

Department of Entomology and Apiculture, Dr. Y.S. Parmar University of Horticulture and Forestry,
Solán - India

NEW RECORD OF *PARATYLENCHUS CURVITATUS* AND *GRACILACUS PEPERPOTTI* (NEMATODA, PARATYLENCHINAE)

by

M.L. KHAN, G.C. SHARMA and N.K. SHARMA

Summary. *Paratylenchus curvitus* and *Gracilacus peperpotti* are reported for the first time from India.

During a faunistic survey of temperate fruit crops in Himachal Pradesh, several plant parasitic nematode species were encountered. Among them were *Paratylenchus curvitus* Van der Linde on apple and *Gracilacus peperpotti* Schoemaker on peach, which are new records for India.

The populations of *P. curvitus* (Fig. 1 A-H) were collected from the rhizosphere of apple (*Malus domestica* Borkh) in Raison and Vashist, Kullu district, H.P. They were taxonomically similar to those of the original population (Jenkins and Taylor, 1956; Tarjan, 1960) except for the slightly posterior position of the excretory pore and the greater distance between vulva and anus.

Their measurements are: Raison population (10 ♀♀): L = 291-315 (295) µm; a = 20-21 (20.5); b = 3.9-4.2 (4.1); c = 10.5-16.8 (13.7); V = 84-86 (85); spear = 24-29 (28.5) µm. Vashist population (5 ♀♀): L = 305-340 (330) µm; a = 19-24 (22); b = 3.8-4.2 (4); c = 13-15 (14); V = 83-86 (84); spear = 25-30 (29) µm; (7 ♂♂): L = 290-325 (310) µm; a = 19-27 (24); b = 3.1-4.5 (3.9); c = 12-15 (14); spear lacking.

Gracilacus peperpotti (Fig. 1 I-L) were collected from the rhizosphere of peach (*Prunus persica* L.) in an orchard at Y.S. Parmar University, Nauni, Solan. There were few morphological points of difference from the original description (Schoemaker, 1963). The spermatheca is oval and forms a small part of the oviduct, and a cardia is present which is not reported in the original description.

Their measurements are: females (3): L = 290-315 µm; a = 20-23; b = 2.8-3.2; c = 13-15; V = 75-76; spear = 72-74 µm; males (5): L = 270-310 µm; a = 23-27; b = 3.3-3.7; c = 12-15; spear lacking; spicules = 22-24 µm; gubernaculum = 5 µm.

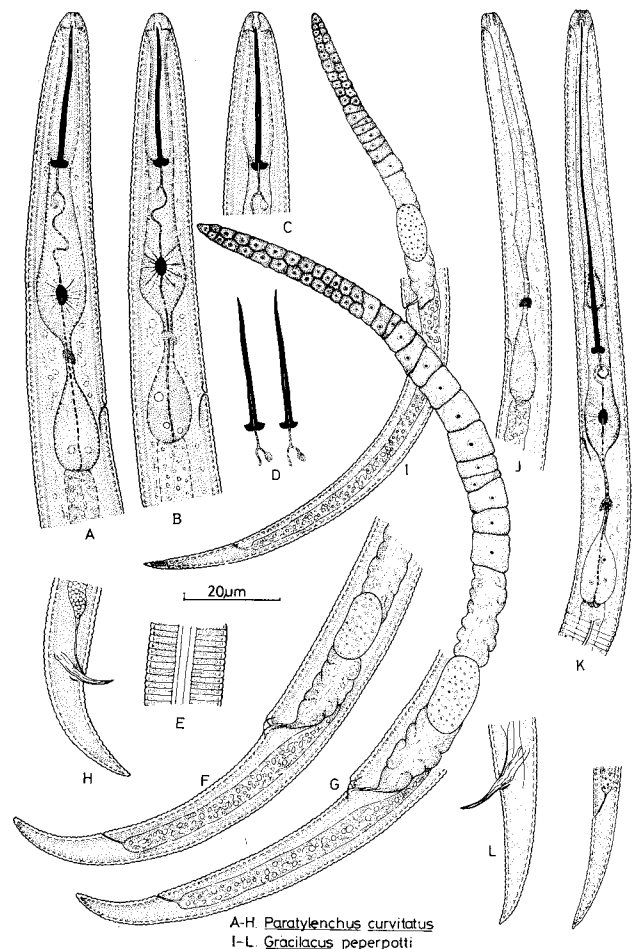


Fig. 1 - (A-H) *Paratylenchus curvitus*; (I-L) *Gracilacus peperpotti*.

Literature cited

- JENKINS W.R. and TAYLOR D.P., 1956 - *Paratylenchus dianthus* n. sp. (Nematoda, Criconematidae), a parasite of carnation. *Proc. helminth. Soc. Wash.*, 23: 124-127.
- SCHOEMAKER W.R.L.P., 1963 - *Gracilacus peperpotti* n. sp. (Nematoda, Paratylenchidae) found in a Surinam coffee plantation soil. *Nematologica*, 9: 296-299.
- TARJAN A.C., 1960 - A review of the genus *Paratylenchus* Micoletzky, 1922 (Paratylenchinae: Nematoda) with a description of two new species. *Ann. N.Y. Acad. Sci.*, 84: 329-390.