Maximizing Root-Knot Nematode Populations for Research Utilizing a Minimalist Approach. (S03-kratochvil075759-Poster)

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Abstract:

Agricultural research with plant-parasitic nematodes often requires an abundant population of nematode species. The ease at which a desired species can be initiated and proliferated can ultimately reduce time and labor expenses. A unique approach to the propagation of root-knot nematodes, Meloidogyne spp., utilizes a moisture replacement system (MRS) (Sardanelli and Kenworthy, 1997) that is composed of a contained reservoir which delivers a continuous supply of water via a wicking system. Inoculations of Meloidogyne incognita into each bioassay unit of the MRS yielded average nematode populations that were significantly higher than initial inoculum levels when measured at 6 weeks post-inoculation. Utilization of this logical system in nematode research serves as a highly effective method for population proliferation of the root-knot nematode.

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