

Agri. Res. J. Kerala, 1975, 13 (1)

WHITE TIP NEMATODE OF RICE IN KERALA

Drying and curling of leaf tip of paddy leaves was noticed in many, fields in Alleppy District during 1974. The crop remained stunted in growth with reduced tillering in spite of repeated application of nitrogenous fertilizers. The flag leaf of the infested plants was markedly twisted and was not completely opened major portion of the panicle remained within the twisted flag leaf. Number of spikelets on the panicles were very few and majority of them were chaffy grains. The infestation was more in fields planted with P t b. 10

Examination of the grains (chaffy as well as healthy) revealed the presence of the white tip nematode, *Aphelenchoides besseyi* in a quiescent stage in between the seed and husk. Number of nematodes were more in healthy grains than the chaffy ones. The seedlings raised from the healthy looking grains produced the same symptoms on the leaves as well as on the panicles.

Muniappan and Seshadri (1964) reported the incidence of white tip disease on rice in Tamil Nadu and recorded its extent of damage as 40 per cent. This is the record of its first occurrence in Kerala.

സംഗ്രഹം

കേരളത്തിൽ ആലപ്പുഴ ഡിസ്ട്രിക്റ്റിൽ പല ഭാഗങ്ങളിലും നെല്ലിന്റെ വളർച്ചയെ സാധാരണ ബാധിക്കുന്ന ഒരു രോഗം കണ്ടു. നെല്ലിന്റെ കമ്പോല പിരിവോട കൂടിയതായും കതിര പുറത്തേക്കുവരുന്ന നശിച്ചു പോകുന്നതായും കണ്ടു. കതിർ ചെറുതായും നെരണികൾ നിറയാതെയും കാണാമായിരുന്നു. സൂക്ഷ്മ പരിശോധനയിൽ ഇതു 'അഫലക്കോയിഡിസ്' എന്ന ഒരു 'നിമാറ്റോഡിന്റെ' ആക്രമണം കൊണ്ടുണ്ടാകുന്ന രോഗമാണെന്നു തെളിഞ്ഞു.

REFERENCE

Muniappan, R and Seshadri, A. R. 1964. *Madras. Agric. J.* SI : 510-511.

Division of Entomology,
College of Agriculture,
Vellayani,

K. V. MAMMEN

(M. S. received: 13-5-1975)