Plant Parasitic Nematodes Associated with Peanut Production in Southern Ghana.

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A survey was undertaken in 1999 and 2001 in predominant peanut growing areas in Ashanti, Brong Ahafo, Eastern and Volta regions of Ghana. The purpose was to identify the nematode pests of peanut and use the information for developing an appropriate integrated pest management (IPM) strategy for the crop. Ten genera of plant parasitic nematodes belonging to three Orders were found associated with peanut production in the areas surveyed. Population densities and distributions of the genera varied in the four regions. Six genera (*Helicotylenchus, Meloidogyne* (juveniles)*, Paratrichodorus, Pratylenchus, Rotylenchulus* and *Xiphinema*) were found in all the four regions. *Hoplolaimus* was found only in the Eastern region. *Trichodorus* and *Tylenchorhynchus* were absent from Ashanti and Brong Ahafo regions but present in the Eastern and Volta regions. A genus of nematodes known as *Rhignema*, which belonged to the Order Rhigonematida, was isolated from millipedes collected in the rhizosphere of peanut.