

**DISTRIBUTION AND RATE OF INFESTATION OF ALFALFA
STEM NEMATODE *Ditylenchus dipsaci* (Kuhn, 1857) Filipjev 1936,
IN FARS, KOHKILUYEH AND BOYRAHMAD PROVINCES¹**

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SUMMARY

Studies on the distribution and rate of infestation of alfalfa stem nematode (*Ditylenchus dipsaci*) in forage crops in Fars, Kohkiluyeh and Boyrahmad showed that this nematode is present in Shiraz vicinity, Marvdasht, Ardekan, Eqlid, Abadeh, Firouzabad, Neyriz, Fassa and Yasouj areas. So far, the nematode has been found infecting only alfalfa and clover. Corn and sainfoin were free of infestation. The rate of infection and extent of loss was highest in Shiraz vicinity. The percentage of nematode infected plants and the number of nematodes per gram stem tissue in various locations were determined. A number of other nematodes in the root zone of forage plants were also identified.

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