

Occurrence of the sorghum cyst nematode, *Heterodera sorghi* in Andhra PradeshS. B. SHARMA and RENU SHARMA¹International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT), Patancheru,
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During our surveys in the post-rainy seasons of 1987 and 1988 for plant parasitic nematodes associated with groundnut (*Arachis hypogea*) in some districts of the Rayalaseema and coastal regions of Andhra Pradesh, dark brown and black, lemon-shaped cysts with posterior protuberance were encountered in soil samples collected from Pallipalem area in the Prakasam district. These cysts were not present in the groundnut root samples. On the basis of measurements of cysts, cone top structures, second-stage larvae and eggs, the nematode was identified using the identification scheme of Sharma and Swarup (1984) as the sorghum cyst nematode, *Heterodera sorghi* Jain *et al.*, 1982. This nematode has been reported from Ghaziabad and Allhabad districts of Uttar Pradesh (Jain *et al.*, 1982), Gurgaon district of Haryana (Dhawan *et al.*, 1983), Ludhiana district of Punjab (Sakhuja &

Singh, 1985), Una district of Himachal Pradesh, and parts of Delhi and Jammu & Kashmir (Srivastava & Kaushal, 1986). This is the first record of *H. sorghi* from the state of Andhra Pradesh in southern India.

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