

Istituto di Nematologia Agraria, C.N.R. - 70126 Bari, Italy

*GLOBODERA ROSTOCHIENSIS* (WOLL.) MULVEY *ET* STONE  
IN THE MALTESE ISLANDS

by

F. LAMBERTI, C.E. TAYLOR and A. AGOSTINELLI

A survey of plant parasitic nematodes in the Maltese islands (Lamberti and Dandria, 1979; Lamberti *et al.*, 1984) revealed the presence of the potato cyst nematode, *Globodera rostochiensis* (Woll.) Mulvey *et* Stone, in several of the cultivated areas that were sampled. The populations were always low, which suggested that possibly there were some environmental factors inhibiting active reproduction.

Further detailed examination was made of seven of the 15 populations that were collected in the survey to confirm the previous identification and the absence of *G. pallida* Stone. The morphology of the cysts and the morphometrics of the second stage juveniles (Table I) substantially agreed with the Stone's (1973a) descriptions of *G. (H.) rostochiensis*. None of the populations contained *G. pallida* which appears to be absent from the islands.

Table I. *Measurements of second stage juveniles of G. rostochiensis from the Maltese islands.*

Measurements	Maltese populations <sup>1</sup> (± S.E.)	Stone (1973a)	<i>G. pallida</i> (Stone, 1973b)
Stylet length (µm)	21.70 ± 0.579	21.8	25.0
Tail length (µm)	46.25 ± 1.453	43.9	53.0
Total length (µm)	436 ± 19.90	468	510

<sup>1</sup> A total of 108 individuals measured.

## LITERATURE CITED

- LAMBERTI F. and DANDRIA D., 1979 - Plant parasitic nematodes in the Maltese islands and the problems they cause. *Phytopathol. medit.*, 18: 71-76.
- LAMBERTI F., CAPUSSO A. and DANDRIA D., 1984 - Distribution of Longidoroidea, Heterodoroidea, Anguinidae, Pratylenchidae, Rotylenchulinae and Tylenchulidae, in Atlas of Plant-Parasitic Nematodes of the Maltese Islands (Ed. T.J.W. Alphey) Scottish Crop Research Institute, Dundee, Scotland, pp. 25.
- STONE A.R., 1973a - *Heterodera rostochiensis*. C.I.H. Descriptions of Plant-Parasitic Nematodes, Set 2, No. 16, pp. 3.
- STONE A.R., 1973b - *Heterodera pallida*. C.I.H. Descriptions of Plant-Parasitic Nematodes, Set 2, No. 17, pp. 2.

---

Accepted for publication on 3 February 1987.