

Notes and Comments

Pakistan J. Zool., vol. 44(6), pp. 1773, 2012.

New Host Record of *Meloidogyne javanica* on Two Ornamental Plants, *Nanthera (Alternanthera tenella)* and *Ficus (Ficus benjamina)*, in Pakistan

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During a survey of Agriculture University, Faisalabad campus, two new hosts of root knot nematodes were recorded. Small to moderate galls on the roots of *Alternanthera tenella* and *Ficus benjamina* were observed. Under the stereoscopic microscope mature whitish pear shaped females were isolated from the roots of *Nanthera* and *Ficus*. By using perineal pattern technique (Eisenback *et al.*, 1981), a root knot nematode species *M. javanica* was identified from the two hosts. The perineal pattern of *M. javanica* comprised a distinct dorsal arch and lateral incisures which is in agreement with Treub (1885); Chitwood (1949). This new record of *M. javanica* has not been hitherto reported in Pakistan (Zarina and Maqbool, 1991; Maqbool and Shahina, 2001; Khanzada and Khan, 2003; Zarina, 2004; Khan *et al.*, 2005; Erum *et al.*, 2005; Shahid *et al.*, 2006, 2007, 2008; Shahina *et al.*, 2009; Shazad *et al.*, 2011; Haq *et al.*, 2012).

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(Received 19 July 2012, accepted 12 September 2012)

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0030-9923/2012/0006-1773 \$ 8.00/0
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