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STUDIES ON HORIZONTAL AND VERTICAL DISTRIBUTION OF *QUINISULCIUS SOLANI* IN A POTATO FIELD

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Abstract

Vertical and horizontal distribution of *Quinisulcius solani* Maqbool, 1982 was observed in relation to the concentration of potato roots. Higher concentration was found at a distance of 20 cm horizontally from the plants and vertically at 20-25 cm depths. Although the population of other nematode genera were highly concentrated at 20 cm horizontally from the plants, their vertical distribution varied and was maximum at 15-20 cm depths. A gradual increase in overall nematode population was also observed which may occur due to continuous growth of plant roots and seasonal changes. The saprophytic nematodes were in high population at the upper most soil surface.