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**SURVEY OF FREE LIVING NEMATODES IN SUGAR BEET FIELDS
IN SWEDEN AND DENMARK 2012-2013**

**Sondage portant sur l'apparition de nématodes libres dans des champs de
betteraves sucrières en Suède et au Danemark 2012-2013 / Umfrage zum
Auftreten frei lebender Nematoden in Zuckerrübenfeldern in Schweden und
Dänemark 2012-2013**

ABSTRACT

Soil samples from sugar beet fields in Sweden and Denmark were analysed for the occurrence of free living nematodes of various genera: *Trichodorous* spp. and *Paratrichodorous* spp., *Meloidogyne* spp., *Ditylenchus dipsaci*, *Longidorous* spp. and *Pratylenchus* spp.

The survey showed that *Trichodorous* spp. and *Paratrichodorous* spp. occurred in 73% of all fields. 15% of the fields had more than 30 larvae/250 g soil. The survey also showed that *Ditylenchus dipsaci* occurs in Swedish sugar beet fields. Other species found were *Meloidogyne hapla* in regions with sugar beet, potato and carrot crops. The most common free living nematode in Denmark was *Pratylenchus* spp. A few localized fields with *Ditylenchus dipsaci* have previously been found.

Relationships between occurrence of the various genera and soil factors and crop rotations were studied. The results from this survey has shown that free living nematodes may cause substantial damage in several sugar beet fields in Sweden during favourable conditions for the nematodes. Control methods need to be investigated e.g. testing of varieties suitable for nordic conditions.
