

First report on lesion nematode (*Pratylenchus* spp) on banana in Karnataka

Upon complaint by a banana grower in Harogoppa village of Shikaripura taluk and Shivamogga District, field visits were conducted. About five acres under banana cultivar G9 (Tissue culture) was infected with a disease. The grower has sprayed several broad spectrum fungicides and bactericides to check the spread of the disease. However, his efforts were futile. Keen observation revealed decline and stunted growth with shallow necrotic lesions in affected roots. Soil and root samples were collected and tried for isolation of fungi and bacteria if any. However, 5 to 6 active juveniles of *Pratylenchus* from 3cm root bits were noticed. This was also confirmed by ICAR-NCIPM Nematologists. Scanning of literature reveals no such reports from Karnataka

