

Sharma S.B. (Ed.) 1998. The Cyst Nematodes. Kluwer Academic Publishers, Dordrecht, 452 pp., ISBN 0 412 755300.

The cyst nematodes are a major group of plant pathogens of economic importance in many countries throughout the world. Therefore, they are in focus of many scientists.

This book edited by S.B. Sharma is a well balanced review of different aspects of cyst nematode research. It was written by selected experts, mainly from the USA (10) and UK (8) but also from Germany (2), India (2), Canada, France, New Zealand and Portugal.

The book contains 17 chapters. The titles are the following: 1) Distribution and economic importance, 2) Morphology and ultrastructure, 3) Evolution, phylogeny and systematics, 4) Taxonomy and identification, 5) Survey, surveillance and crop assessment, 6) Extraction, culturing and microscopy, 7) Biology, 8) Hatch and emergence, 9) Host finding, invasion and feeding, 10) Pathogenicity and damage levels, 11) Interrelations with other microorganisms and pests, 12) Development of resistant and tolerant varieties, 13) Genetics of resistance and parasitism, 14) Mechanisms of resistance, 15) Natural parasites and biological control, 16) Management, and 17) Genetic engineering. The last part of the book is Index.

The information in each chapter is concisely presented and is up to date, and the book will provide a reference source on cyst nematodes for many years. It will be invaluable to students and specialists studying or researching nematodes; it will also be of interest to anyone working in the field of crop protection.

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