

S. L. J. Tea Sci. 62 (1), 11-15, 1993. Printed in Sri Lanka.

ENTOMOPATHOGENIC NEMATODES (RHABDITIDA: HETERORHABDITIDAE AND STEINERNEMATIDAE) IN SRI LANKA AS BIO-CONTROL AGENTS

L. D. Amarasinghe

(Tea Research Institute of Sri Lanka, Talawakele, Sri Lanka)

and

W. M. Hominick

(International Institute of Parasitology, St. Albans, Herts, UK)

A survey for endemic and climatically adapted entomopathogenic nematodes was carried out in Sri Lanka. Their habitat specificity and distribution in part of the coastal areas was documented. The dry season and monsoon rain had no influence on the prevalence of these nematodes. Nematodes found in these soils belong to both *Steinernema* (2 types) and *Heterorhabditis* (2 types). Except one Heterorhabditid isolate the rest were identified as new compared to the known species to date.