

PEST: Guava Root-Knot Nematode, (*Meloidogyne enterolobii*)

BASIC PROFILE: *M. enterolobii* is considered by most as the most damaging nematode in the world. It has a wide host range that includes the following Louisiana crops: cotton, soybeans, sugarcane, and sweet potatoes.

LDAF ACTIVITY: A quarantine has been implemented by LDAF that includes the states of Florida, North Carolina, and South Carolina. Fresh market sweet potatoes from the three states are not allowed to be sold in Louisiana. Nursery stock is allowed as long as the nursery material has been tested and shown to be free of GRKN. A state phytosanitary certificate and/or letter with freedom from GRKN language is included with the shipment. Farm equipment must be thoroughly cleaned and the state of origin must issue a state phytosanitary certificate in order to be moved into the state.

Sweet potatoes infested with guava root knot nematode



Sweet potatoes heavily infested with guava root knot nematode



Close-up of guava root knot nematode females in sweet potato

