# MANAGING PLANT-PARASITIC NEMATODES USING ORGANIC FARMING APPROACHES

Philip Waisen and K.-H. Wang

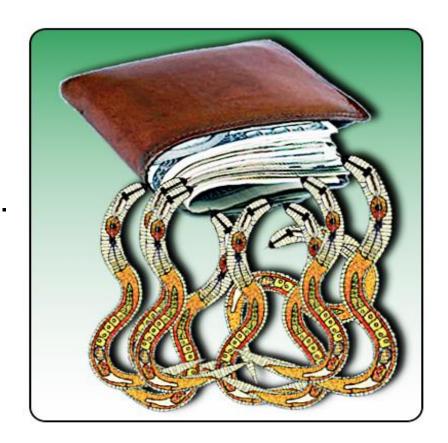




# **Root-knot and Reniform Nematodes**



- Worldwide there are > 4,100 species of plant-parasitic nematodes.
- \$100 billion/yr loss worldwide.
- \$10 billion/yr loss in USA.
- Root-knot nematodes can cause 20-38% crop loss.



## **Root-knot Nematodes**



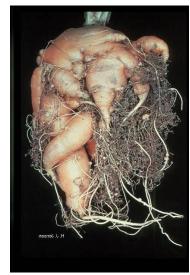








Blemishes on cross section of a potato tuber



Split roots of carrot

**Picture: Society of Nematologists** 

#### Kona root-knot nematodes on coffee







Picture: Koon-Hui Wang

Cucurbit crops are most susceptible

# Reniform Nematodes

# Crops in Hawaii most damaged by Reniform nematode



**Pineapple** 





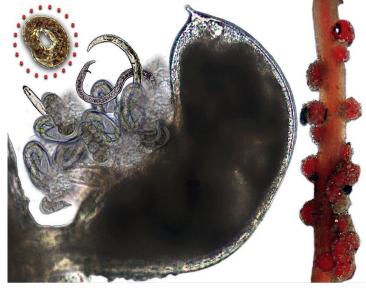




Cowpea



**Sweet potato** 



Broad host range







Sunn hemp
Crotalaria juncea
-- monocrotaline

# Cover Crops Suppressive to Plantparasitic Nematodes



French Marigold

Tagetes patula

-- α-terthinyl



Sorghum-sudangrass
-- Dhurrin



Radish and mustard -- glucosinolate



# The Secret of Sunn Hemp in Suppressing Plant-parasitic Nematodes



#### Mechanisms:

- 1. Serves as a poor host
- 2. Allelopathic
- 3. Enhance nematode-trapping fungi
- 4. Enhance beneficial nematodes and soil arthropods, increase plant tolerance

Sunn hemp superhero video: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AG\_CYsVmqN4

Hānai 'Ai





Hānai'Ai Newsletter June-July-August 2012. <a href="http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/sustainag/news/articles/V12-Wang-Allelopathic.pdf">http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/sustainag/news/articles/V12-Wang-Allelopathic.pdf</a>

# Effect of crop age, tissues, and biomass amount on SH allelopathic effects









1 month

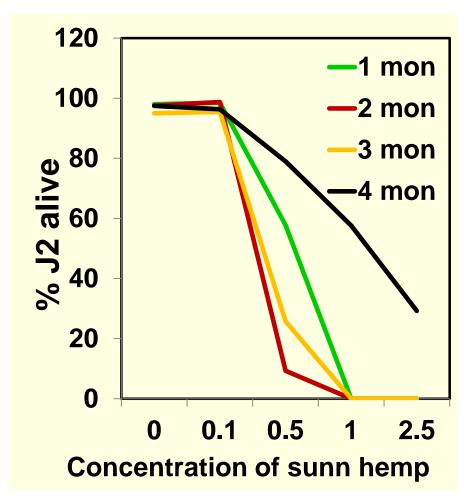
2 month

3 month

4 month

4 dishes 2 trials

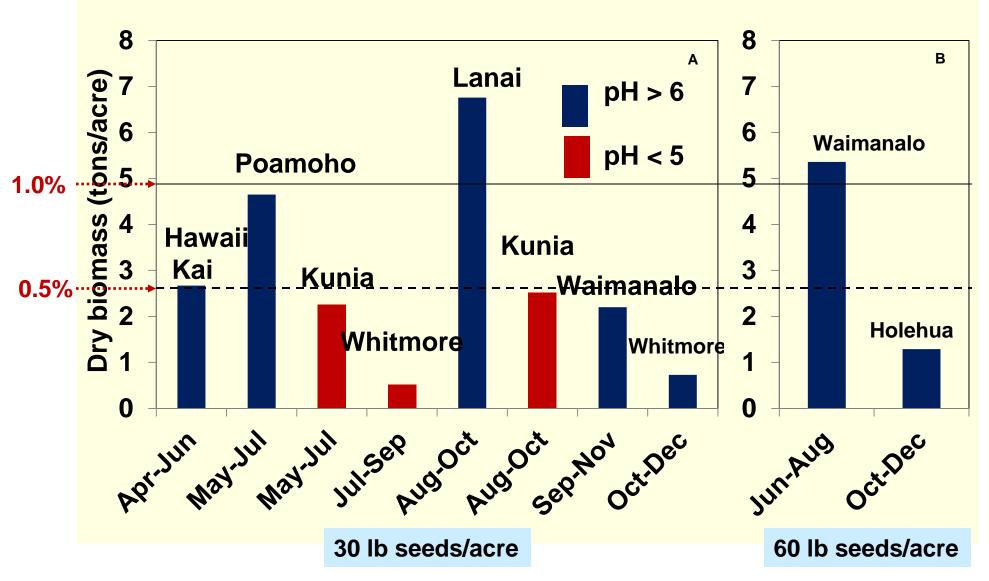
# Effect of crop age, tissues, and biomass amount on SH allelopathic effects



- SH Leaf tissue was most suppressive, and the result resembled those in the whole plant tissues.
- Suppressive effect of SH is most significant at 2- and 3-month old.

Conc (%)	Dry Biomass (tons/acre)		
0.1	0.5		
0.5	2.5		
1	5		
2.5	12.5		

# Can we achieve 2.5 to 5 tons dry biomass in Hawaii?



# **Managing Reniform Nematodes with Sunn Hemp**

Vermiform stage of reniform nematodes are easier to kill than the

anhydrobiotic stage.

■SH+ ■SH-50 100

1000

anhydrobiotic

Vermiform stage

\*\* Reniform nematode 10 SH Dry

SH+ = Soil amended with sunn hemp

Irr = land irrigated

SH = planted with sunn hemp

CP = planted with cowpea



Thus, farmers should plant sunn hemp soon after termination of a sweet potato crop.



Sunn hemp Crotalaria juncea -- monocrotaline

# **Cover Crops Suppressive to Plant**parasitic Nematodes



French Marigold Tagetes patula --  $\alpha$ -terthinyl



Sorghum-sudangrass -- Dhurrin



Radish and mustard -- glucosinolate

# MANAGING PLANT-PARASITIC NEMATODES USING TRAP CROPPING AND BIOFUMIGATION

Philip Waisen\* and K.-H. Wang



# **Plant-parasitic Nematodes**



Sunn hemp
Crotalaria juncea
-- monocrotaline

- > 4,100 species of plant-parasitic nematodes are known
- \$100 billion/yr loss worldwide
- \$10 billion/yr loss in USA
- Root-knot nematodes can cause 20-38% crop loss
- Especially damaging to cucurbit crop (no resistant cultivars)
- Cover crops provide great potential to suppress plantparasitic nematodes.



French Marigold

Tagetes patula

-- α-terthinyl



Sorghum-sudangrass
-- Dhurrin

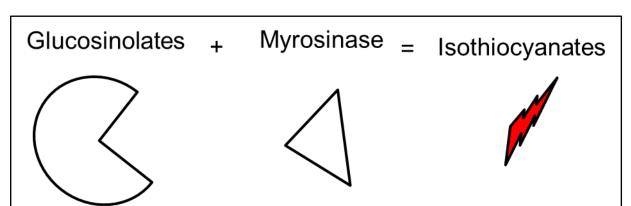




Radish and mustard
-- glucosinolate

Glucosinolates

# Oil Radish and Mustard as Biofumigants



Weed whacked



Isothiocyanates

Soil incorporated



More isothiocyanates

Cover with black plastic



Trap isothiocyanates

# Oil radish and Mustard as Trap Crops

Trap crop



	Root-knot nematode	Reniform nematode	Trap cropping effect	
Oil radish	Poor host	Poor host	Slightly	
Mustard	Excellent host	Non-host	Good for root-knot	



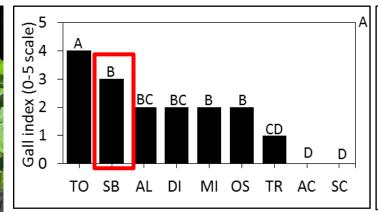


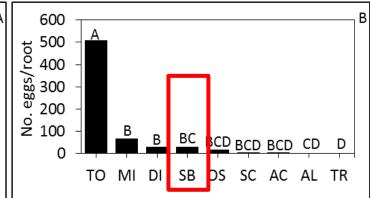
# **Objectives**

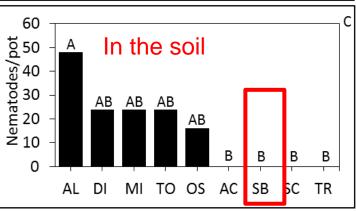
- To screen oil radish and mustard cultivars for trap cropping and biofumigation effects against root-knot and reniform nematodes.
- To determine best termination time of oil radish in a field trial.
- To determine best cultural practices for biofumigation effects.

# 1.1 Susceptibility of radish cultivars to M. javanica

Radish cvs	Price
Alpine	\$98.22/lb
April Cross	\$112/ 10 million seeds
Discovery	N/A
Miyashige	\$76.50/lb
Oshine	\$169.95/lb
Sodbuster	\$2.25/lb
Summer Cross	\$147.90/lb
Tillage Radish	\$3.72/lb





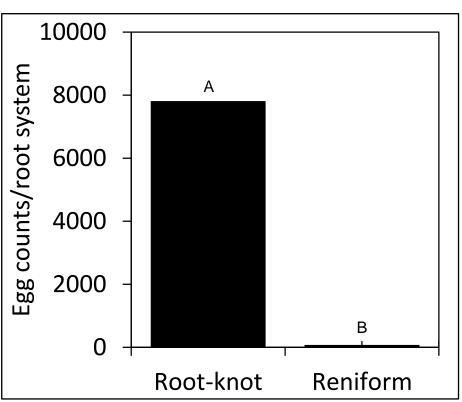


8 oil radish cvs + 'Orange Pixie' tomato inoculated with root-knot nematodes, examine for 1 month.

A) Radish gall index; B) Nematodes/250 cm<sup>3</sup> soil; C) Nematodes/4-L pot

# Susceptibility of 'Caliente 199' mustard to root-knot and reniform nematodes

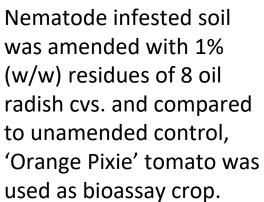




'Caliente 199' mustard is an excellent host for root-knot nematode (*M. javanica*) whereas it is a poor host for reniform nematode (P*i*=1000 IJ2s)

### **Biofumigation Effect**





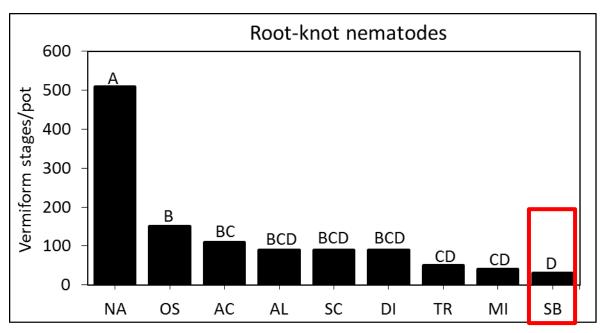
#### **Starting nematode populations**

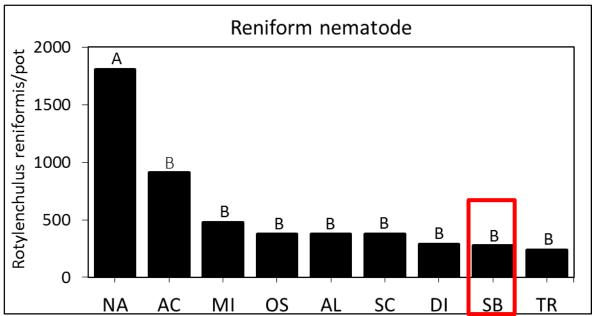
Root-knot = 2130Reniform = 2270



Plant growth difference on tomato 'Orange Pixie'

#### Biofumigation Effect of Oil Radish to root-knot and reniform nematodes





NA = no amendment; AC = April Cross; AL = Alpine; MI = Miyashige; OS = Oshin; SB = Sodbuster; SC = Summer Cross; TR = Tillage Radish

# **Objectives**

- > To screen oil radish and mustard cultivars for trap cropping and biofumigation effects against root-knot and reniform nematodes.
- To determine best termination time of oil radish in a field trial.
- To determine best cultural practices for biofumigation effects.

## **Field Trial**



Oil radish was planted for different length of time (0, 2, 4, 6 and 8 weeks). Experiment was arranged in RCBD with 4 replications. Pumpkin was planted after oil radish (OR) termination and incoporation, nematodes were sampled at OR termination and at 4 weeks after pumpkin planting.

#### Severity of pumpkin root galls by root-knot nematodes

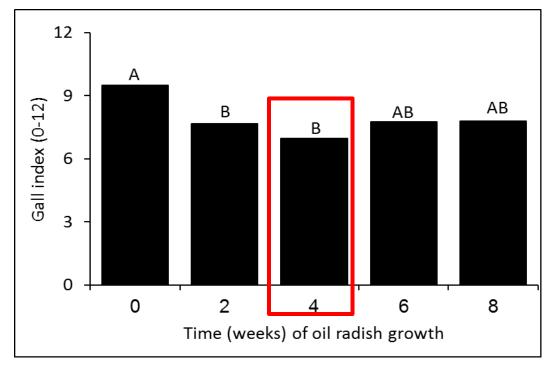
Root Gall Index based on 0 – 12 scale

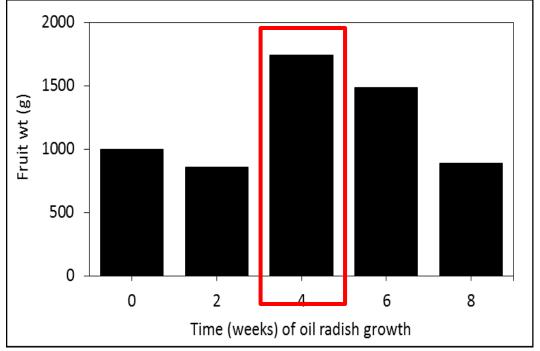


### Oil radish did not suppress PPN in the soil but reduce root galls on pumpkin

Repeated measure over 3 sampling dates at monthly interval

	Nematodes/250 cm <sup>3</sup> soil					
Herbivores	0	2	4	6	8	
Root-knot nemamtode	178 A	140 A	213 A	160 A	467 A	
Reniform nematode	371 A	256 A	874 A	168 A	312 A	
Stubby root nematode	36 A	20 A	32 A	22 A	33 A	





# **Objectives**

- > To screen oil radish and mustard cultivars for trap cropping and biofumigation effects against root-knot and reniform nematodes.
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#### Materials and methods

#### Cover crop termination and biofumigation









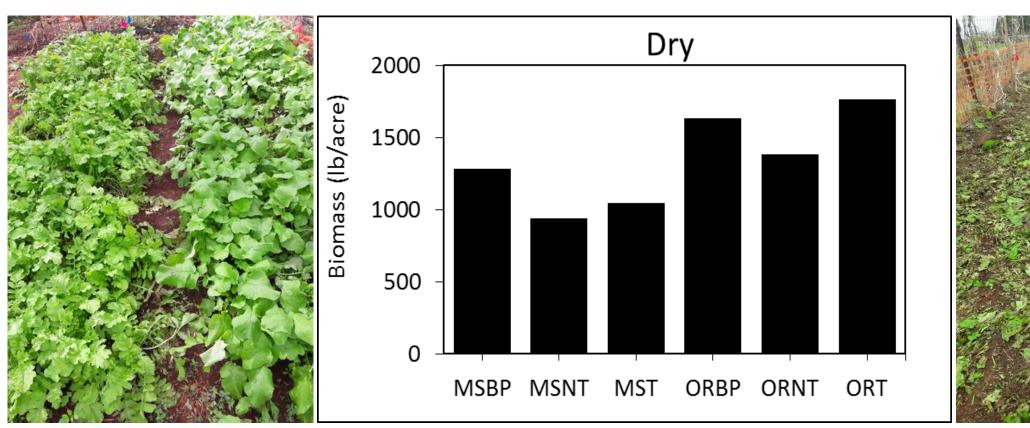
#### 7 Treatments

- 1) ORT=oil radish + weed whack + till
- 2) ORBP=oil radish + weed whack + till + black plastic
- 3) ORNT=oil radish + sickle + weed mat (=NT)

- 4) MST=mustard + weed whack + till
- 5) MSBP=mustard + weed whack + till + black plastic
- 6) MSNT=mustard+sickle + weed mat (NT)
- 7) BG=Bare ground

#### Materials and methods

#### **Biomass production**





1) ORT=oil radish + weed whack + till; 2) ORBP=oil radish + weed whack + till + black plastic; 3) ORNT=oil radish + sickle + weed mat; 4) MST=mustard + weed whack + till; 5) MSBP= mustard + weed whack + till + black plastic; 6) MSNT=mustard + sickle + weed mat; 7) Bare ground control

#### **Materials and methods**

#### **Cover crop termination and biofumigation**





1 week after covering weed mat

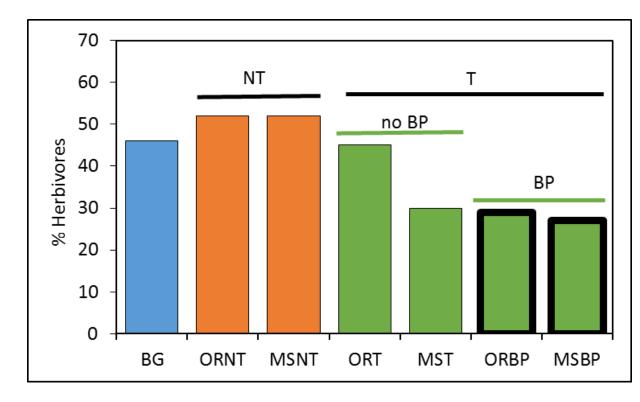


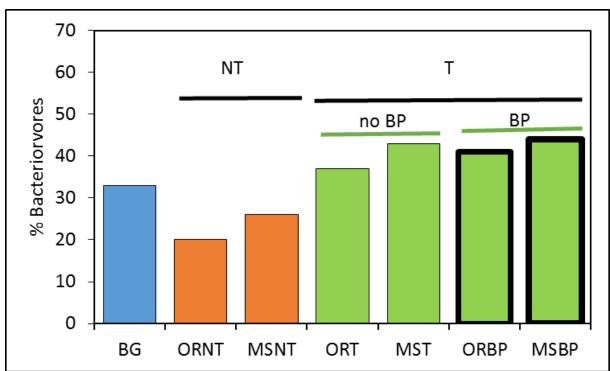
1 week after covering black plastic



'Felix' zucchini transplanted at 3 ft spacing

#### Biofumigation effects of oil radish and mustard on nematodes



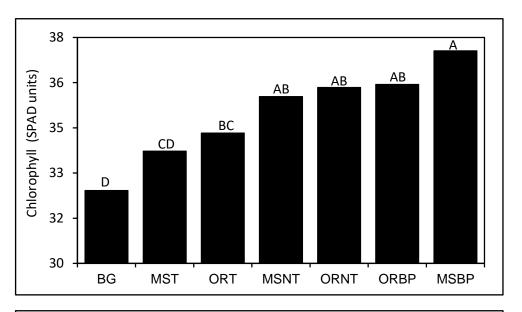


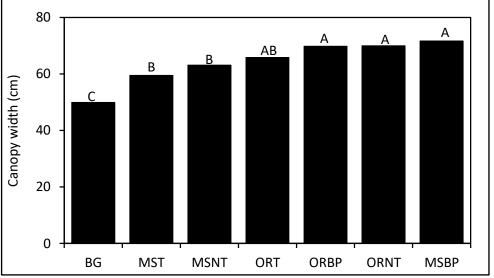
1) ORT=oil radish + weed whack + till; 2) ORBP=oil radish + weed whack + till + black plastic; 3) ORNT=oil radish + sickle + weed mat; 4) MST=mustard + weed whack + till; 5) MSBP= mustard + weed whack + till + black plastic; 6) MSNT=mustard + sickle + weed mat; 7) Bare ground control

## Plant growth after incorporation of radish and mustard green manures

2 weeks after planting







#### **Conclusions**

- 'Sodbuster' oil radish is a potential conventional trap crop and a good biofumigant cultivar against root-knot and reniform nematodes.
- Terminating oil radish at 4 weeks reduced galling on pumpkin and increased the total fruit weight (74%).
- Weed whacking oil radish or mustard + till + covering black plastic for 1 week reduced plant-parasitic nematodes by 39%.

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