

Distribution and infestation rate of *Heterodera schachtii* in Sugar beet fields of Esfahan province

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ABSTRACT

Sugar beet cyst nematode *Heterodera schachtii* was first reported in 1987 from Esfahan province by the authors. From 1992-1997 in a state survey 655 soil and root samples from sugar beet fields was taken and the presence of *H. schachtii* was examined. The result showed that the highest infestation with 53% of the samples was from Ghohab and the lowest infestation with 4% of the samples collected from Golpayegan area. In the entire province 26.5% of the sampled fields were observed infested with an average population of 64.3 eggs and larvae/g. of soil. The highest population was 187 and the lowest 13 eggs and larvae/g. of soil. These figures are far more than economic threshold of about 2-4 eggs/g. of soil that is measured in different areas. This results revealed that sugar beet cyst nematode is one of the main problem in development of sugar beet and its productivity in Esfahan province.

Key words: Sugar beet cyst nematode, *Heterodera schachtii*, Esfahan.

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