

Studies on Nematodes in Coffee Soils of Nigeria: Survey of Plant Parasitic Nematodes Associated with Coffee

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SUMMARY

A survey of the coffee experimental fields and germplasm plots of the Cocoa Research Institute of Nigeria (CRIN) in Ibadan, Nigeria in 2005. Plant-parasitic nematode genera occurring in approximately 50% or more of the fields were *Meloidogyne*, *Pratylenchus*, *Radopholus*, *Scutellonema*, *Tylenchus* and *Xiphinema*. *Meloidogyne* spp. had the greatest frequency of occurrence (60.5%) and could be regarded as the major nematode problem of coffee in Nigeria. Generally, frequency of occurrence for each of the other nematode was below 20%, with *Radopholus* spp. leading the less frequent (i.e. “minor”) nematodes. Nematode association profile in this study is at variance with reports from other coffee-growing parts of the world where *Pratylenchus* spp. is ranked as the major nematode problem of coffee. This paper discusses the need to expand the scope of the survey to major plantations with a view to updating information on nematode genera associated with coffee with additional focus of ranking the nematodes in order of importance based on pathogen city studies and ultimate development of management strategies for nematodes.