

Distribution of nematode genera and seasonal fluctuation of *Meloidogyne incognita* with reference to its control on date- palm trees in Egypt

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Abstract

Under field conditions, distribution (vertical and horizontal) of eleven nematode genera on three date-palm cvs. Barhi, Samani and Zaghlool. Seasonal fluctuation of *Meloidogyne incognita*, and its biological control on date-palm cv. Zaghlool were investigated during one year of 2012. Results indicated that all eleven nematode genera recovered were found in high densities at a depth of 30-50 cm for both types of distributions, whereas only three genera viz. *Criconemoides*, *Tylenchus* and *Trichodorus* were detected in low densities at depth over 50 up to 100 cm in the case of vertical. However, at depth of 50-100 cm only three genera e.g. *Aphelenchus*, *Criconemoides* and *Tylenchus* were recovered in low number in the case of horizontal. Meanwhile, seasonal fluctuation of *M. incognita* population (J2) showed generally high peaks on date - palm cvs. Zaghlool, Samani and Barhi soil in August 2012, where Zaghlool cultivar ranked first in this respect. *M. incognita* (J2) population increased gradually during July, August and September on tested cultivars, then decreased in November and December 2012. Regarding *M. incognita* integrated biological control on date-palm cv. Zaghlool, dual treatments gave better results than single one for both percent reduction of reproduction factor and percentage increase of crop yield (78.1%), especially, *Paecilomyces lilacinus*+ *Datura stramonium* treatment.

Results also indicated amount increase in concentration of total sugar, total phenol, reducing sugar and free phenols in date-palm cv. Zaghlool of dual treatment than the single one, where *P. lilacinus* plus *D. stramonium* ranked first, however, the opposite trend was recorded in the case of total amino acids.

Key words: Bioagents, date-palm, *Meloidogyne incognita*, seasonal fluctuation, reducing sugars, amino acids, total phenol.

Introduction

Date palm, *Phoenix dactylifera* L. has been successfully grown on a commerce scale. Date palm is attacked by pests and diseases wherever it grows. Plant parasitic nematodes, such as *Meloidogyne* and *Pratylenchus* cause severe damage to date-palm (Eissa, et al., 2009).

Interest in alternative nematode control practices have increased due to the environmental and healthy risks associated with nematicides use. The impact of drenching application with aqueous plant extracts on such plant parasitic nematodes have been reported by several authors (**Oduor-Owino, 1993 and Khalil, 2002**).

Trichoderma harzianum acts through different mechanisms including mycoparasitism, also through production of antibiotic substances (**Hayes, 1992**). *T. harzianum* also acts through production of destructive enzymes i.e., chitinase (**Bolar et al., 2000; Sharon et al., 2001; Faruk et al., 2002; Shawky and Abd El-Moneim, 2005; Sahebani & Hadavi, 2008 and Shawky et al., 2010**). *Trichoderma* spp. can produce various toxin metabolites and different enzymes that improve photolytic activity of the antagonist and control of nematodes. In addition *T. harzianum* has ability to conolization (**Devi et al., 2000; Sharon et al., 2001; Faruk et al., 2002 and Siddiqui and Shaukat, 2004**).

On the other hand, the endoparasitic nematophagous fungus, *Hirsutella rhossiliensis* has been reported to suppress different species of phytoparasitic nematodes whether in soil or root (**Jaffee & Muldoon, 1995; Velvis. & Kamp, 1995; Mostafa et al., 1998 and Khalil, 2000**). *H. rhossiliensis* parasitizes and kills nematodes in vitro, suppresses nematode numbers in greenhouse tests. Spores of *H. rhossiliensis* adheres to vermiform nematodes which are directly penetrated and subsequently killed by the fungus. Therefore, the purpose of this investigation is to study the distribution of nematode genera associated with three date – palm cvs. Barhi, Samani and Zaghlool, seasonal fluctuation of *Meloidogyne incognita* on the same cultivars for one year with reference to its biocontrol on date – palm c.v. Zaghlool under field conditions.

Materials and Methods

1. Distribution of nematode genera associated with three date – palm cultivars:

In order to study the distribution of nematode genera (horizontal & vertical) infested orchard of date – palm cvs. Barhi, Samani and Zaghlool (25- year old) located at Al-Busailiy village at Rasheed district, Behera Governorate was chosen. For horizontal distribution, soil samples were collected at a depth of 50 cm and at the distances of 0-30, 31-50 and 51-100 from tree trunks. For vertical distribution, soil samples were collected at 5 different depths of 0-30, 30-50 and 50-100 cm at 50 cm distance from tree trunks. Five samples were collected at each distance or depth. Nematode genera were extracted from soil by sieving and modified Baremann-pan-technique (**Goodey, 1957**), while root samples by carefully washed with tap water and cut into small pieces for nematode extraction by incubate in Baremann-pan (**Goodey, 1957**). Also, % nematode population potential was estimated according to formula **Oostenbrink, (1966)**:

$$\% \text{ Nematode population potential} = \frac{\text{Population density of a given distance}}{\text{Population density at all distances}}$$

2. Seasonal fluctuation of *Meloidogyne incognita* on three date – palm cultivars:

In order to study the seasonal fluctuation of *M. incognita* on three date – palm cvs. Barhi, Samani and Zaghlool, an orchard (25- year old) cultivated with these date – palm cultivars in a sandy loam soil of Al-Busailiy village at Rasheed district, Behera Governorate was selected. The trees of each date – palm cultivar were also selected at random and labeled as permanent sampling sites. From each palm tree, 3 composite soil samples of 250 g each were collected at monthly intervals for one year (2012) by using manual auger. Samples positions were 50 cm around the tree trunks. In all cases, the soil collected was in close contact with the tree roots. Soil samples were processed for nematode extraction by sieves (Goodey, 1957).

3. Impact of three nematophagous fungi alone or combined with aqueous leaf extract of thorn apple on *Meloidogyne incognita* infecting date – palm cv. Zaghlool field conditions:

Preparation of fungal inocula:

An isolate of *Trichoderma harzianum* was obtained from Central Laboratory of Organic Agriculture, Agricultural Research Center, Giza, Egypt. The concentrations of *T. harzianum* 5×10^6 cfu.

An isolate of the nematophagous fungus, *Paecilomyces lilacinus* was obtained from Plant Pathology Department, Faculty of Agriculture, Cairo University.

The endoparasitic fungus was cultured on PDA (Potato Dextrose Agar) and then added aseptically as mycelial mat to a flask containing 50g of autoclaved wheat grains and incubated at $25 \pm 1^\circ\text{C}$ for one week. The concentration of the fungus was determined to 1×10^6 cfu/g of colonized wheat. Three grams of wheat grains infected with or without the fungus were used.

An isolate of the nematophagous fungus, *Hirsutella rhossiliensis* was obtained from Nematology Department of U.C. Davis, Ca., U.S.A. by Dr. Fatma A. Mostafa in 1990, then recultured at the Nematological Research Unit of the Agricultural Zoology Department, Fac. of Agric., Mansoura University, and designated as strain IMI 265748.

The endoparasitic fungus was cultured on PDA (Potato Dextrose Agar) and then added aseptically as mycelial mat to a flask containing 50 g of autoclaved wheat grains and incubated at $25 \pm 1^\circ\text{C}$ for one week. The concentration of the fungus was determined to be 3.6×10^6 cfu /gm of colonized wheat. One gram of wheat grains infected with or without the fungus was used.

Preparation of aqueous leaf extracts:

Fresh leaves of weed plant were collected from ornamental Research station, Faculty of Agriculture, Mansoura University and transferred to Nematology Department, Plant Pathology Research Institute, Agriculture Research Center, Giza for extraction. The tested plant was thorn apple, *Datura stramonium*.

Standard leaf extract was prepared by crushing and dissolving 20 g of leaves in 100 ml distilled water separately using mortar and pestle. The result solution was then centrifuged at 5000 rpm for five minutes. The supernatant was filtered through a layer of muslin cloth, and dilution of 5% was prepared from standard. Plants were drenched separately with 10 mls of tested previous plant, around plants root.

In order to study the effect of three nematophagous fungi i.e. *T. harzianum*, *P. lilacinus* and *H. rhossiliensis* singly or integrated with *Datura stramonium* on controlling *M. incognita* infecting date – palm cv. Zaghloom and crop yield in return under field conditions, forty trees were randomly chosen within the same date – palm orchard. The concentrations of each fungus tested, aqueous leaf extract and the systemic nematicide, vydate was separately added at the beginning the season of 2012. Each concentration of each tested materials for each tree was 5×10^6 cfu, 1×10^6 cfu/g and 3.6×10^6 cfu /g of colonized wheat for *T. harzianum*, *P. lilacinus* and *H. rhossiliensis*, while 10 mls for *D. stramonium* and 3g for vydate, and left four trees without any treatment, respectively.

Treatments were as follows:

1. N+ thorn apple (*D. stramonium*)
2. N+ fungus, *T. harzianum*
3. N+ fungus, *P. lilacinus*
4. N+ fungus, *H. rhossiliensis*
5. N+thorn apple (*D. stramonium*) + fungus, *T. harzianum*
6. N+thorn apple (*D. stramonium*) + fungus, *P. lilacinus*
7. N+thorn apple (*D. stramonium*) + fungus, *H. rhossiliensis*
8. N+ wheat.
9. N+Vydate, and
10. Nematode (N) alone (control).

Nematode determinations:

Nematode populations in soil (number of juveniles/250g. soil) were determined after one, two, three and four months from adding the tested materials according to **Goodey (1957)**. Roots were stained by acid fuchsin in acetic acid according to **(Byrd et. al., 1983)** and examined for number of developmental stages and egg laying females/1g. root. Eggs /egg-mass of *M. incognita* were extracted by using sodium hypochlorite (NaOCl) method as described by **(Hussey and Baker, 1973)**.

Chemical analyses:

Chemical analyses of sugars, phenolic compounds and amino acids were analyzed in Food Technology Research Institute. Total and reducing sugars were described by (Thomas, 1924). Phenolic compounds were determined by (Snell and Snell, 1953). The total free amino acids were determined by (Rason, 1959).

Statistical analysis procedure:

All obtained data were subjected to analysis of variance (ANOVA) (Gomez and Gomez, 1984) and means were compared by using L.S.D. at 5 % level of significance.

Results and Discussion

1. Distribution of nematode genera on three cultivars of date palm at different depths:

In vertical depth the highest density of *M. incognita* and their population potential % were also found at a depth of 50 cm from the soil surface, while the lowest density of *Tylenchus* and *Trichodorus Criconemoides*, *Helicotylenchus*, *Hoplolaimus*, *Longidorus*, *Pratylenchus*, *Rotylenchulus*, *Xiphinema* and *Tylenchorhynchus* found in the intermediates rank of population dynamics of nematodes in Egypt (Table 1).

In Horizontal depth the highest density of *M. incognita* and their population potential % were also found at a distance of 50 cm from the tree, while the lowest density of *Tylenchus* and *Aphelenchus*. *Criconemoides*, *Helicotylenchus*, *Hoplolaimus*, *Longidorus*, *Pratylenchus*, *Rotylenchulus*, and *Tylenchorhynchus* found in the intermediates rank of population dynamics of nematodes in Egypt (Table 2).

2. Seasonal fluctuation of root knot nematode, *M. incognita*:

M. incognita was found in the rhizosphere of date-palm trees cvs. Barhi, Samani and Zaghlool (Fig.1). Results showed that Zaghlool cultivar was more susceptible than Barhi and Samani cultivar. Population of *M. incognita* second stage juveniles (J2) in the soil showed a high peak in August. The lowest population density was found in January.

Table (1): Vertical distribution of populations densities of plant nematode genera associated with three date-palm cvs. Barhi, Samani and Zaghlool at three depths from soil surface around tree trunk under field conditions.

Nematodes genera	Varieties								
	Barhi			Samani			Zaghlool		
	Vertical depth (cm.)								
	30 cm.	50 cm.	100 cm.	30 cm.	50 cm.	100 cm.	30 cm.	50 cm.	100 cm.
<i>Cricone moides</i>	36	64	27	58	92	54	105	123	89
<i>Helicotylenchus</i>	61	82	97	84	105	93	121	182	103
<i>Hoplolaimus</i>	84	105	56	107	144	123	162	224	142
<i>Longidorus</i>	0	43	68	0	66	84	0	82	121
<i>Meloidogyne</i>	177	216	157	327	413	238	627	856	536
<i>Pratylenchus</i>	97	136	89	164	210	171	230	342	202
<i>Rotylenchulus</i>	116	155	102	221	362	191	383	523	321
<i>Trichodorus</i>	8	27	33	27	45	62	36	55	76
<i>Tylenchrohenchus</i>	86	117	74	136	176	118	206	271	178
<i>Tylenchus</i>	26	56	17	46	77	37	78	96	58
<i>Xiphinema</i>	0	33	41	0	62	86	0	76	106
L.S.D (5%)	9.3	6.1	5.8	15.2	12.3	7.9	17.8	13.1	11.5

Values were the average of ten replicates of nematodes per 250 gm soil.

$$\% \text{ population potential} = \frac{\text{Population density of a given distance}}{\text{Population density at all distances}}$$

Rhizosphere of date-palm cv. Barhi, Samani and Zaghlool trees

Table (2): Horizontal distribution of populations densities of plant nematode genera associated with three date-palm cvs. Barhi, Samani and Zaghlool at three distance from the trunk under field conditions.

Nematodes genera	Varieties								
	Barhi			Samani			Zaghlool		
	Horizontal distances (cm.)								
	30 cm.	50 cm.	100 cm.	30 cm.	50 cm.	100 cm.	30 cm.	50 cm.	100 cm.
<i>Aphelenchus</i>	22	43	24	41	64	33	62	85	52
<i>Criconemoides</i>	46	74	33	68	103	65	115	133	88
<i>Helicotylenchus</i>	72	94	103	95	116	112	133	195	117
<i>Hoplolaimus</i>	96	117	65	119	154	138	177	235	156
<i>Meloidogyne</i>	183	233	167	333	442	249	634	866	548
<i>Pratylenchus</i>	112	147	95	178	223	188	245	361	224
<i>Rotylenchulus</i>	137	167	115	233	337	201	393	534	339
<i>Tylenchrohynchus</i>	98	123	87	146	186	127	216	283	188
<i>Tylenchus</i>	33	68	47	52	87	43	89	112	69
L.S.D (5%)	8.9	5.7	7.1	12.6	12.8	9.7	15.2	18.4	17.8

Values were the average of ten replicates of nematodes per 250 gm soil.

$$\% \text{ population potential} = \frac{\text{Population density of a given distance}}{\text{Population density at all distances}}$$

Rhizosphere of date-palm cv. Barhi, Samani and Zaghlool trees

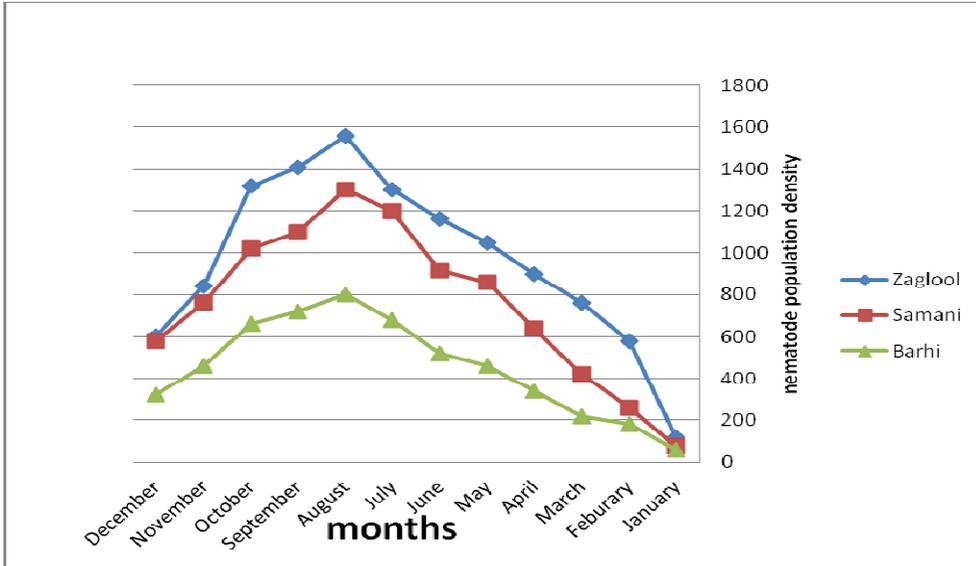


Fig. (1): Effect of seasonal fluctuation of *M. incognita* on three date palm cultivars under field conditions.

3. Effect of three nematophagous fungi, *T. harzianum*, *P. lilacinus* and *H. rhossiliensis* alone or combined with one plant leaf extract on crop yield of date-palm cv. Zaghloul infected with *M. incognita* under field conditions:

Data in Table (3) show that high reproduction of *M. incognita* was significantly suppressed in all tested treatments. Rate of nematode build-up ranged from 0.63 for *P. lilacinus* plus *D. stramonium* to 0.75 for wheat grains when compared with nematode alone (1.20) after one month. Similar trend was obtained with the same treatments after two, three and four months.

However, significant variation in nematode population density were noticed between most treatments when applied either singly or combined with plant leaf extract. However, significant reduction in the final nematode population achieved by all tested treatments in relation to nematode or wheat grains alone (Table 3).

Results in Figure (2) reveal that different response in % crop yield of date palm cv. Zaghloul over control under field conditions. The treatments of *P. lilacinus* plus *D. stramonium* showed the highest % crop yield of date palm cv. Zaghloul over control after the treatment of vydate while treatment of *D. stramonium* alone showed the lowest increase over the control (Fig.2).

Table (3): Suppression of *M. incognita* reproduction infecting date palm cv. Zaghloul as affected by three nematophagous fungi alone or combined with one leaf extract under field conditions.

Treatments	Initial	*After one month		*After two months		*After three months		*After four months	
	Total population in soil/250g	Total population in soil/250g + in root/g	PF/PI	Total population in soil/250g + in root/g	PF/PI	Total population in soil/250g + in root/g	PF/PI	Total population in soil/250g + in root/g	PF/PI
<i>T. harzianum</i>	1740	1240	0.71	1300	0.74	1160	0.66	1190	0.68
<i>P. lilacinus</i>	1700	1200	0.70	1040	0.61	860	0.50	1020	0.60
<i>H. rhossiliensis</i>	1840	1360	0.73	1200	0.65	1090	0.59	1180	0.64
<i>D. stramonium</i>	1780	1260	0.71	1380	0.77	1200	0.67	1300	0.75
<i>T. harzianum</i> + <i>D. stramonium</i>	1820	1250	0.68	1050	0.57	890	0.49	1060	0.58
<i>P. lilacinus</i> + <i>D. stramonium</i>	1900	1200	0.63	960	0.51	880	0.46	920	0.48
<i>H. rhossiliensis</i> + <i>D. stramonium</i>	1800	1160	0.64	980	0.55	920	0.51	980	0.54
Wheat	1840	1380	0.75	1470	0.79	1300	0.70	1400	0.76
Vydate	1640	840	0.51	720	0.43	680	0.41	520	0.31
Control (nematode)	1940	2340	1.20	3600	1.85	4200	2.10	4800	2.47
L.S.D (5%)	17.3	15.1	0.10	9.7	0.32	9.1	0.09	9.8	0.12

* Each value is the mean of four replicates per treatment.

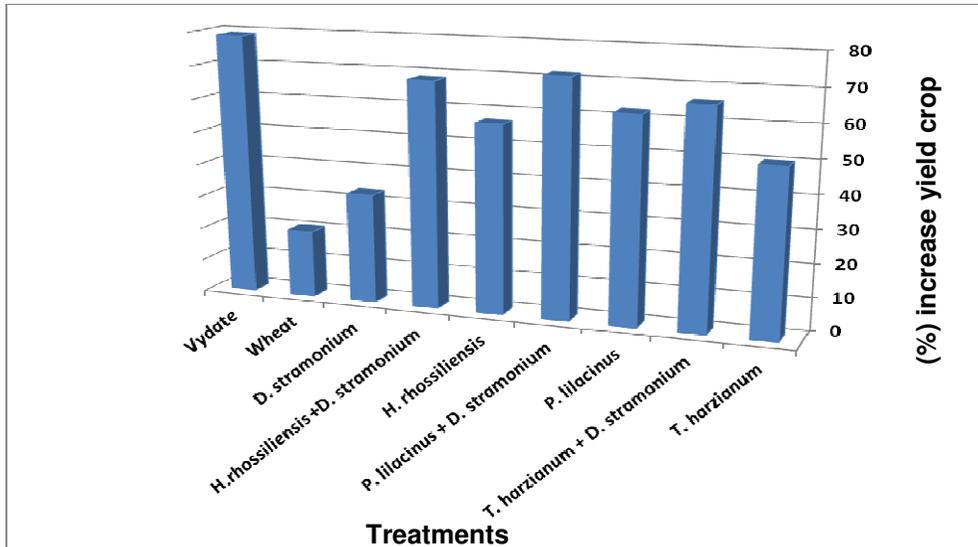


Fig. (2): Effect of *T. harzianum*, *P. lilacinus* and *H. rhossiliensis* alone or combined with *D. stramonium* on date palm cv. Zaghlool infected with *M. incognita* under field conditions.

Data in Table (4) showed a positive correlation between the amounts of total or reducing sugars and total or free phenols of the used treatments. Data also showed a negative correlation in total amino acids of the used treatments when compared with nematode alone. Amount of total sugars ranged from 1.789 to 3.145 mg/gm while amounts of reducing sugars were from 0.319 to 0.522 mg/gm. The highest amount of total phenols, (18.529 mg/gm) was found in trees treated with *P. lilacinus + D. stramonium*, while the lowest, (11.045 mg/gm) was for trees treated with wheat grains only. Amounts of the total amino acids ranged from 0.009 to 0.127 mg/gm from trees treated with *P. lilacinus + D. stramonium* or wheat grains, respectively.

Apparently, distribution of the eleven nematode genera recovered in the rhizosphere of the tested three date –palm tree roots showed high densities at a depth of 30-50 cm where date –palm trees root system percent either vertically or horizontally except for three nematode genera that were recorded at depth over 50cm up to 100cm. These results are not surprising since root distributions in both cases were in the same zones (Eissa, *et al.*, 2009).

In general, seasonal fluctuation of *M. incognita* in soil of the three date –palm cvs. Barhi, Samani and Zaghlool increased gradually during July, August, and September and then diminished in November and December 2012, where Zaghlool cultivar has the highest nematode population of *M. incognita* in August, followed by Samani and then Barhi. These findings are in agreement with these of (Eissa, *et al.*, 2009) in this respect.

Table (4): Efficacy of three nematophagous fungi and one plant leaf extract alone or combined with *D. stramonium* on some chemical components of date palm cv. Zaghloul) infecting with *M. incognita* under field conditions.

Treatments	Concentration (mg/g)				
	Total sugars	Reducing sugars	Total phenols	Free phenols	Total amino acids
<i>T. harzianum</i>	2.200	0.410	16.380	10.400	0.090
<i>P. lilacinus</i>	2.226	0.412	15.458	11.346	0.110
<i>H. rhossiliensis</i>	2.015	0.348	13.125	8.458	0.219
<i>D. stramonium</i>	2.135	0.369	16.254	9.456	0.085
<i>T. harzianum</i> + <i>D. stramonium</i>	2.621	0.459	18.325	12.789	0.068
<i>P. lilacinus</i> + <i>D. stramonium</i>	3.145	0.522	18.529	14.478	0.009
<i>H. rhossiliensis</i> + <i>D. stramonium</i>	2.568	0.419	16.547	12.312	0.098
Wheat	1.789	0.319	11.045	8.682	0.127
Vydate	4.155	0.654	18.789	15.714	0.012
Control(nematode)	1.756	0.255	9.358	4.254	0.458
L.S.D (5%)	0.020	0.022	0.413	0.251	0.003

Most treatments generally showed significant reduction in nematode population infected with *M. incognita* over that of the nematode alone. These results may be due to that of *Trichoderma* spp. has ability to conolization (**Devi et al., 2000; Sharon et al., 2001; Faruk et al., 2002 and Siddiqui and Shaukat, 2004 and Jegathambigai et al. 2008**). *T. harzianum* also acts through production of the destructive enzyme chitinase (**Paderes et al., 1992 and Bolar et al., 2000**). *Trichoderma* spp. can produce various toxin metabolites and different enzymes that improve photolytic activity of the antagonist and control of nematodes. In addition *T. harzianum* has the ability to conolization (**Devi et al., 2000; Sharon et al., 2001 and Faruk et al., 2002**).

These findings support the evaluation of reported by **Siddiqui and Mahmoud (1994)** and **Rao et al. (1997)** in respect to *Meloidogyne* spp. These results are in accordance with the work of **Nagesh et al. (1997)** who reported that combination of *P. lilacinus* with neem leaf extract resulted in significantly higher fresh plant weight and flower yield. Root gall index of *M. incognita* was least under *P. lilacinus* plus neem leaf extract combination followed by *P. lilacinus* plus castor leaf extract treatment. Although the percent egg and egg mass parasitization by *P. lilacinus* was higher when integrated with the leaf extracts, neem leaf extract improved the parasitization by *P. lilacinus* more than that with castor leaf extract. Furthermore, results of **Saikia et al. (1999)** in respect to *P. lilacinus* with or without neem (*Azadirachta indica*) or mustard oil cake extract on *M. incognita* infecting tomato support also the present findings.

The active ingredients of *D. stramonium* are atropine, hyoscyamine and scopolamine which are classified as deliriant, or anticholinergics (**Oduor-Owino, 1993**).

The increase in sugar by variation of the used treatments could be due to enhancing the metabolism and accumulation of metabolites that contain sugars. Another possibility is that the variation of the used treatments gave higher nematode suppression and consequently less consumption of nutrient including sugars. The increased of free phenols by variation of the applied compounds could be attributed to increase of the plant defense against the invading nematode. The increase in total amino acids by variation of used compounds could be attributed to lower infection and consequently lower replenish of proteins from the plant cell that cell is adjacent to infected ones (**Abdel-Momen et al., 2005 and Shawky et al., 2010**).

In conclusion, Zaghlool cultivar was the more susceptible cultivar than the others to the root knot nematode. It also can be said that drenching application with aqueous plant extracts; *D. stramonium* that applied singly or integrated with *T. harzianum* or *P. lilacinus* or *H. rhossiliensis* retained their nematicidal effects in soil. More research is needed to be done before using this trend for integrated control of such nematodes.

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الملخص العربي

انتشار أجناس النيमतودا والتذبذب الموسمي لنيमतودا (ميلودوجين إنكوجنيتا) مع الإشارة إلى

مكافحتها على نخيل البلح في مصر

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تم دراسة الانتشار الرأسى والأفقى لإحدى عشر جنسا من الأجناس النيमतودية المتطفلة على ثلاثة أصناف من نخيل البلح (برحي، سماني، زغلول) والتذبذب الموسمي لنيमतودا تعقد الجذور (ميلودوجين إنكوجنيتا) وكذلك مكافحتها بيولوجيا على صنف زغلول لمدة عام واحد (٢٠١٢) تحت الظروف الحقلية. أوضحت النتائج ظهور أحد عشر من الأجناس النيमतودية بكثافة عالية عند المسافات من ٣٠-٥٠ سم فى كلا الاتجاهين الرأسى والأفقى، بينما وجدت الأجناس النيमतودية الثلاث (الحلقية، التيلنكس، النقصف) بكثافة قليلة عند المسافات من ٥٠-١٠٠ سم عند مستوى الانتشار الرأسى. كذلك تلاحظ ظهور الثلاثة أجناس (أفيلنكس، الحلقية، التيلنكس) بكثافة قليلة عند المسافات من ٥٠-١٠٠ سم فى الاتجاه الأفقى. أوضح التذبذب الموسمي لنيमतودا تعقد الجذور أن أعلى معدل للتكاثر كان على الأصناف (برحي، سماني، زغلول) فى شهر أغسطس ٢٠١٢ حيث احتل الصنف زغلول المركز الأول. حدثت زيادة فى تعداد النيमतودا تدريجياً خلال أشهر (يوليو، أغسطس، سبتمبر) على الأصناف المختبره ثم تناقصت فى شهري نوفمبر وديسمبر ٢٠١٢.

فيما يتعلق بالمكافحة البيولوجية المتكاملة لنيमतودا تعقد الجذور (ميلودوجين إنكوجنيتا) على صنف زغلول لوحظ أن المعاملات المشتركة أعطت أفضل النتائج عن المعاملات المنفردة فى خفض تعداد النيमतودا وزيادة فى المحصول وصلت إلى ٧٨,١% للمعاملة المشتركة (باسيلوميسيس ليلاسينيس والمستخلص المائي للداتورة).

أوضحت النتائج زيادة السكريات الكلية والفينولات الكلية والسكريات المختزلة والفينولات الحرة فى أشجار النخيل (صنف زغلول) للمعاملة المركبة عن المعاملة الفردية حيث تلاحظ أن المعاملة بفطر باسيلوميسيس ليلاسينيس والمستخلص المائي للداتورة معاً احتلت المركز الأول ولكن على العكس من ذلك حدث عند تقدير الأحماض الأمينية الكلية.