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RESEARCH ARTICLE

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# Effect of low temperature on the activity of entomopathogenic nematodes

R. SHARMILA AND S. SUBRAMANIAN

**ABSTRACT :** The present study was investigated the effect of low temperature on the activity of the entomopathogenic nematodes, *Heterorhabditis indica* and *Steinernema glaseri*. The effects of low temperature at $5^0$ to $25^0$C were tested under BOD conditions. The survival and infectivity of entomopathogenic nematodes in insect host were studied. Survival of *H. indica* was significantly greater at the lowest temperature of $10^0$C conversely survival of *S. glaseri* was significantly greater at a temperature of $5^0$ and $10^0$C. The infectivity of *H. indica* and *S. glaseri* was effective at temperature of $20^0$ and $25^0$C (100 % and 100 %, respectively) for *S. glaseri* $10^0$, $15^0$ and $20^0$C (74.00%, 100 % and 100 %, respectively).

**KEY WORDS :** Entomopathogenic nematodes, *Heterorhabditis indica*, *Steinernema glaseri*, *Corcyra cephalonica*, Low temperature, infectivity

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**MEMBERS OF RESEARCH FORUM**

**Address of the Correspondence** : **R. SHARMILA,** Department of Nematology, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, COIMBATORE (T.N.) INDIA

**Address of the Coopted Authors : S. SUBRAMANIAN,** Department of Nematology, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, COIMBATORE (T.N.) INDIA