




Root Knot Nematode on Guava

Meloidogyne spp. Sinhala: "Mul geta Watapanu Haniya" Tamil: Ver mudichchu

	Prevention	Monitoring	Direct Control	Direct Control	Restrictions
 <p>Adult stages of female Root knot nematode (Photo by Charles Olsen)</p>  <p>Highly infested Guava seedling, Eadgala LK (Photo by Haritha)</p>  <p>Yellowing & weathering symptoms, Eadgala LK (Photo by Haritha)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use resistant varieties and root stocks such as Horana White, Horana Giant, Pubudu & Kanthi (all are moderately resistant) • Use nematode-free planting material • Do not purchase any plants with even with single root knot in the root system • Use sterilized potting media (e.g. sterilised by steam or roasting) • Use clean implements and tools • Do not use previously infested fields for planting Do proper land preparation. Deep plough to expose nematodes to sunlight. • Use recommended fertilizers to improve crop vigour • Plant with nematode trap plants like marigold • Green manuring with repellent crop before planting like sunhemp and mustard • Add burnt paddy husk to planting hole 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regularly observe nursery plants for the characteristic symptom of root knots on roots • Sample the side roots of mature plants to observe for root knots • Observe above ground symptoms like leaf yellowing, withering and scorching of leaf edges with purple patches followed by examination of root systems for knots 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoid surface irrigation from infested fields to healthy fields • Add compost to the soil to reduce the effect of nematodes (after infestation) • Remove weeds and infested crop residues to protect nearby health tree • Intercrop with Crucifers like mustard, cabbage and incorporate into soil (before flowering) to suppress nematodes • Add poultry manure, cowdung, goat dung, coconut & rubber ponac, neem cake and green manure (Adathoda, Tithonia, Gliricidia, neem & Kalawel) in planting pit as a soil amendment • Remove infested plants from the field 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Currently nematicides are not recommended for root knot nematode management in guava 	

Sri Lanka

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