

Studies on life cycle of root-knot nematode, *Meloidogyne incognita* on fennel (*Foeniculum vulgare* Mill.)

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ABSTRACT: Life cycle studies revealed that J₂ of root-knot nematode, *M. incognita* was the infective stage and penetration into the zone of root elongation was recorded after 12 h of inoculation. After penetration, second moult was observed on the 7th day of inoculation. The J₃ and J₄ stage were observed on 11th and 15th day of inoculation, respectively. Adult and egg laying females were observed on 22nd and 25th day of inoculation, respectively. Thus, the life cycle of root-knot nematode, *M. incognita* was completed within 25 days of inoculation on fennel during August-September, 2014 at a temperature range of 23.5^oC- 32.4^oC under Udaipur conditions.

Key Words: Root-knot nematode, *Meloidogyne incognita*, life cycle, fennel.