



Tamil Nadu Agricultural University
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To
The Editor,

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Sir,

I request that the following matter may kindly be published in your esteemed daily:

Root knot nematode-an emerging problem in pomegranate

At present, the area under pomegranate is increasing steadily in Coimbatore, Erode, Dindigul and Tirunelveli districts of Tamil Nadu due to its monitory returns and import value. Recently pomegranate growers are encountering problem of yellowing of leaves, stunting and less productivity of trees. Such trees were found to be severely infested with root knot nematodes on assaying of soil and root samples.

As the presence and association of root knot nematode in pomegranate has not been documented so far in Tamil Nadu, it is presumed that the nematode could have spread from other states through saplings. Therefore pomegranate growers are requested to subject their soil and root samples for nematode analysis by sending the samples to the Professor and Head, Department of Nematology, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore-641 003.

Applying farmyard manure @ 20 tonnes/ha, neemcake @ 250 g/tree followed by bioagent *Paecilomyces lilacinus* @ 25g/plant are suggested to manage nematode problem in pomegranate and to increase crop productivity.

For further details:

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