

A BIBLIOGRAPHY ON THE ASSOCIATION OF THE NEMATODES *RHADINAPHELENCHUS COCOPHILUS* AND *RADOPHOLUS SIMILIS* WITH COCONUT, *COCOS NUCIFERA* L.

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Plant parasitic nematodes cause heavy losses to crops all over the world. In general, the symptoms of nematode infestation are root galls, root rot, necrotic lesions, stubby root, root proliferation, curly tip and discolouration of stem, leaf spot, leaf galls and seed galls.

One of the most important nematode diseases of the coconut palm is the 'red ring' caused by *Rhadinaphelenchus cocophilus*. This is known to occur in the mainland in Mexico, Honduras, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Panama, Columbia, Ecuador, Venezuela, Guyana, Surinam, Brazil, and in the Antilles in Trinidad and Tobago, Grenada, St. Vincent and the Dominican Republic. Fortunately this disease has not been reported

so far from India and we have an embargo on the import of seed coconuts from countries where red ring disease is prevalent.

Though the involvement of nematodes in several coconut diseases of uncertain etiology such as Lethal yellowing, Kain-cope, Cadang-Cadang, Guam and Leaf scorch decline was investigated by several workers, no specific nematode was reported to be directly involved in any of these diseases.

About 65 genera of plant parasitic nematodes, have been reported on coconut of which the burrowing nematode, *Radopholus similis* is the most important. The nematode on infestation produces

small elongate, reddish brown cortical lesions on roots of coconut, which later coalesce and cause extensive root rotting. To prevent the spread of *R. similis* to non-infested areas through infested coconut seedlings, dip in DBCP (Nemagon) 1000 ppm for 15 minutes was found effective. Later, Koshy *et al* (1983) recommended three applications of Phenamiphos or Phorate @ 25 kg. ai/ha for ensuring release of nematode-free seedlings from coconut nurseries in the infested tract

This bibliography has 171 entries contributed by 78 authors. The entries are arranged in alphabetical order in the name of the author(s). An author index is also appended.

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