

NEW ALERT on Invasive Nematode!!!

National Institute of Plant Health Management (NIPHM) has identified a **new exotic** root knot nematode, destroying guava orchards in the **Andhra Pradesh and Telangana states**, with symptoms of beads like galls/knots on the roots, yellowing, shredding of leaves, drying and reduction in vigour. On examination of affected trees, root knot nematode was found to be the causal agent for this menace. Further studies done at nematology laboratory of NIPHM identified it as quarantine nematode, *Meloidogyne enterolobii*, based on **perineal pattern**. The infestation level in guava plantations due to this nematode is around 40-60% and yield losses up to 60-80% are recorded in case of severe incidence. NIPHM has developed management practices for this nematode and farmers got significant control of the nematodes in guava orchards.



Symptoms of *Meloidogyne enterolobii*

Females of *Meloidogyne enterolobii*

Perineal pattern of *Meloidogyne enterolobii*



Root-knot Nematode (*Meloidogyne enterolobii*) infestation in Guava Plantation in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana