

Ginger burrowing nematode (161)

Summary

- Worldwide distribution. In tropics and sub-tropics. The nematode has a large host range, including: banana (**see Fact Sheet no. 257**), betel nut, black pepper, coconut, coffee, giant swamp taro (**see Fact Sheet no. 203**), and tea. An important disease.
- Nematodes enter roots and young rhizomes, killing the roots, and causing brown sunken areas on rhizome that later join together. Leaves are yellow, stunted and die early.
- Spread is in soil water, soil on footwear, machinery, and in rhizomes used for planting.
- Yield losses of 40%, and damage continues in storage.
- Cultural control: clean 'seed' from healthy crops; treat seed with hot water (51°C for 10 mins.); apply manures; weed; 3–4-year crop rotation.
- Chemical control: none recommended.

Common Name

Ginger burrowing nematode

Scientific Name

Radopholus similis

AUTHOR Grahame Jackson

Information from Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (2013) *Final import risk analysis report for fresh ginger from Fiji*. Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Canberra (<https://www.agriculture.gov.au/biosecurity/risk-analysis/memos/2013/ba2013-03-final-ira-ginger-fiji>); and from CABI (2013) *Radopholus similis* (burrowing nematode). Crop Protection Compendium. (<https://www.cabi.org/cpc/datasheet/46685#toBigImage17653>). Photos 1&2 Mike Smith, Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Maroochy Research Station, Nambour, Queensland.

Produced with support from the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research under project PC/2010/090: *Strengthening integrated crop management research in the Pacific Islands in support of sustainable intensification of high-value crop production*, implemented by the University of Queensland and the Secretariat of the Pacific Community.

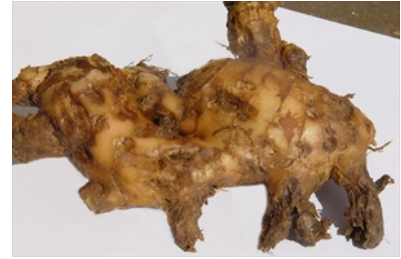


Photo 1. Rhizome infested by the burrowing nematode, *Radopholus similis*, showing brown sunken rots, and decay of the buds.



Photo 2. Ginger rhizomes damaged by the burrowing nematode, *Radopholus similis*, and rejected at harvest.

Copyright © 2021. All rights reserved.



Australian Government
Australian Centre for
International Agricultural Research



Web edition hosted at <https://apps.lucidcentral.org/pppw>