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EFFECT OF SOIL AMENDMENT WITH DRY CROP RESIDUES ON *MELOIDOGYNE INCOGNITA* ROOT-KNOT NEMATODE AND PLANT GROWTH OF OKRA AND LENTIL

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Abstract

The plant-parasitic nematode poses a serious threat to economically important crops. Several methods are employed for the control of plant-parasitic nematodes. In the present study, an attempt was made to evaluate the effect of soil amendment with dry crop residues on the root-knot development caused by *Meloidogyne incognita* and plant growth of okra and lentil. It was found that dry crop residues of marigold, mustard and rocket-salad at different doses brought about significant reduction in root-knot development caused by *M. incognita* and thereby improved plant growth of okra and lentil. The higher doses proved effective than lower doses as compared to untreated control which showed lowest reduction in root-knot development caused by *M. incognita.* The plant growth was highest in plants grown from pots treated with higher doses as compared to lower doses. Amongst the dry crop residues highest plant growth was observed in plants grown from pots treated with rocket-salad + marigold followed by plants treated with mustard + marigold, mustard + rocket-salad, marigold, rocket-salad and mustard, respectively.