

THE DISCOVERY OF GOLDEN NEMATODE IN NEWFOUNDLAND

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The presence of golden nematode in Newfoundland was first suspected on October 9, 1962, when Arran Victory potatoes growing in a field at Manuels, Nfld., were examined. The plants were stunted and had produced a very small crop. Nematode cysts in the orange and brown color stages could be seen on the potato roots. A sample was collected and sent to the Nematology Section, Entomology Research Institute, Ottawa. The nematode cysts were positively identified as Heterodera rostochiensis Woll. on October 19.

Following the identification, a preliminary survey of the St. John's and Conception Bay areas was made by the senior author and staff members of the Plant Protection Division, St. John's. Golden nematode cysts were found at Chamberlains, Manuels, Foxtrap, Cupids, and Bay Roberts, communities on the south and west shores of Conception Bay.

Since these results indicated the possibility of general occurrence of the golden nematode in Newfoundland, an extensive survey of the province was initiated with the cooperation of the Plant Protection Division and the Agricultural Division of the Provincial Department of Mines, Agriculture and Resources. Soil samples were collected from all cultivated areas of the island and further results are awaiting examination of the soil samples.

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