

Pathogenicity of the Columbia Root-Knot Nematode (*Meloidogyne chitwoodi*) to Onions. B. B. Westerdahl, C. E. Anderson, and E. M. Noffsinger, Department of Nematology, University of California, Davis 95616; H. L. Carlson, University of California, Inter-mountain Research and Extension Center, Tulelake 96134; P. A. Roberts, Department of Nematology, University of California, Riverside 92521; and A. Weiner, Division of Plant Industry, California Department of Food and Agriculture, 1220 N Street, Sacramento 95814. *Plant Dis.* 77:847, 1993. Accepted for publication 5 April 1993.

In the Tulelake Basin of California, young plants, about 15 cm in height, in a field of processing onions (*Allium cepa* L. 'Southport White Globe') showed symptoms of severe stunting and root galling. The soil was a silty clay loam with 10–12% stable organic matter typical of this region. Adult female root-knot nematodes were isolated from the root galls and were identified on the basis of perineal patterns as *Meloidogyne chitwoodi* Golden, O'Bannon, Santo, & Finley. Onions have not been reported previously as a host for this nematode, and several cultivars are reported to be nonhosts (1). Pathogenicity was confirmed in a greenhouse experiment utilizing the same cultivar. Onion seedlings were inoculated with juveniles from greenhouse cultures originating from a field in the Tulelake Basin used for research on this nematode since 1983. Inoculated plants were stunted and had galled roots from which adult females with egg masses were isolated and confirmed, by the perineal patterns, to be *M. chitwoodi*. Knowledge that all onion cultivars are not resistant to *M. chitwoodi* or that biotypes of this nematode may have different pathogenicity to onions is important in developing crop rotation programs for nematode management.

Reference: (1) H. Mojtahedi et al. *J. Nematol.* 19:545, 1987.

are numerous hosts for *D. jalcata* in Thailand, but *P. kesiya* is the only conifer. Whether this marked difference in numbers of angiosperm and gymnosperm hosts is related to their relative abundance in the parasite's range, to differential parasitism, or to other factors is unknown and under study.

Reference: (1) B. Singh. *Bull. Lucknow Nat. Bot. Gard.* 69:1, 1962.

First Report of Botryosphaeria Canker on Bradford Pear in Louisiana. G. E. Holcomb, Department of Plant Pathology and Crop Physiology, Louisiana Agricultural Experiment Station, Louisiana State University Agricultural Center, Baton Rouge 70803. *Plant Dis.* 77:847, 1993. Accepted for publication 12 May 1993.

In December 1992, a severe canker disease was observed on container-grown Bradford pear trees (*Pyrus calleryana* Decne.) in a nursery in Baton Rouge. Numerous sunken, brown cankers of various sizes, and at times encircling branches and the main trunk, occurred on 40% of 200 trees 2.5 cm in diameter. A group of six trees 7–8 cm in diameter were in an advanced state of decline from multiple severe infections. A fungus identified as the anamorph of *Botryosphaeria dothidea* (Moug.:Fr.) Ces. & De Not. produced conidia in pycnidia on canker surfaces and was consistently isolated from discolored wood. Pathogenicity tests were positive, and the fungus was reisolated from dormant Bradford pear twigs that had been wound-inoculated with mycelia and spores produced on potato-dextrose agar and held in moist chambers for 5–10 days. This is the first report of *B. dothidea* on Bradford pear in Louisiana and the first report of its occurrence in a nursery environment on this host (1)

Reference: (1) J. M. Mullen et al. *Plant Dis.* 69:726, 1985.