GENET1C RESISTANCE TO Heterodera goettingiana Lieb. IN PISUM

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The different pea (Pisum) taxa constitute important crops all over the world where peas are grown for human consumption as well as for livestock. In many areas one of the most damaging pests of the pea crop is the nematode Heterodera goettingiana (Ref: G. Thorne, Principles of Nematology, McGraw-Hill, 1961). Consequently, screening for resistance to this nematode was, and still is, regarded an important part of the work to be performed on the pea collection at this laboratory, and such screening work was recently commenced in collaboration with the Laboratory of Plant Nematology, Bari. This note presents the initial success of this collaboration.

The results of tests involving 112 accessions of peas (Table 1) are encouraging, as eight accessions representing three taxa were found to be resistant to H. goettingiana. The screening work continues on other parts of the pea collection. Additionally, work to elucidate the genetic nature of the found resistance has been initiated.

Table 1. Result of screening 112 pea accessions for resistance to Heterodera goettingiana.

Species	Origin	No. of accessions analyzed	No. of accessions resistant
P. sativum L.	Ethiopia, Turkey, Nepal Afghanistan, Peru	5	0
P. arvense L.	Ethiopia	91	1 (a)*
P. abyssinicum Braun	Ethiopia	14	6 (b)*
P. elatius Bieb.(Stev.)	Iran	2	1 (c)*

Code number of resistant accessions: (a) MG 101877; (b) MG 101789, MG 1011790, MG 101791, MG 101794; (c) MG 10095b.