

Efficacy of Neem Seed Derivatives against Nematodes Affecting Banana

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Soil applications of powdered neem seed or neem cake at 100 g/plant at planting and, subsequently, at 3-month intervals, reduced the populations of *Pratylenchus goodeyi* Sher & Allen and *Meloidogyne* spp. on par with Furadan 5G (carbofuran) applied at 40 g/plant at planting and then at 6-month intervals to banana plants grown in 100-l containers with controlled levels of banana nematode infestations. Eight months after planting, banana plants treated with powdered neem cake, seed or kernel or with neem oil had 4 to 95 times fewer parasitic nematodes than the untreated control. However, only neem cake powder or neem seed powder applied to unpaired banana plants kept the nematode population below the economic threshold.

KEY WORDS: Neem; *Azadirachta indica*; banana; *Musa* spp.; nematodes; *Meloidogyne* spp.; *Pratylenchus goodeyi*.

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