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Abstract

Grain farming in Africa, especial in Sub-Saharan Africa is facing the combined effects of abiotic (including drought and poor crop management technology) and biotic (fungal diseases and pests) stresses. Among these, the cereal cyst nematodes (CCNs) (*Heterodera* spp.), root-knot nematodes (RKN) (*Meloidogyne* spp.) and root-lesion nematodes (RLN) (*Pratylenchus* spp.) are the main limiting factor for grain production and are considered as economically important for wheat worldwide and major facilitators of fungal infections such as fusarium species. Loses of cereals as a results of plantparasitic nematodes (PPNs) are estimated up to 6.9 to 50% (\$US 125 billions) worldwide. The damage caused by these PPNS, their behaviour and control have received little attention in many African countries, especially Sub-Saharan African, in spite of indications by other countries that productivity of grains can be severely reduced.

identification.

Cape (13) provinces. Nematodes were extracted from soil method, followed by an adapted sugar centrifugal method. Nematodes were extracted from kernels by means of soaking the samples in water for 24 hours and decanting the extract through a 20µm sieve. Nematodes species were identified on the basis of

Values (PV) was calculated for each genus or family. Individuals from the following genera/families/orders were identified from

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