length of second stage juveniles [449 + 23.9 um compared with 391 + 22.1 um (4)]. White mature females were also found adhering to the roots of the bamboo grass. A pot test was set up to determine whether the nematode developed on the type host of *H. graminis, Cynodon dactylon.* The nematodes failed to multiply whereas they did so freely in a similar test with bamboo grass, suggesting the possibility of pathotypes within this species. Cysts and second-stage juveniles resembling *H. graminis* were also found in soil around Soybean *(Glycine max* (L.) Merr.), Bodi bean *(Vigna unguiculata* Walp.) and sweet potato *(Ipomoea batatas* (L.) Lam.).

This is the first specific record of a *Heterodera* in the West Indies. The similarity of the second stage juveniles of *H. graminis* to those of *H. sacchari* (both having three incisures in the lateral field) may have led to the earlier report of *H. sacchari* but the presence of the latter species cannot be ruled out.

I thank Dr. A.R. Stone of the Nematology Department, Rothamsted, England for help with the identification and Dr. N.D. Singh of the University of the West Indies, Trinidad for his assistance. This work was done at the Nematology Department, Rothamsted Experimental Station under an Inter-University Council Award.

RESUMEN

El artículo presenta datos sobre la presencia de *Heterodera graminis* Stynes en las Indias Occidentales y constituye el primer registro de su presencia en el area.

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RADOPHOLUS SIMILIS IN TEXAS [*RADOPHOLUS SIMILIS* EN TEJAS].

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According to records of the Texas Department of Agriculture and the USDA-ARS, the burrowing nematode, *Radopholus similis* (Cobb 1893) Thorne 1949, was first identified in Texas from ornamentals *(Philodendron sp.)* in Ellis County in the early spring of 1961. Identification was confirmed by A.M. Golden and specimens are in the USDA Nematode collection at the USDA-ARS Nematology Laboratory, Beltsville, Maryland. Since then, numerous surveys of ornamental nurseries in Texas have been conducted by the USDA Plant Pest Control Division and the Texas Department of Agriculture. Presently, *R. similis* infestations in Texas occur in three ornamental nurseries, one each in Cameron, Ellis, and Hidalgo Counties. In all cases new infestation was traced to incoming shipments of ornamentals from other states; consequently, the nematode is probably not indigenous to Texas.

In Florida, *R. similis* has caused a condition of citrus known as "Spreading Decline" which in turn has caused severe economic losses to the citrus industry (2). Therefore,

the USDA-ARS Nematology Laboratoreis in Weslaco, Texas and Orlando, Florida and the Texas Department of Agriculture have initiated a cooperative greenhouse study to determine whether the race of *R. similis* found in Texas could infect citrus. If so, pathogenicity studies will be conducted to determine its effect on citrus under the environmental conditions in Texas.

In an earlier survey of citrus in the Lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas, none of the orchards sampled were found to be infested with *R. similis* (1). An additional survey of citrus is planned if the citrus race exists in Texas. Because of the constant threat of orchard infestation and the low incidence of *R. similis* in Texas, a program is being outlined by the Texas Department of Agriculture to rid ornamental nurseries of *R. similis.*

RESUMEN

Radopholus similis fué identificado por primera vez en Tejas en unos viveros de ornamentales al comienzo de la primavera de 1961. Actualmente, el nematodo se encuentra en los condados de Cameron, Ellis, e Hidalgo de ese estado y se tiene bajo estudio la raza de este nematodo para determinar si es la misma que la que ha causado pérdidas severas en los cítricos de la Florida.

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OBSERVACIONES SOBRE LA ASOCIACION DE *PRATYLENCHUS BRACHYURUS* CON LA PUDRICION SECA DEL BARBASCO, *DIOSCOREA FLORIBUNDA,* EN LA REGION TROPICAL DE MEXICO [OBSERVATIONS ON THE ASSOCIATION OF *PRATYLENCHUS BRACHYURUS* WITH THE DRY ROT OF YAM, *DIOSCOREA FLORIBUNDA,* IN THE TROPICAL AREA OF MEXICO]

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La asociación de un nematodo con la pudrición seca del barbasco o ñame, productor de diosgenina, la observó por primera vez Steiner (9) quien identificó el organismo como *Hoplolaimus* n. sp. Más tarde Steiner y Le Hew (10) informaron que el agente causante de la enfermedad es en realidad el nematodo antedicho al cual describieron con el nombre de *H. bradys.* Esta especie fue luego transferida al género *Scutellonema* por Andrassy (1). West (11) describió los síntomas causados por el *Scutellonema* y le dio el nombre de "pudrición seca" a la enfermedad.

En Guatemala Schieber (7) y Schieber y Lassmann (8) observaron un ataque del nematodo *Meloidogyne* a las especies *Dioscorea spiculiflora* y *D. floribunda.* Jenkins y Bird (6) informaron que en Guatemala los nematodos *Meloidogyne incognita, M. arenaria, M. javanica, Pratylenchus brachyurus, Rotylenchulus reniformis, Criconemoides, Helicotylenchus, Trichodorus* y *Xiphinema americanum* se encuentran también asociados con especies silvestres de barbasco. Ayala (3) y Ayala y Acosta (4) informaron en Puerto Rico la asociación de los nematodos *Pratylenchus coffeae, M. incognita, R. reniformis, Helicotylenchus, Aphelenchoides* y *Aphelenchus* con el *Dioscorea rotundata.* En el estado de Maryland, Estados Unidos, Hawley (5) encontró