

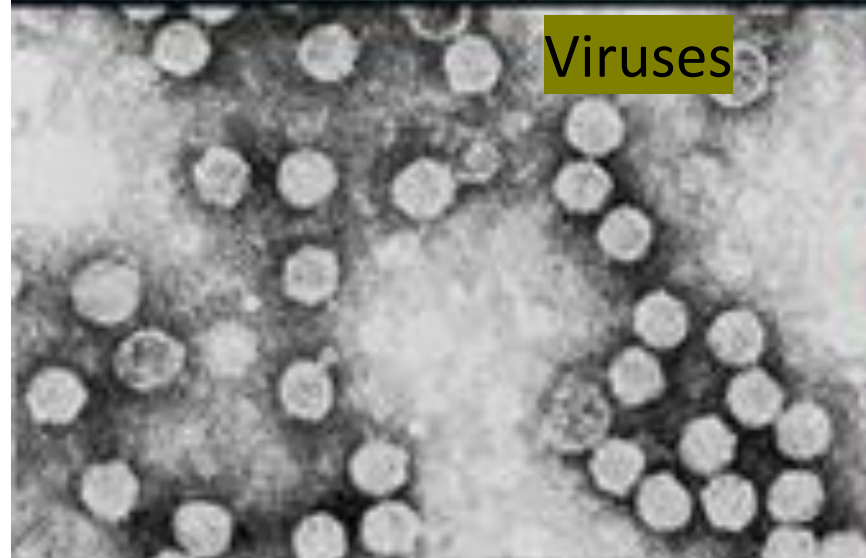
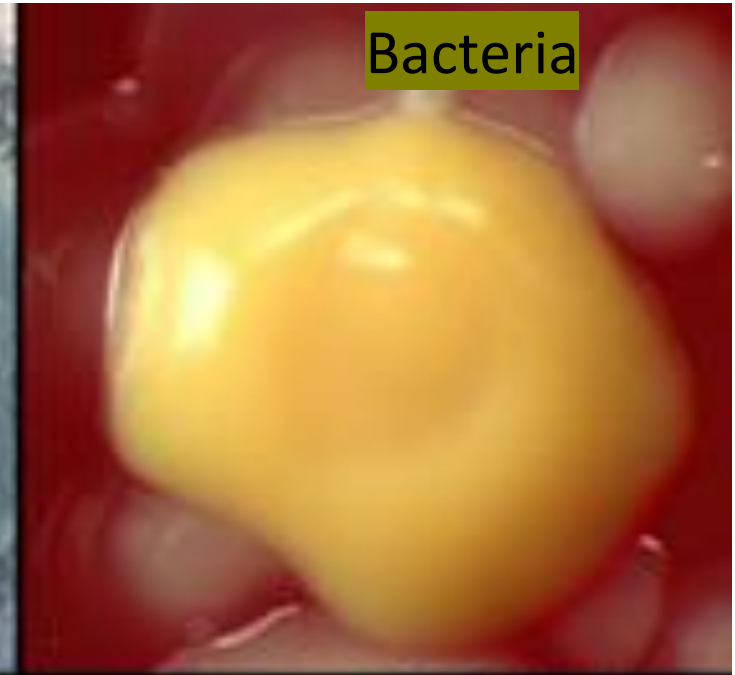
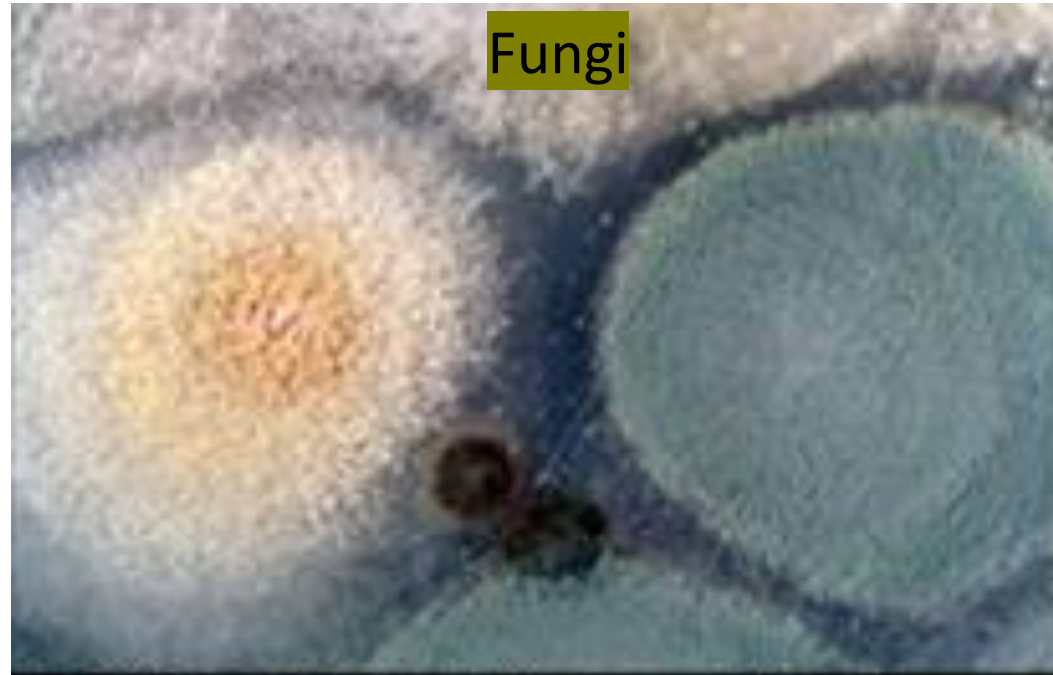
# Nematode of Importance in Low Desert Crop Production



September 15, 2022

By Philip Waisen

# Major Plant Pathogens



# What are NEMATODES?

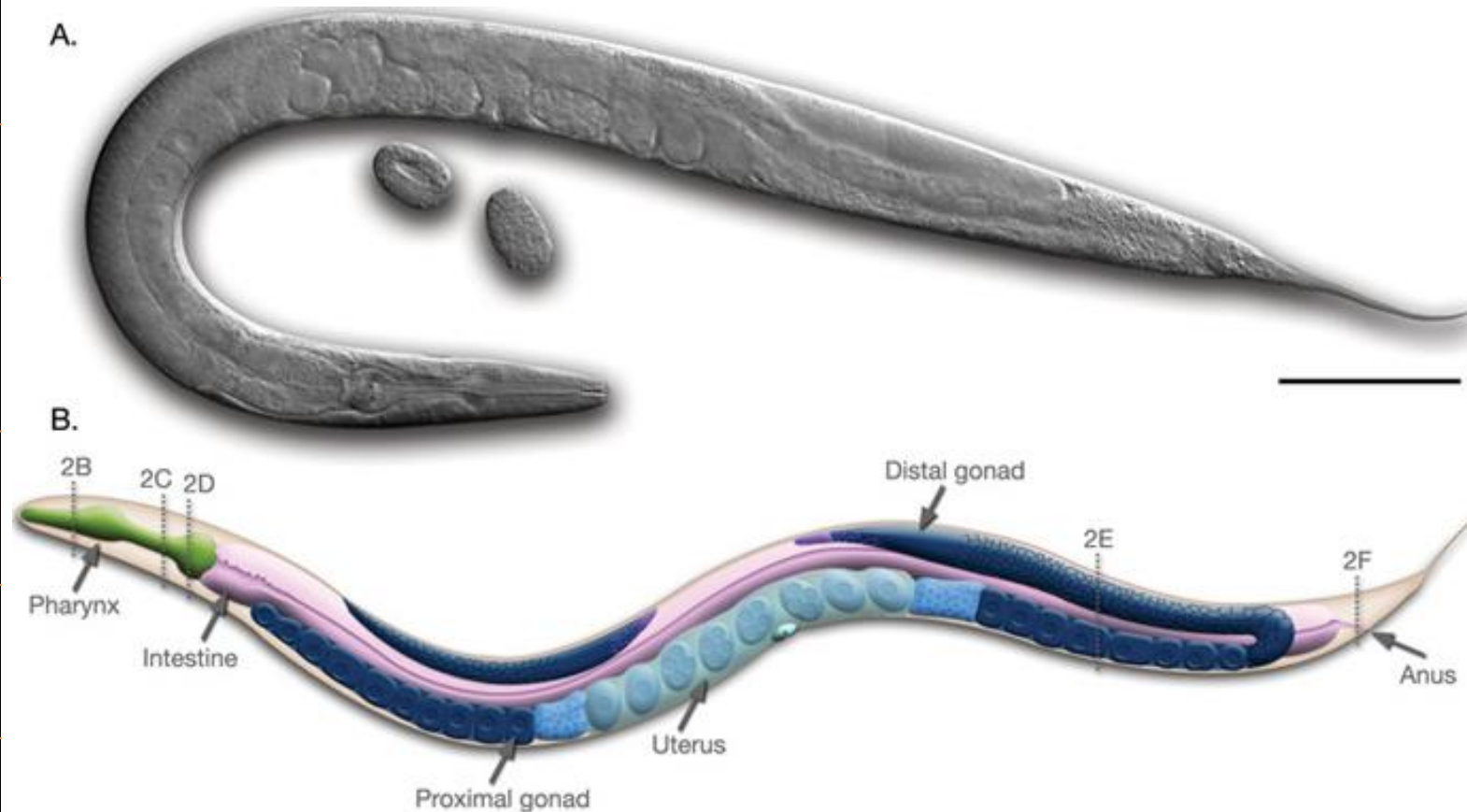
Microscopic (20-25  $\mu\text{m}$  wide)

Unsegmented round worms

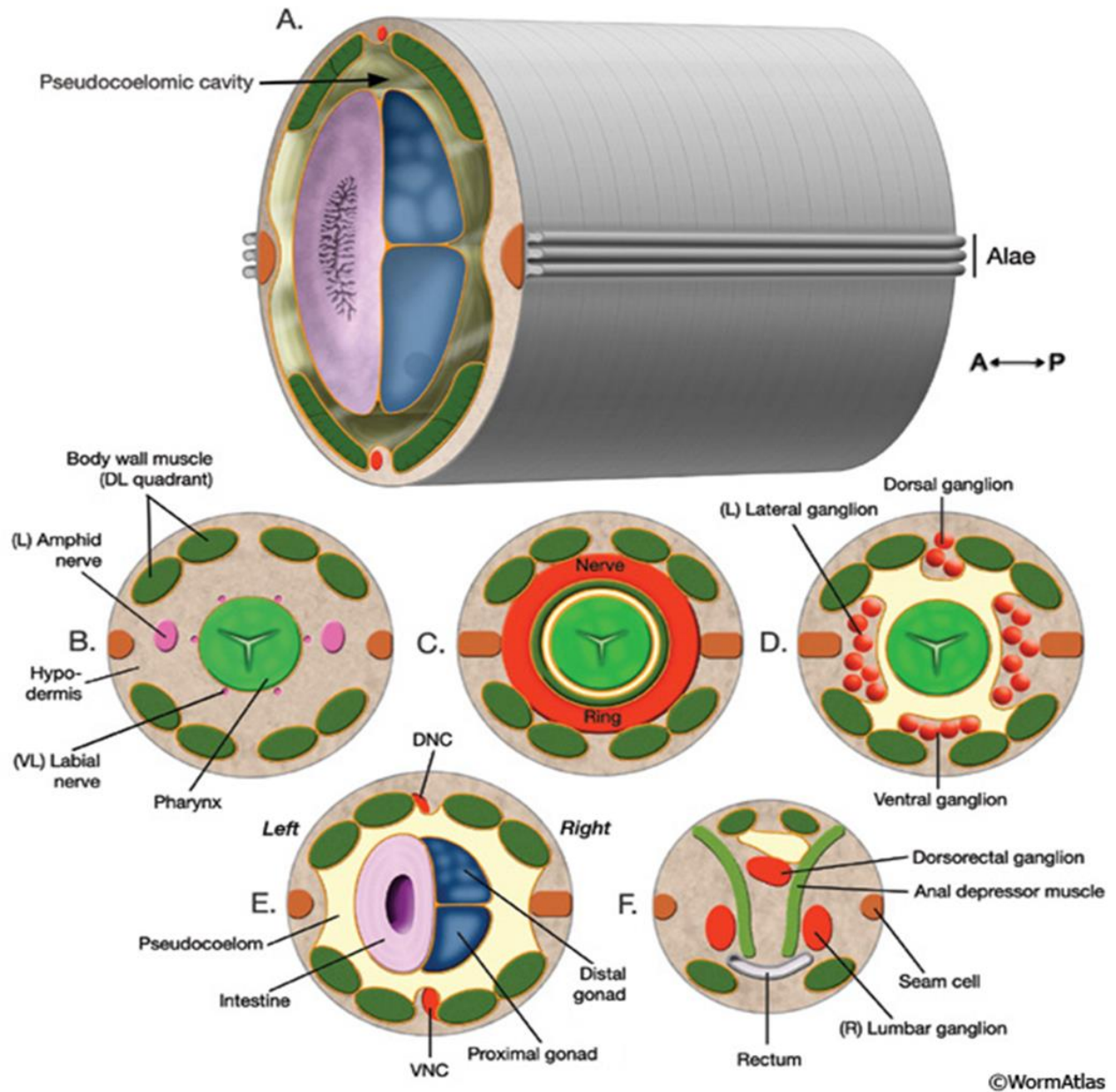
Thread-like (Vermiforms)

Bilaterally symmetrical

With digestive, nervous, excretory, reproductive, **circulatory**, **skeletal**, and **respiratory** systems

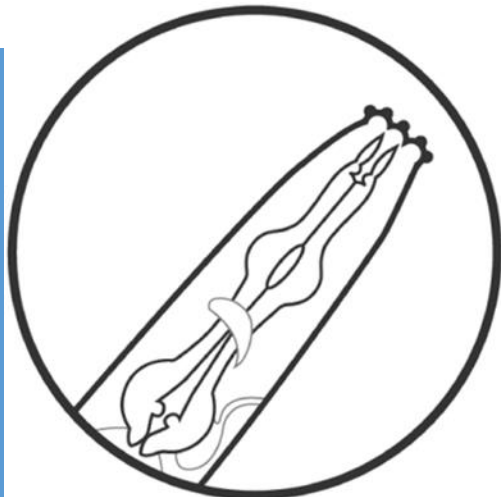


# Pseudocoelom

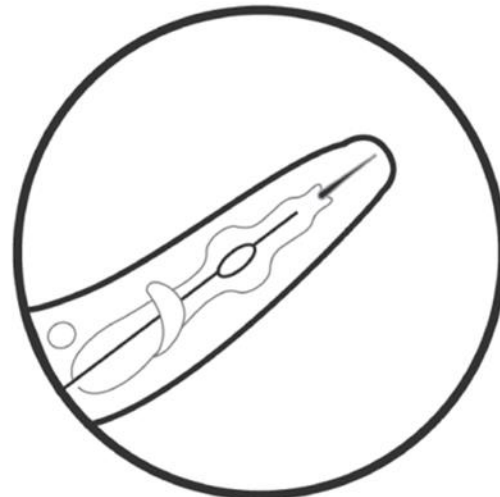


A fluid-filled body cavity lying inside the external body wall of the nematode that bathes the internal organs, including the alimentary and the reproductive systems.

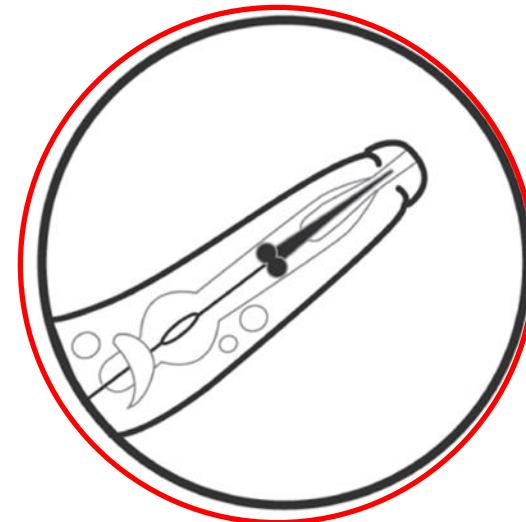
# Nematodes Community



**Bacterial feeder**  
*Rhabditis* sp.



**Fungal feeder**  
*Aphelenchoides sacchari*



**Plant parasite**  
*Pratylenchus penetrans*



**Omnivore**  
*Eudorylaimus cateri*

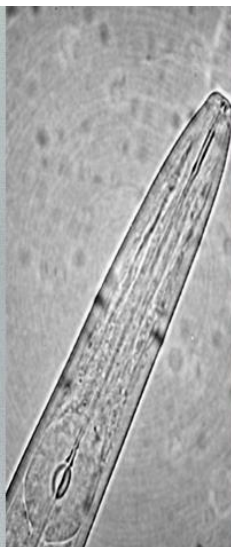


**Predator**  
*Clarkus papillatus*

# Nematodes Community



**Bacterivore**



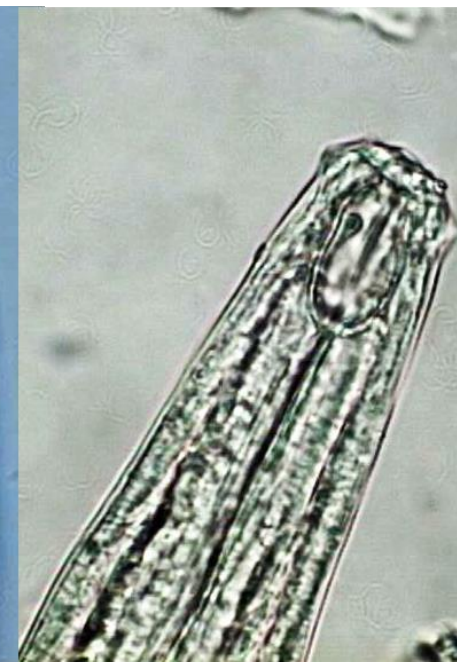
**Fungivore**



**Herbivore**

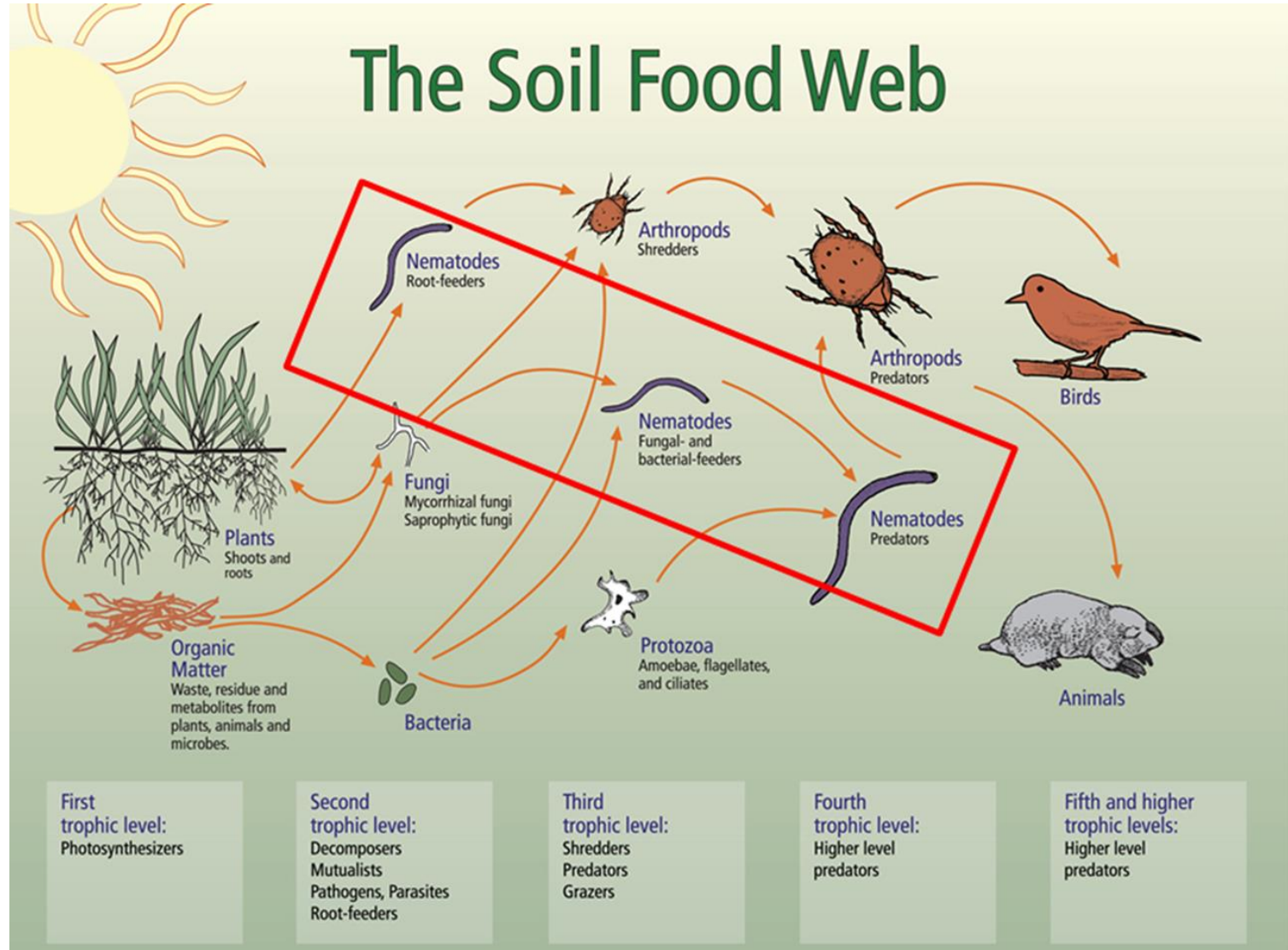


**Omnivore**



**Predator**

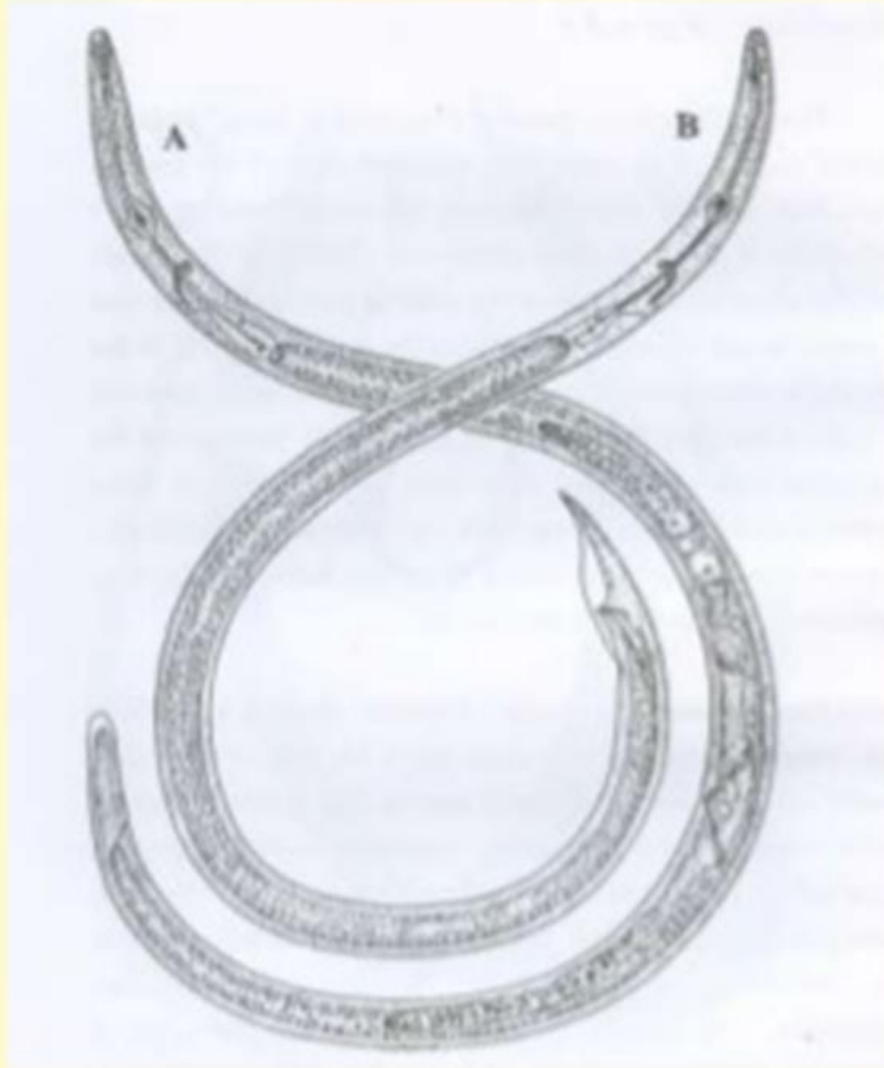
# Nematodes Community



[Natural Resources Conservation Service - USDA](https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/)

## Vermiform and Pear or Lemon-shaped

Normal shape  
*Vermiform*

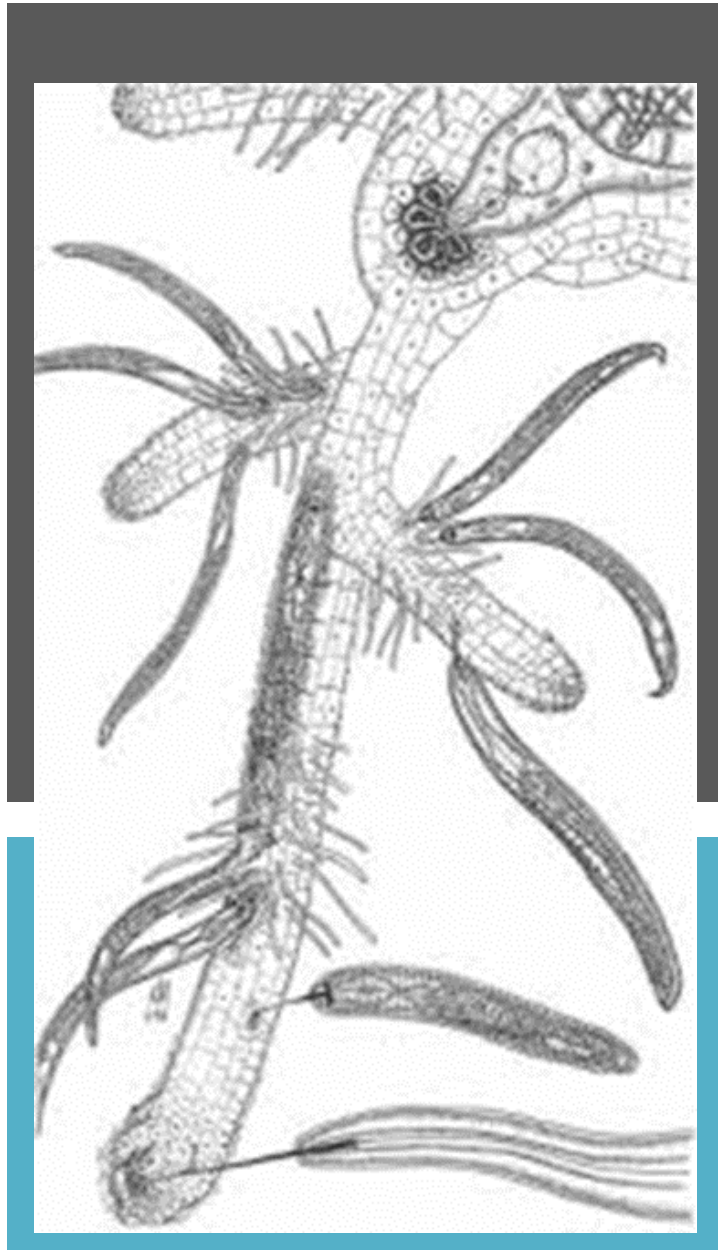


Sexual dimorphism





# Understanding nematode feeding behaviors – Important for **Management decision**



**Ectoparasites** (Stubby-root, needle)

**Endoparasites**

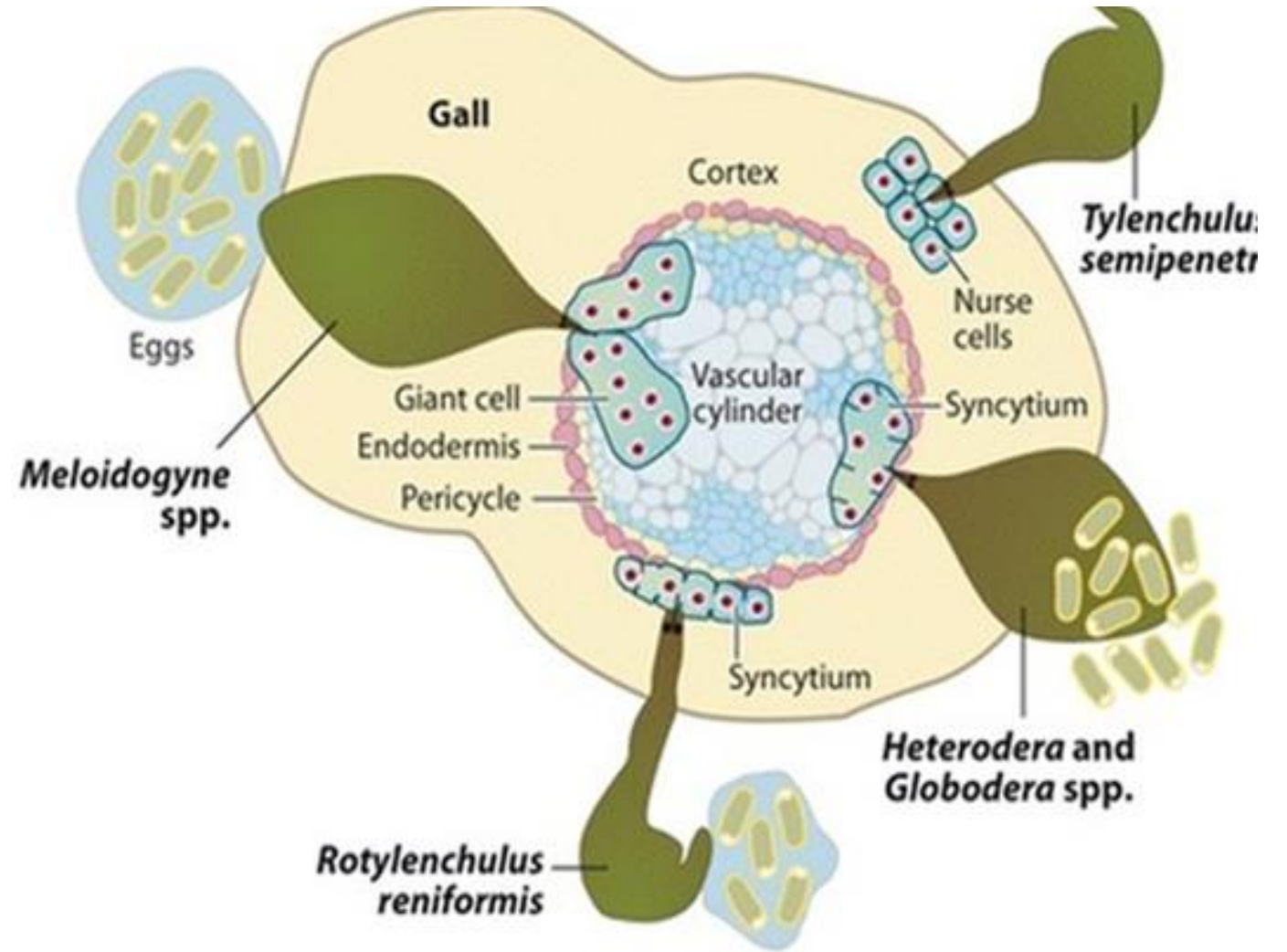
- *Sedentary* (root-knot, cyst)

- *Semi-endoparasite* (citrus, reniform)

- *Migratory* (root-lesion, alfalfa stem)

# Cross-section diagram of an infected root

- Sedentary endoparasites
- Semi-endoparasites



AR Mitchum MG, et al. 2012.  
Annu. Rev. Phytopathol. 50:175–95

# Ectoparasite

Ectoparasite – Feeds from outside the roots



# Major nematodes of low desert crop production

## 1) Endoparasites

- Sedentary:
  - \*Root-knot nematode (*Meloidogyne*)
- Semi-endoparasites:
  - \*Citrus nematode (*Tylenchulus*)
- Migratory
  - \*Root-lesion nematode (*Pratylenchus*)
  - \*Alfalfa stem nematode (*Ditylenchus*)

## 2) Ectoparasites

- Migratory
  - \*Stubby-root nematode (*Paratrichodorus*)
  - \*Needle nematode (*Longidorus*)

# Major nematode of low desert crop production

## 1) Endoparasites

### – Sedentary:

\*Root-knot nematode (*Meloidogyne*)

\*Citrus nematode (*Tylenchulus*)

### – Migratory

\*Root-lesion nematode (*Pratylenchus*)

\*Alfalfa stem nematode (*Ditylenchus*)

## 2) Ectoparasites

### – Migratory

\*Stubby-root nematode (*Paratrichodorus*)

\*Needle nematode (*Longidorus*)

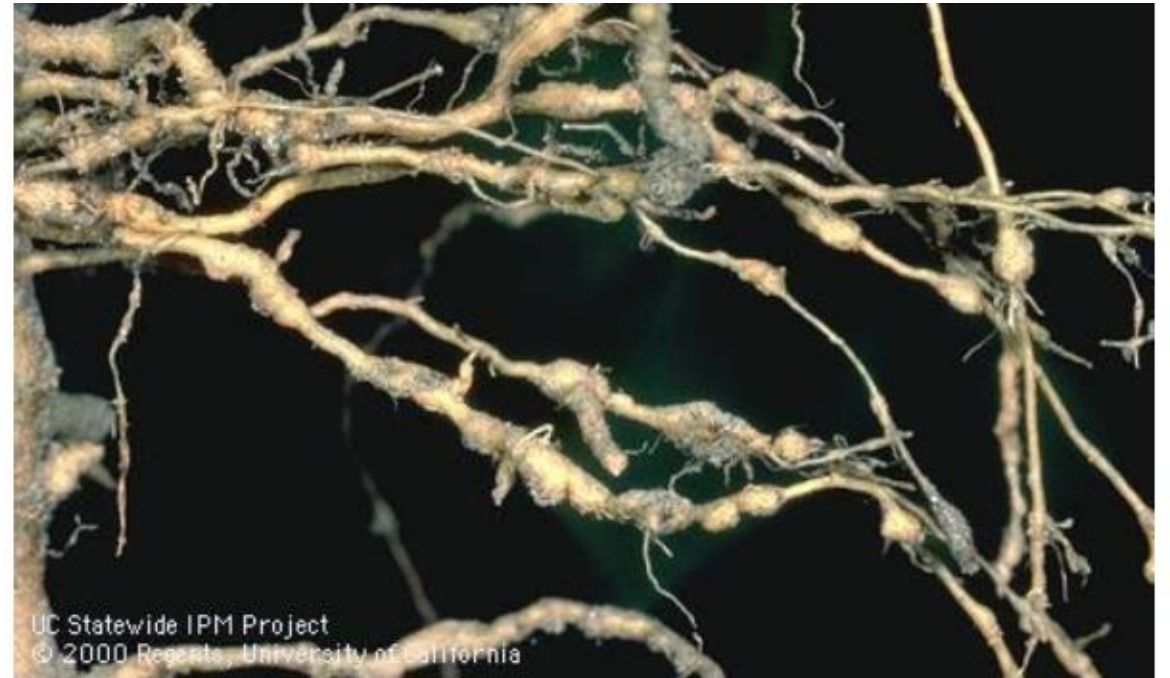
# Life stages (sedentary nematodes)

1. Embryo – Embryogenesis (egg)
2. First-stage Juvenile (J1)
3. **Second-stage Juvenile (J2)**
4. Third-stage Juvenile (J3)
5. Fourth-stage Juvenile (J4)
6. Adult

**Embryogenesis** and **Molting** in nematodes

## Root-knot nematodes (*Meloidogyne* spp.)





UC Statewide IPM Project  
© 2000 Regents, University of California

**Root system heavily infested with root knot nematode**

Photo by Jack Kelly Clark.

## **Root-knot nematode on cotton.**

- A resistant variety of Acala cotton, NemX HY, developed in the San Joaquin Valley of California.



# Root-knot nematode on alfalfa





**Root-knot nematode  
damage on carrot**

---



**Healthy**



**Infected**



**Infected**



**Healthy**

Bell pepper field with patches of yellow and stunted plants.



**Bell pepper**

showing above-ground symptom



Antoon Ploeg and Jose L. Aguiar



**Healthy**

**Infected**





above ground



below ground



Healthy

Infected

# Root-knot Nematode and Nutsedge

Nutsedge is **NOT** shade-tolerant



Nutsedge takes off



# Major nematodes of low desert crop production

## 1) Endoparasite (semi-endoparasite)

### – Sedentary:

\*Root-knot nematode (*Meloidogyne*)

\*Citrus nematode (*Tylenchulus semipenetrans*)

### – Migratory

\*Root-lesion nematode (*Pratylenchus*)

\*Alfalfa stem nematode (*Ditylenchus*)

## 2) Ectoparasites

### – Migratory

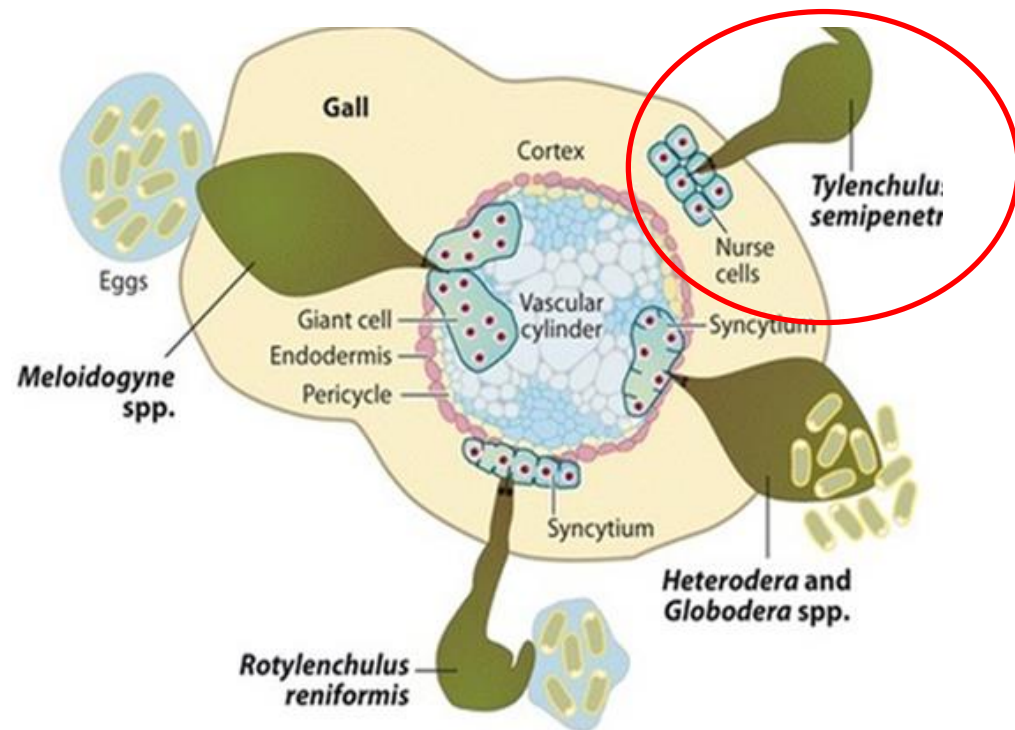
\*Stubby-root nematode (*Paratrichodorus*)

\*Needle nematode (*Longidorus*)

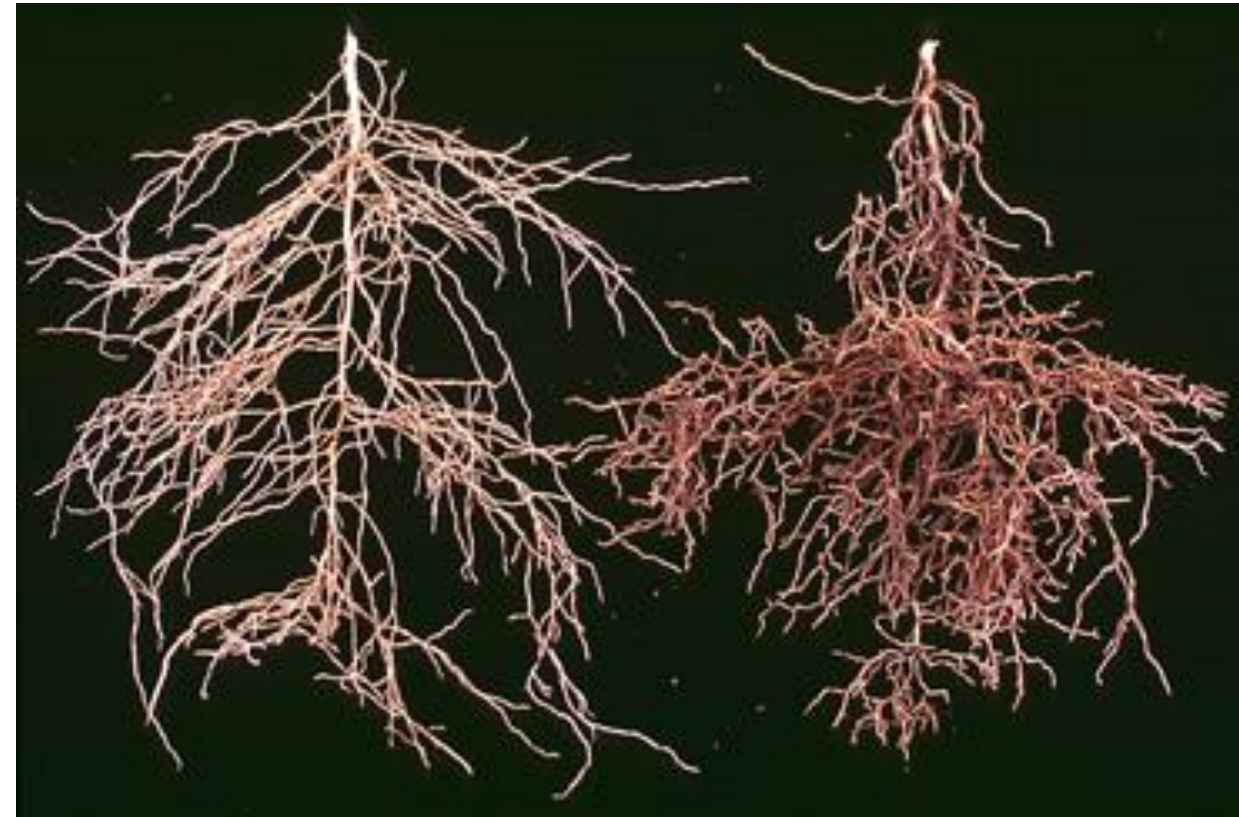


The citrus nematode is the only major nematode pathogen in California citrus.

## Semi-endoparasite



A **darker** and **thicker** impression on heavily infested root is caused by soil particles encrusted with the egg sack gel.



## Causes citrus slow decline



Advanced stage of citrus slow decline caused by the citrus nematode.

Photo by J. Ole Becker.

### Management:

- Nematode resistant or tolerant rootstock
- Certified nematode-free planting material
- Nematode-free planting site

# Major nematodes of low desert crop production

## 1) Endoparasite

– Sedentary:

\*Root-knot nematode (*Meloidogyne*)

\*Sugarbeet cyst nematode (*Heterodera*)

\*Citrus nematode (*Tylenchulus*)

– Migratory

\*Root-lesion nematode (*Pratylenchus*)

\*Alfalfa stem nematode (*Ditylenchus*)

## 2) Ectoparasites

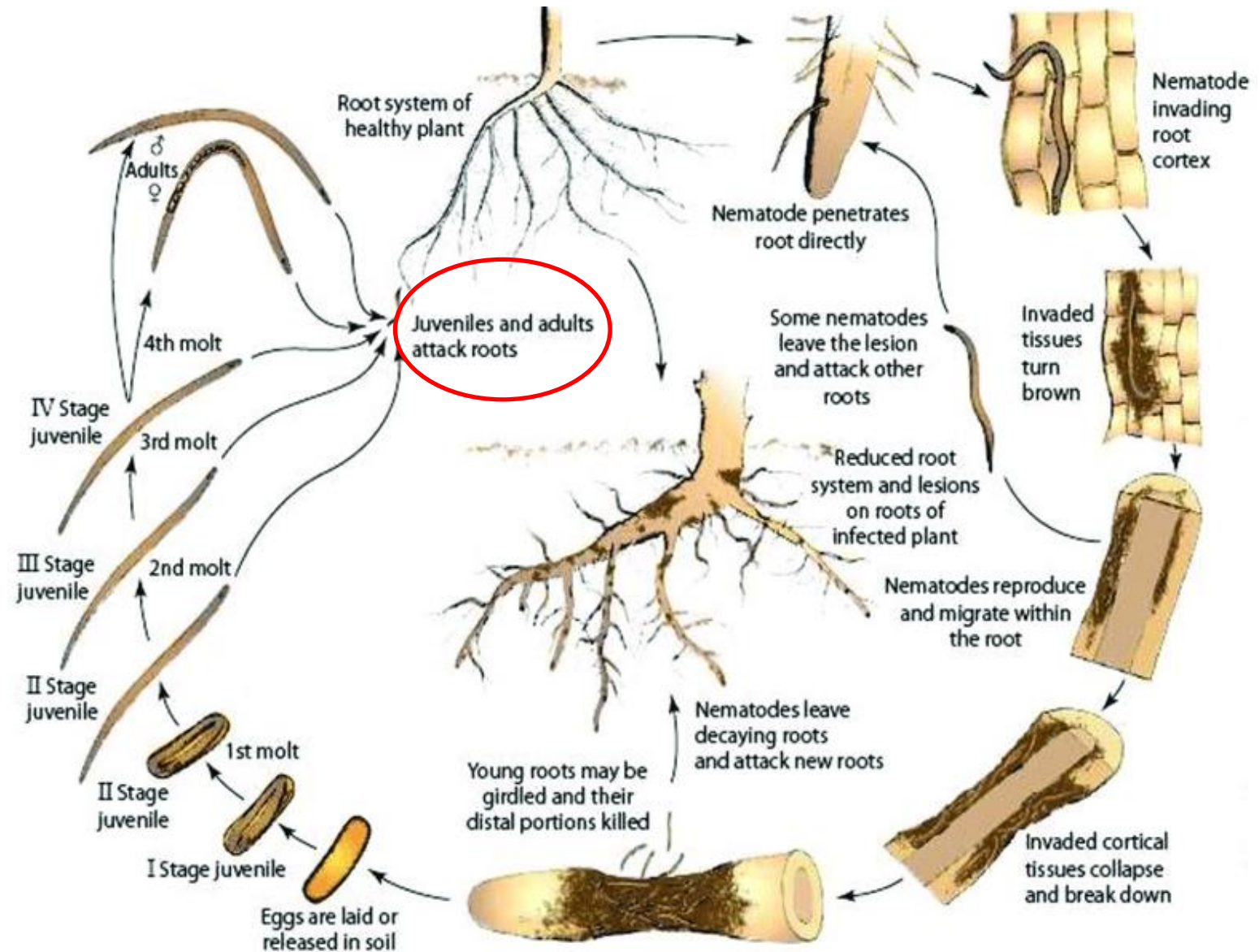
– Migratory

\*Stubby-root nematode (*Paratrichodorus*)

\*Needle nematode (*Longidorus*)

# Life cycle – migratory endoparasites

1. Embryo – Embryogenesis (e)
2. First-stage Juvenile (J1) –
3. Second-stage Juvenile (J2)
4. Third-stage Juvenile (J3)
5. Fourth-stage Juvenile (J4)
6. Adult



# Migratory endoparasites

Alfalfa stem nematode (*Ditylenchus dipsaci*)



Root-lesion nematode (*Pratylenchus*)



## Alfalfa stem nematode (*Ditylenchus dipsaci*)



des from plants is easily done in a plastic baggie. With the bag held upright in the corner of the bag and can be seen with a 10X hand lens.



## Nematodes found in California alfalfa fields

Common Name	Scientific Name
<b>Nematodes Commonly Causing Injury</b>	
Stem nematode*	<i>Ditylenchus dipsaci</i> (Kuhn and Filipjev)
Northern root-knot nematode*	<i>Meloidogyne hapla</i> Chitwood
Javanese root-knot nematode	<i>M. javanica</i> (Treub, Chitwood)
Southern root-knot nematode*	<i>M. incognita</i> (Kofoid and White) Chitwood
Peanut root-knot nematode	<i>M. arenaria</i> (Neal) Chitwood
Columbia root-knot nematode	<i>M. chitwoodi</i> Golden, O'Bannon, Santo, Finley
<b>Other Nematodes Found</b>	
Lesion nematode*	<i>Pratylenchus penetrans</i> (Cobb) Filipjev and Schuurmans-Stekhoven
Dagger nematode	<i>Xiphinema americanum</i> Cobb
Needle nematode	<i>Longidorus africanus</i> (Micol.) Meyl
Ring nematode*	<i>Mesocriconema curvatus</i> (Raski) Loof and DeGrisse
Stunt nematode*	<i>Merlinius brevidens</i> (Allen) Siddiqi
Stunt nematode	<i>Tylenchorhynchus</i> sp. Cobb
Spiral nematode	<i>Helicotylenchus</i> sp. Steiner
Stubby-root nematode*	<i>Trichodorus</i> sp. Cobb
Stubby-root nematode	<i>Paratrichodorus</i> sp. Siddiqi

\*These nematodes have been shown to reduce yields in alfalfa.

## Alfalfa stem nematode (*Ditylenchus dipsaci*)



Becky B. Westerdahl

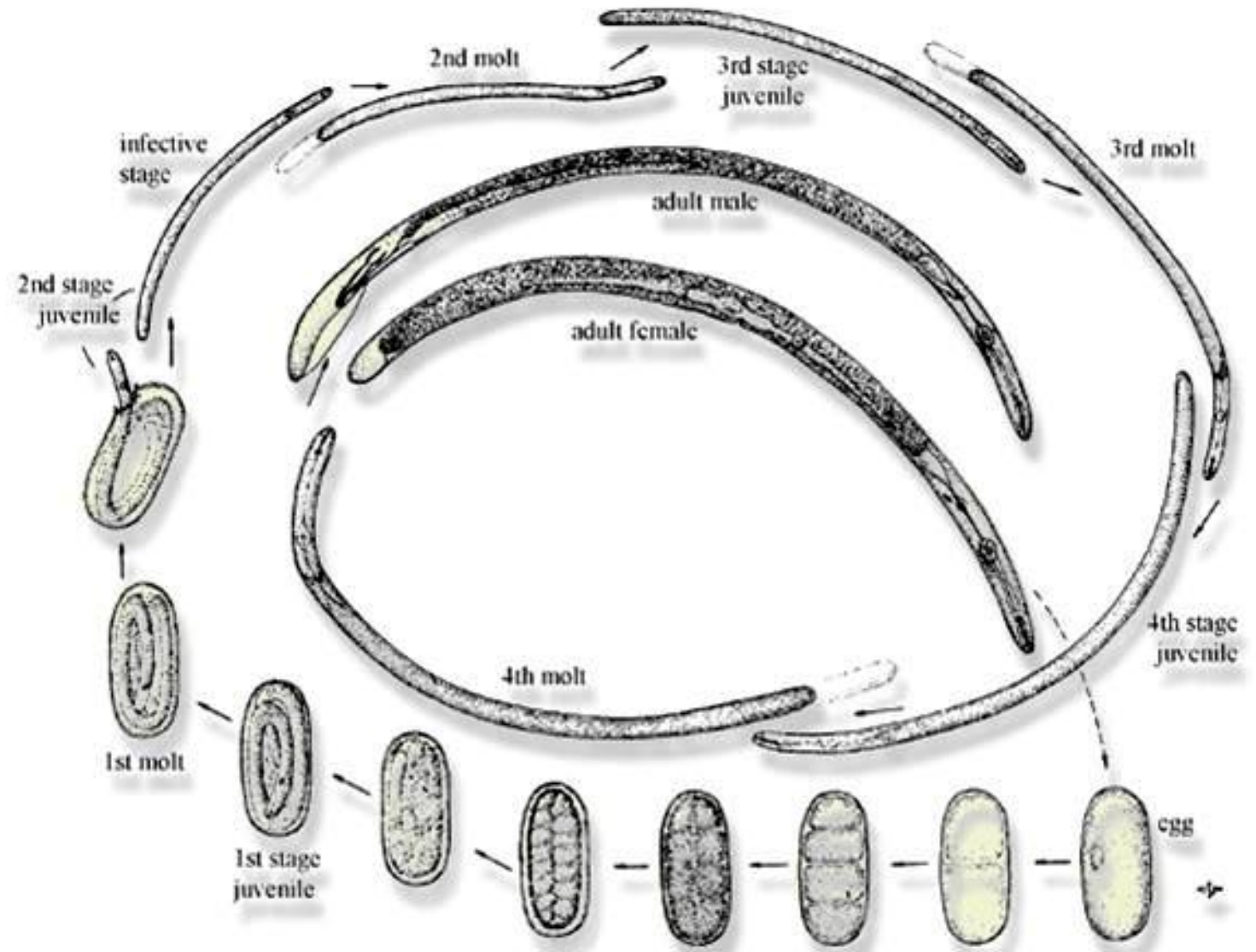


Root-lesion nematode damage on carrot



# Life cycle - migratory ectoparasites

1. Embryo – Embryogenesis (e)
2. First-stage Juvenile (J1)
3. Second-stage Juvenile (J2)
4. Third-stage Juvenile (J3)
5. Fourth-stage Juvenile (J4)
6. Adult



**Onchiostyle**



**Stubby-root nematode (*Paratrichodorus*)**



Stubby-root nematode  
damage on maize

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# Stubby-root nematode damage on carrot

---

**Chemical Control**

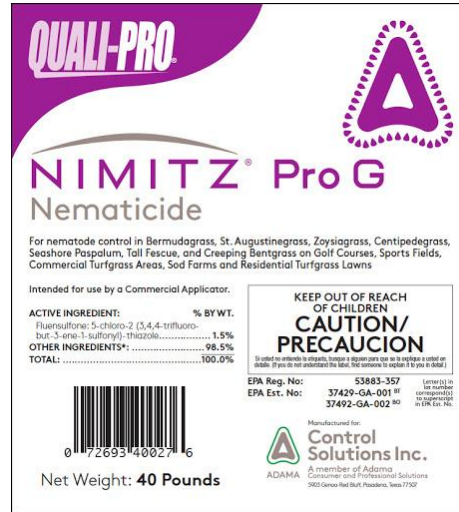
**Cultural Control/Host  
resistance**

**Biological Control**

**Integrated Nematode  
Management**

**Management**

# Chemical Control - Nematicides



# Chemical Control - Nematicides



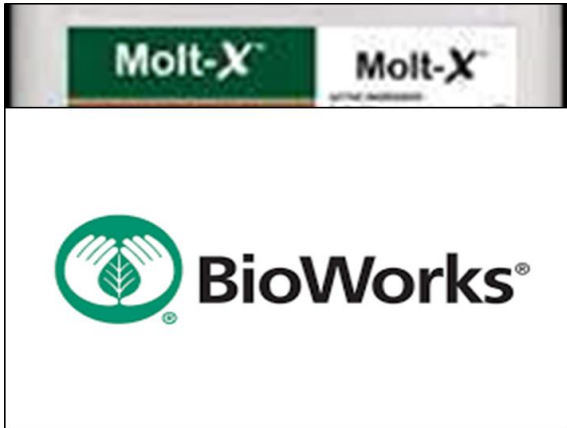
Table 2. Effect of spirotetramat on *Rotylenchulus reniformis* on pineapple.

Spirotetramat <sup>z</sup> (g)	Nematode population <sup>x</sup>		Plant weight <sup>y</sup>	
	Soil (#/250 cm <sup>3</sup> )	Root (#/g)	Root (g)	Shoot (g)
0	171 A	41 a	8.8 B	501.5 b
50	85 AB	21 a	10.7 AB	608.2 ab
100	139 AB	3 a	11.7 AB	544.5 ab
200	165 B	2 b	12.6 A	673.3 a

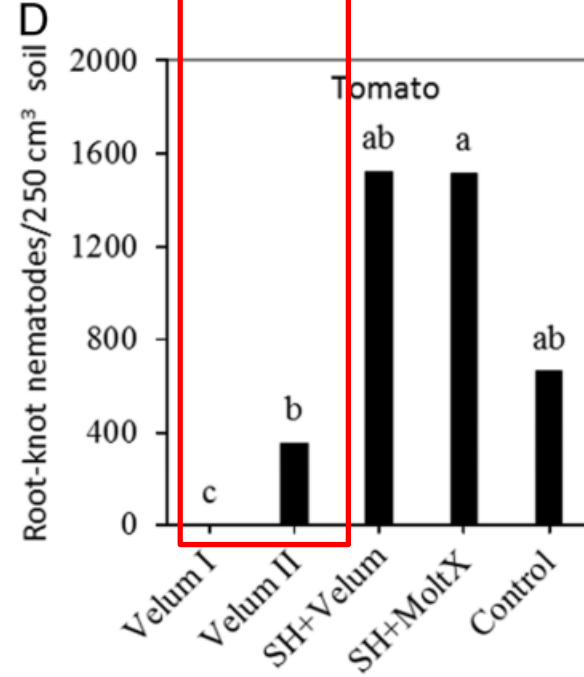
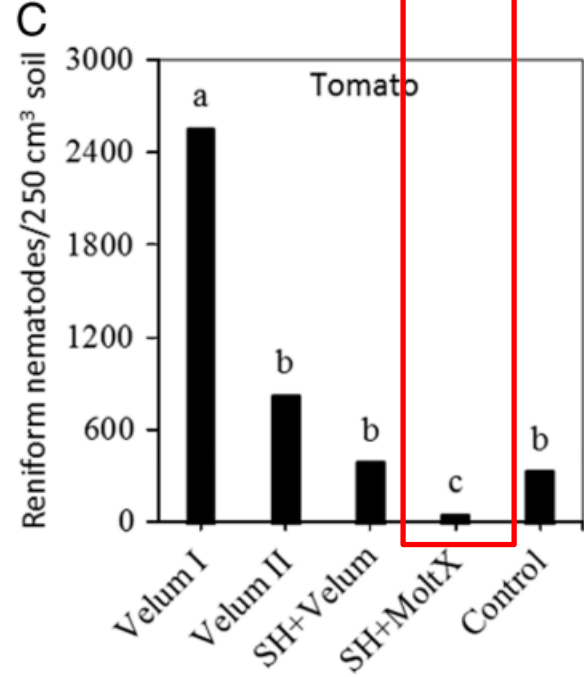
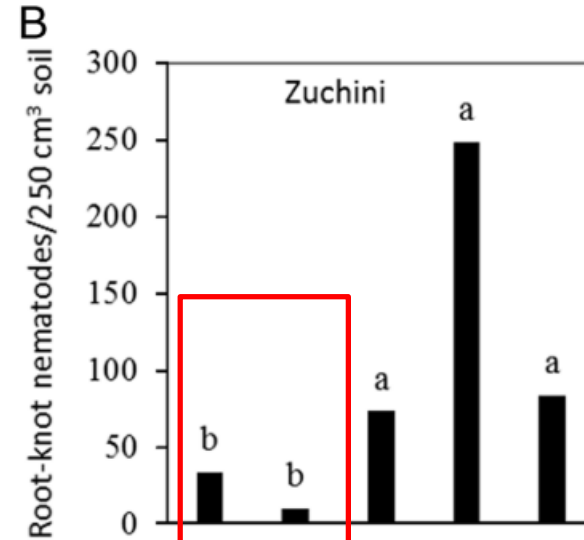
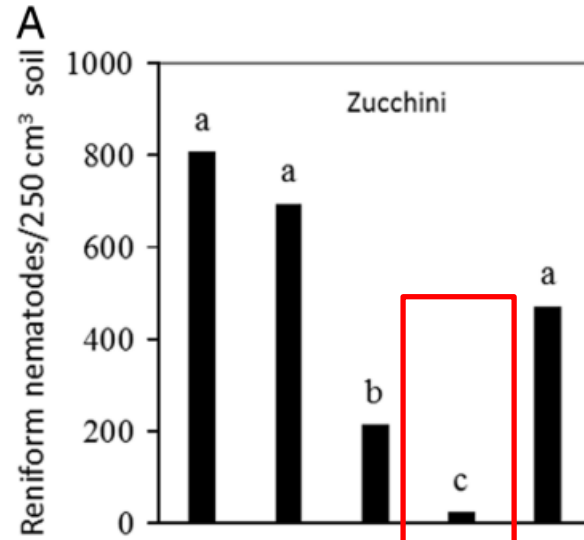
<sup>x</sup>Values with the same letter within a column are not different based on Waller-Duncan  $k$ -ratio ( $k=100$ )  $t$ -test.

<sup>y</sup>Dry root and fresh shoot weights of pineapple.

<sup>z</sup>Rates of spirotetramat in grams per hectare.



# Chemical Control - Nematicides





# Cultural Nematode Control



**Figure 3.** Application of transparent polyethylene film to solarize a field on an organic vegetable farm in the San Joaquin Valley, California. (Source: University of California)



- Soil solarization
- Deep ploughing/tillage
- Wash equipment



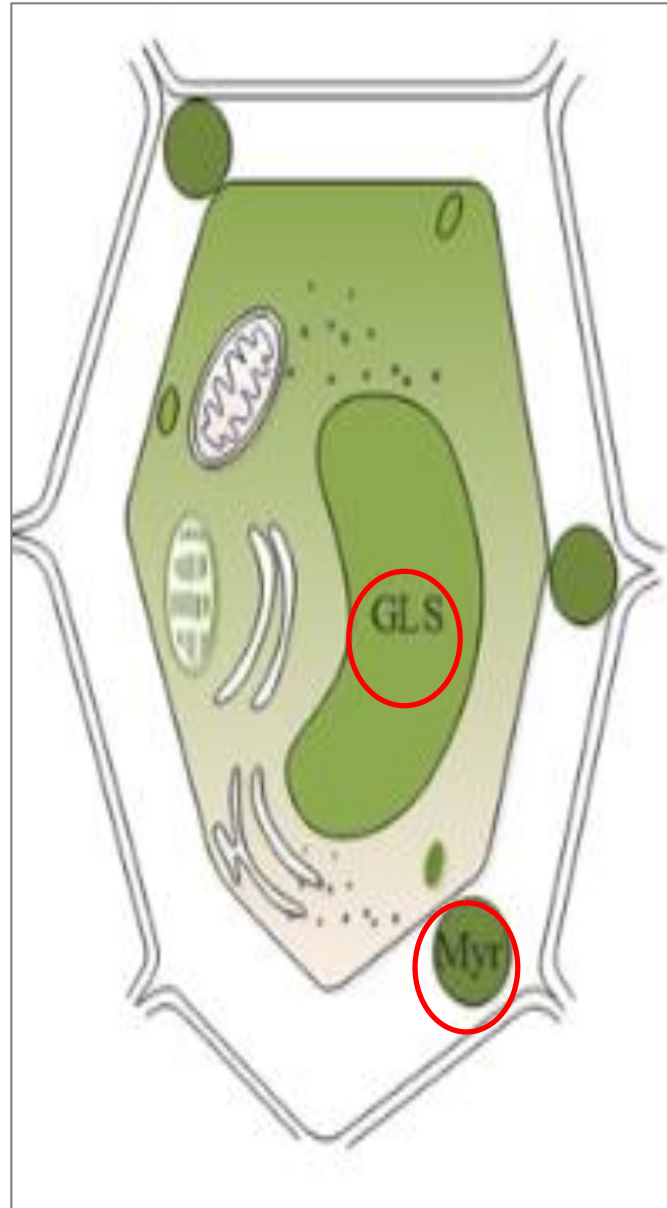
- **Crop Rotation**

# Cultural Control – Crop rotation/Cover Crops

## Cover Crops with Allelopathic Effects - Biofumigation



# Cultural Nematode Control



Applied Soil Ecology

Volume 154, October 2020, 103595



## Effects of biofumigant crop termination methods on suppression of plant-parasitic nematodes

Philip Waisen<sup>a</sup>, Zhiqiang Cheng<sup>a</sup>, Brent S. Sipes<sup>a</sup>, Joseph DeFrank<sup>b</sup>, Sharadchandra P. Marahatta<sup>c</sup>, Koon-Hui Wang<sup>a</sup>

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<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.apsoil.2020.103595>

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### Highlights

- Biofumigation effect is stronger with brown mustard than oil radish.
- Root-knot nematode is more sensitive to biofumigation than reniform nematode.
- Combining tissue maceration, soil incorporation and covering black plastic is suppressive to plant-parasitic nematodes.
- Soil sulfate is less sensitive to microbial degradation, thus a better biofumigation indicator.

# Biological Control of Nematodes

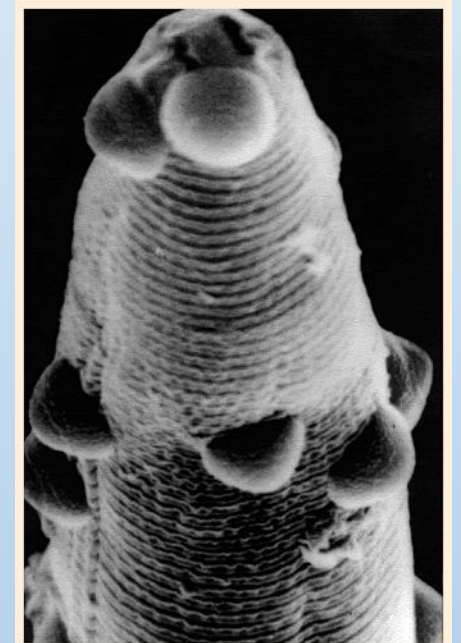
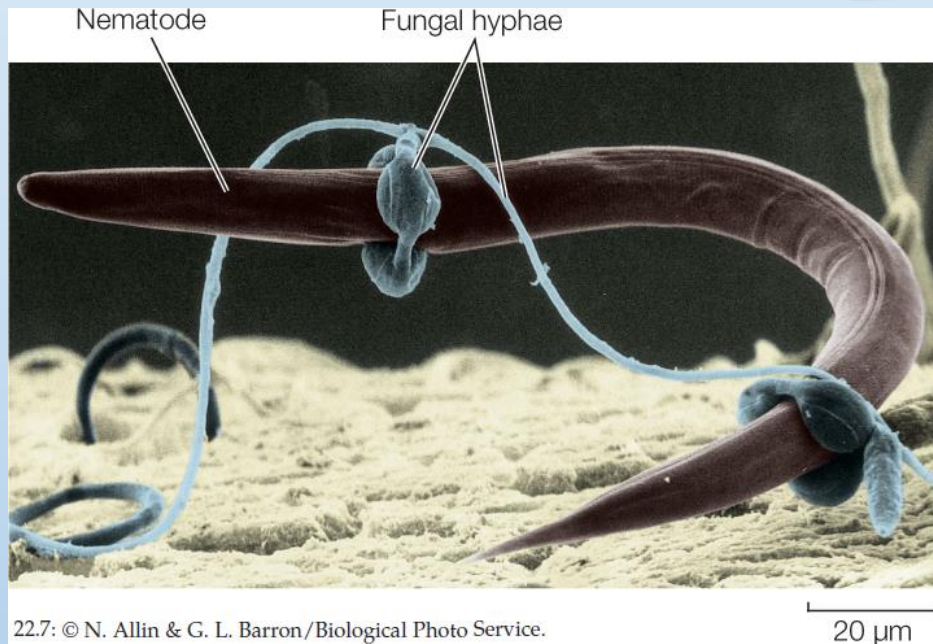
- Bacteria
- Fungi
- Nematodes (predators)
- Arthropods (mites)

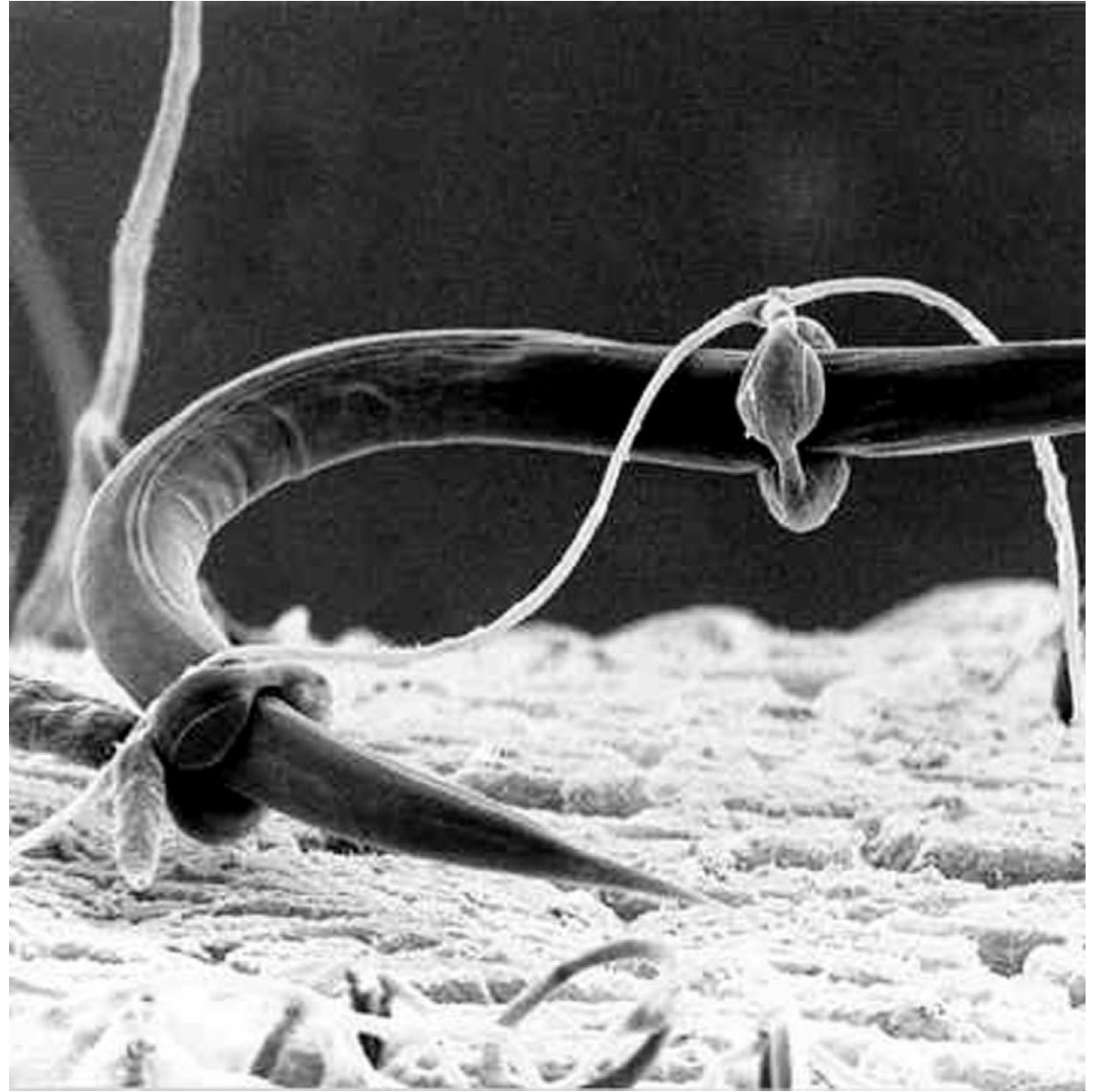
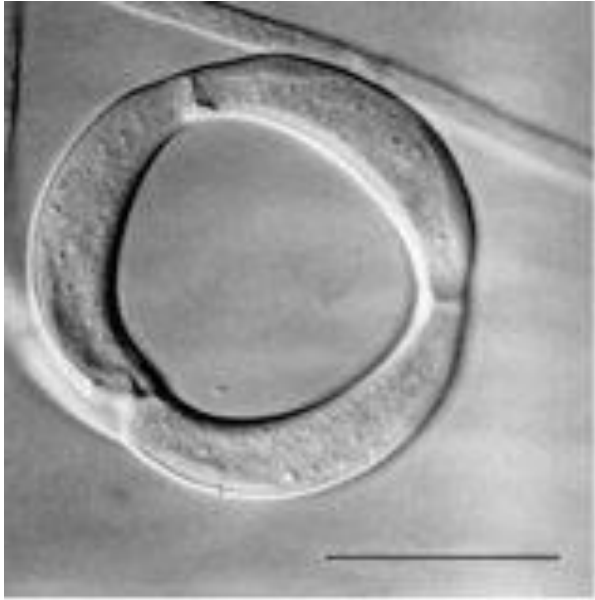
Natural enemies

Classical biocontrol

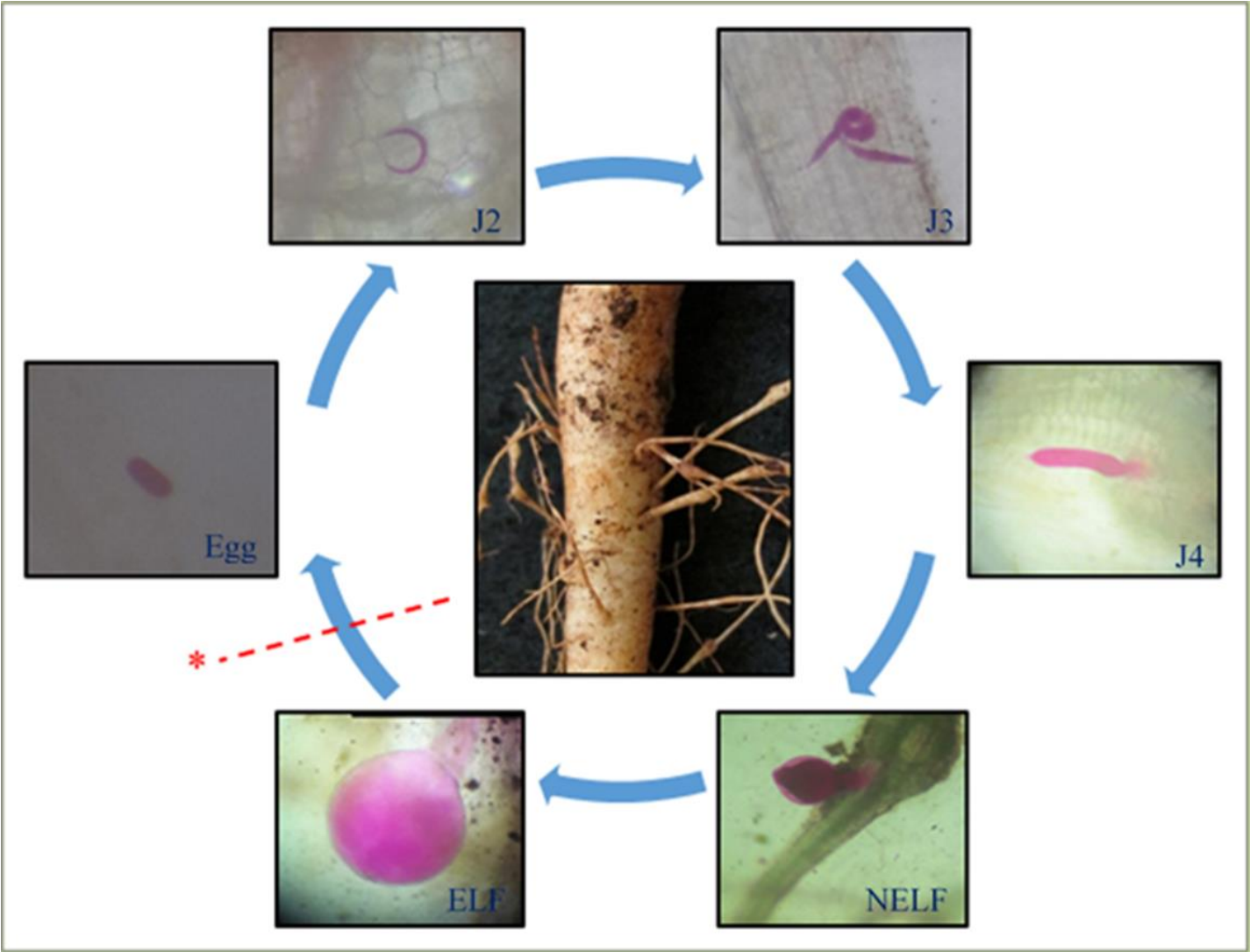
Augmentative biocontrol

Conservation biocontrol





# Cultural Nematode Control



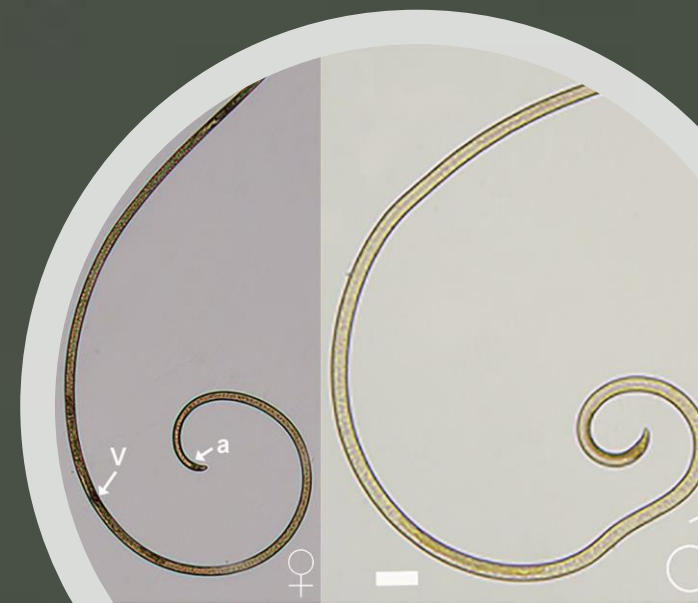


Field trial established on 08/08 -  
Salibro (Fluazaindolizine)

---



- Upcoming field trial -  
Salibro (Fluazaindolizine)  
on carrot in Imperial Valley.





**Weeds can host nematodes during the off-season**



**Lamb's Squatters (*Chenopodium* spp.) in a fallow field**



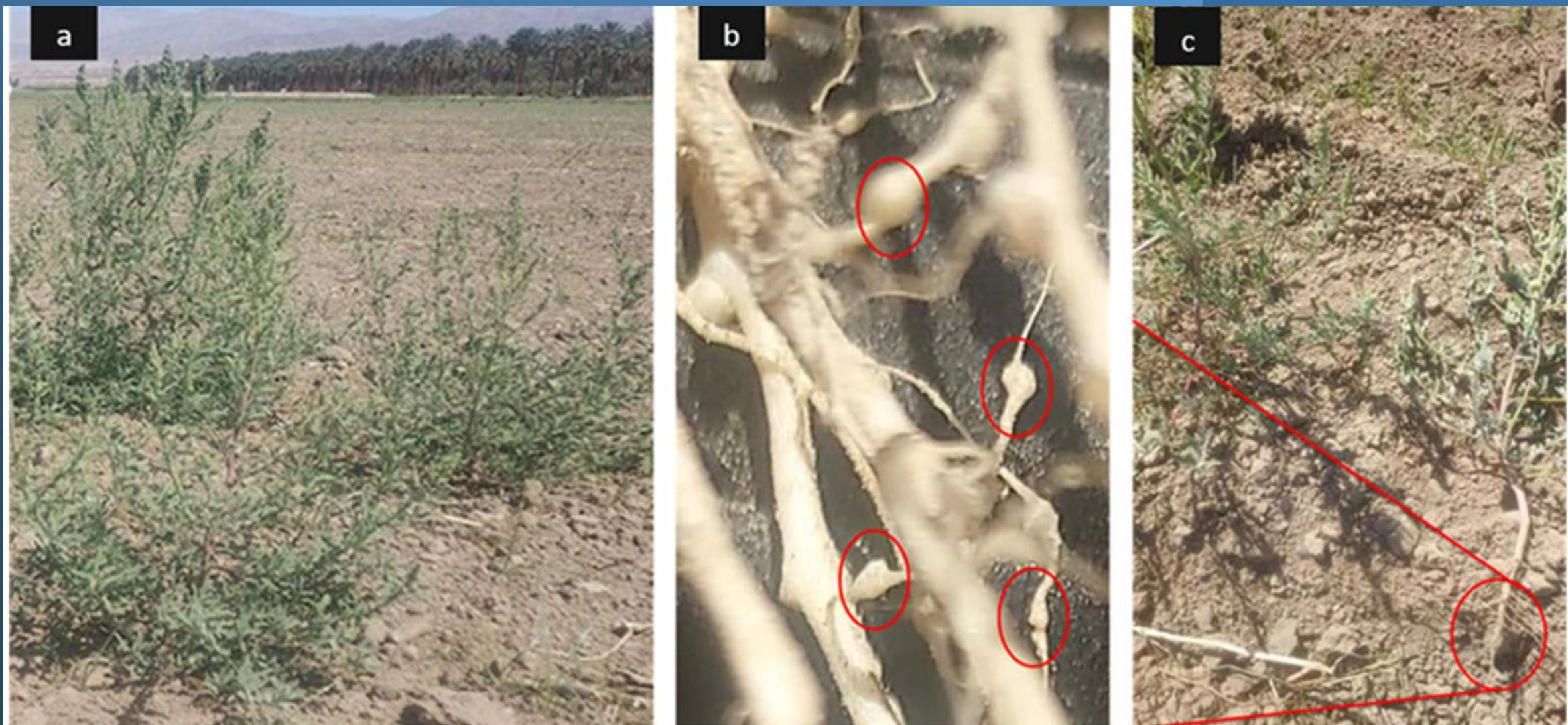


Figure 2. Lamb's quarters (*Chenopodium album*) a) plants colonized in a fallow field; b) roots exhibiting characteristic galls induced by *Meloidogyne* infections; and c) plant being uprooted and observed for *Meloidogyne*-

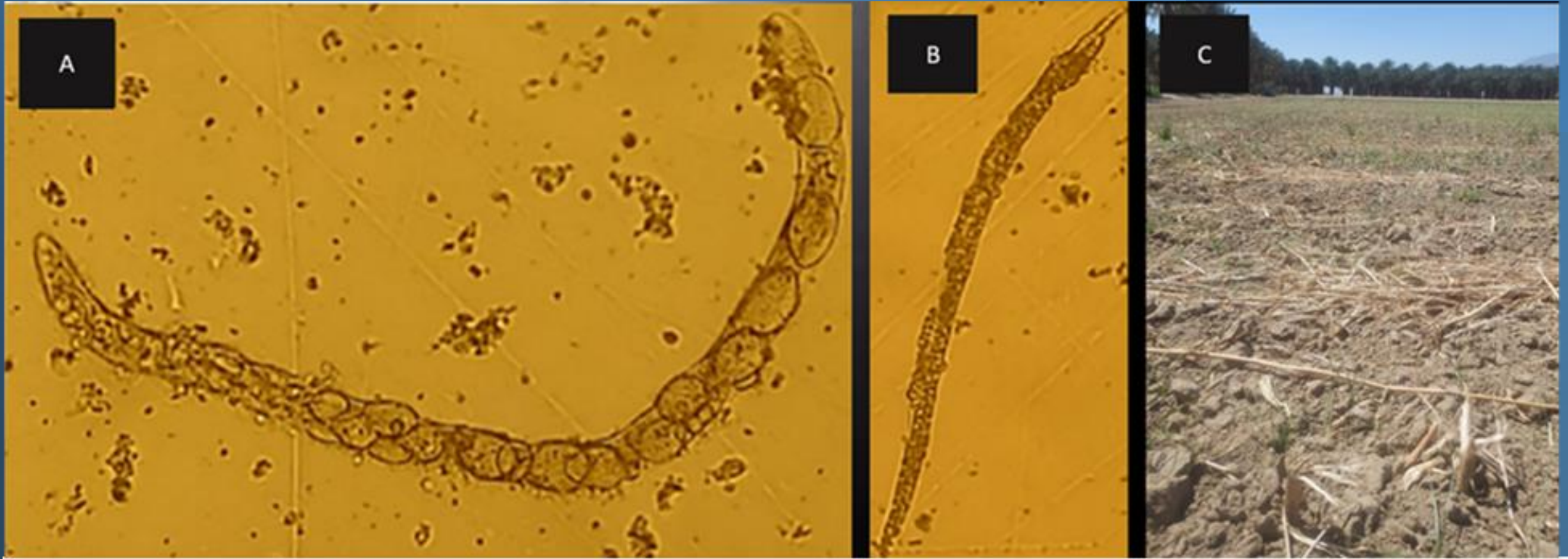
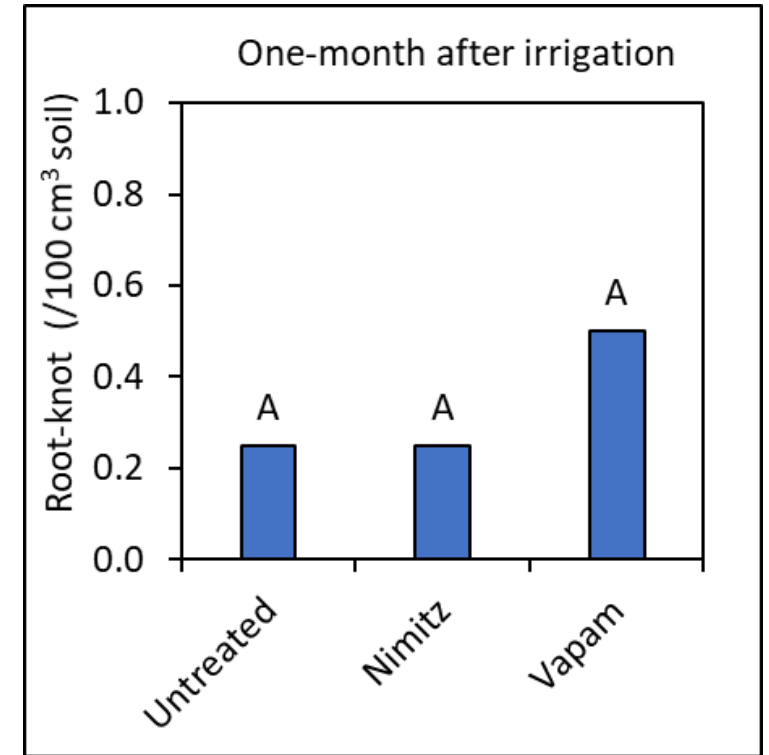
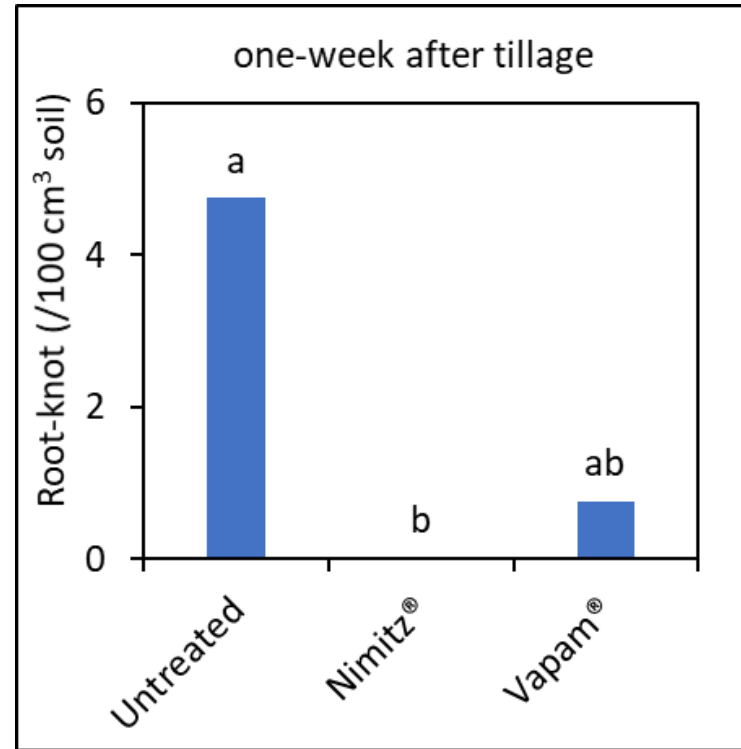
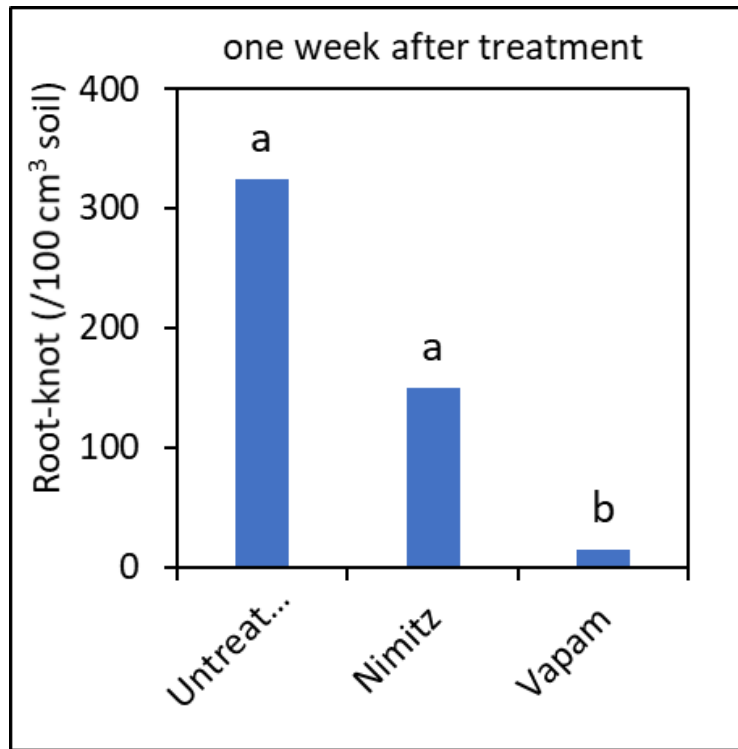


Figure 4. Biological control agents attacked and disintegrated A) omnivorous nematode and B) *Meloidogyne* juvenile ( $\times 100$  magnification); C) A fallow field showing minimally tilled field and okra crop residue from the previous crop.

**POST-HARVEST NEMATICIDE TREATMENT AND TILLAGE SHOWED PROMISE IN REDUCING THE INITIAL ROOT-KNOT NEMATODE POPULATION ON BELL PEPPER**



# Thank you

**UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA**  
Agriculture and Natural Resources

**UC Cooperative Extension**

*Serving Riverside and Imperial Counties*

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