rot fungi

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Fusarium solani and *Rhizoctonia bataticola* were found the predominant root-rot causing fungi on cowpea in IARI fields. Interaction as a result of cohabitation of the two fungi with *Heterodera cajani* on cowpea variety, Pusa Do Phasli, was studied in a factorial experiment in 10 cm earthen pots with three inoculum levels of the pathogens. The inoculum of the two fungi consisted of 0, 1 and 2 g. of homogenised 10 day-old mycelial mat and that of nematode as 0, 100 and 200 second stage larvae.