

stage and the stage most resistant to adverse environmental conditions. In *B. xylophilus*, these two functions of dispersal and resistance are performed by two different juvenile stages.

No nematode species has ever had two different juvenile stages designated "dauerlarve" in its life cycle. Since neither the dispersal J3 nor the dispersal J4 qualifies by itself for "dauerlarve" designation, we propose that henceforth, this term not be used to describe the dispersal J4 of *B. xylophilus*. In the interest of consistency, both these juvenile stages should be instead referred to as dispersal juvenile stages to distinguish them from the propagative juvenile stages in the life cycle.

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DECLINE RATE OF *PARATYLENCHUS BUKOWINENSIS* UNDER NON-HOST CROPS

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Paratylenchus bukowinensis Micoletzky, 1922 is an economic pest of parsley and celeriac in many regions of Poland (Brzeski & Radzikowska, 1980; Brzeski, 1986a). This nematode parasitises umbelliferous and cruciferous plants (Brzeski, 1986b). The tolerance limit is low and population increase is relatively rapid due to a high fecundity of females and the long vegetative period of the main host plants (Brzeski, Zepp & D'Errico, 1976). For these reasons, a high degree of nematode control is required, if a susceptible crop is to be grown on an infested field. This cannot be easily achieved using nematicides, and it was considered important to learn about the population decline rate of *P. bukowinensis* under non-host crops as onion, tomato and wheat.

The experiment was conducted in microplots made of concrete well rings in which *P. bukowinensis* was in-

troduced about fifteen years ago. The soil contained also *Heterodera schachtii* Schmidt, a few *Merlinius brevidens* (Allen) and some trichodorids but no other *Paratylenchus* species was ever found. These plots were used for various experiments and, in 1985, cabbage (host plant for *P. bukowinensis*) was grown on all the plots. Non-host plants, onion and tomato, were cropped for next two years. There were 60 plots 0.63 m² each, and each plot was sampled in October 1985, 1986 and 1987 by taking thirteen soil cores of 2.5 cm in diameter to a 25 cm depth. Soil from each plot was mixed separately and nematodes were extracted from 100 cm³ of soil by decanting and sieving through 40 µm sieves, and then washed onto 9 cm in diameter extraction sieves each with a filter. Extraction lasted for two days. The nematodes were then killed, the suspension made up to 10 cm³ of

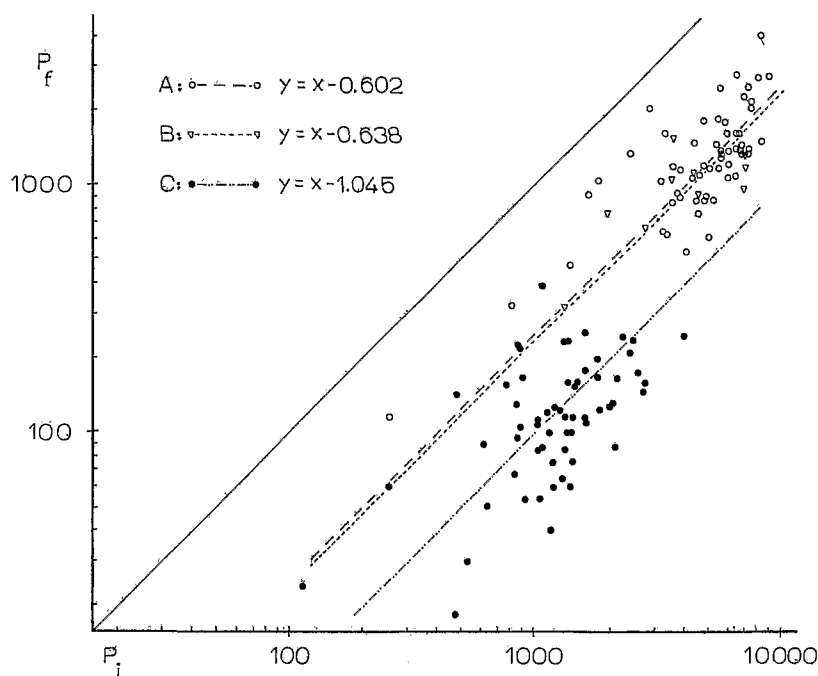


Fig. 1. Decline of *Paratylenchus bukowinensis* under non-host crops. A : Microplot experiment, first year after host-crop; B : Field experiment, first year after host crop; C : Microplot experiment, second year after host crop. Density of nematodes expressed as number of specimens in 100 cm³ of soil.

water, vigorously stirred, and three to five 1 cm³ subsamples of suspension were taken with a pipette and the *P. bukowinensis* specimens were counted.

To check if the calculated decline rate is applicable to field conditions, ten plots, 2 × 2 m each, were randomly distributed in an infested field where parsley was injured. Soil samples were taken from these plots in October 1987 following harvest of parsley, and again in October 1988 following wheat. Nematodes were extracted and counted from these samples in the same manner as described above.

The rate of population decline of *P. bukowinensis* in the microplots was independent of initial density, and the regression equation for the first year following the host crop was calculated as $P_f = 0.25 P_i$, and for the second year as $P_f = 0.09 P_i$ respectively. This indicates a decline of 75 % of the population in the first year and 91 % in the second year. The field experimental data also showed the decline rate to be independent of the initial density (Fig. 1), the calculated regression for the first year after host crop is $P_f = 0.23 P_i$, which shows a 77 %

decline of *P. bukowinensis*. Thus, the results from microplots and field experiments do not differ and microplots can be used to simulate *P. bukowinensis* density changes under various cropping systems in a population dynamics model.

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