

Survey of pests on dasheen in Jamaica

Prendergast, C; Sherwood, M.A; Elliott, S., Goldsmith, J., 2001

[Abstract]

Dasheen (*Colocasia esculenta* Schott) is fast becoming an important export crop in Jamaica. To sustain improved production one must have a working knowledge of the pests that are likely to affect the crop. Sixty-three holdings were visited across the island between November 1998 and September 1999.

Farmers were interviewed and samples collected and taken to the laboratories at Bodles. Eighteen fungi, seven nematodes, two insects and two bacteria were identified. From observations, corn rot related to *Fusarium sp* and *Rhizoctonia sp* was the major problem of economic importance affecting the crop. Insects, bacteria and nematodes did not appear to have any adverse effect on the development of the plant.