

Occurrence of *Radopholus similis* (Cobb, 1893) Thorne 1949 on Banana in Gujarat

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Under A.I.C.R.P. on nematode pests of crops and their control programme, a random survey was carried out in Kheda district during May 1979, to determine the occurrence of plant parasitic nematofauna associated with banana. Soil as well as root samples were collected from 20 locations of the district. Samples collected from village Mogri (Taluka Anand) showed necrotic lesions on banana roots. Affected plants showed stunting, yellowing and withering in patches.

On dissecting the affected roots, presence of *Radopholus* sp. of nematode was observed. This nematode was also recovered from soil sample processed by Cobb's modified sieving and Baermann funnel technique.

During January '80, soil as well as root samples collected from the college Agronomy farm of Gujarat Agricultural University, Anand Campus, Anand also revealed the presence of *Radopholus* sp. on banana.

On critical examination, the nematode was identified as *Radopholus similis*. Though *Radopholus* sp. on banana has been reported from south Gujarat area (Joshi, 1979), this is the first systematic report of *Radopholus similis* occurrence in banana from Gujarat. The measurements recorded on adult males and females are as under.

Females :

Length : 586.91 μm (530-667 μm)
Spear length : 17.84 μm (15.31-18.90 μm)
a=30.24 (28.23-32.48)
b=6.65 (5.90-7.12)
b'=3.99 (3.74-4.41)
c=10.19 (9.67-11.40)
v=59.07 (58.29-59.87)

Males:

Length : 562.15 μm (543.56-576.45 μm)
Spear length : 17.07 μm (16.82-17.39 μm)
a=31.75 (31.26-32.22)
b=6.38 (5.82-6.80)
b'=3.90 (3.72-4.05)
c=9.45 (9.13-9.65)
T=32.71 (31.99-33.44)

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REFERENCES

- Joshi, H. U., (1979) Annual report of plant pathological research for 1978-79. Plant Pathology Department, N. M. College of Agriculture, Navsari. Banana pp 24-39
Nineth meeting of plant protection Sub-Committee, G.A.U.