

SHORT COMMUNICATION

Description of the first-stage juveniles of *Xiphinema cretense* and *X. herakliense* - Distribution of *Xiphinema* and *Longidorus* species in olive orchards and grapevines in Crete, Greece

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Summary The occurrence of nematodes of the family Longidoridae was investigated in soil samples collected from cultivated and wild olives and grapevines in Crete. The first-stage juveniles of *Xiphinema cretense* and *X. herakliense* are described for the first time. The species *X. israeliae*, *X. cretense*, *X. herakliense* and *Longidorus pseudoelongatus*, previously recorded exclusively from olives in Crete, are herein reported in the rhizosphere of grapevines. Also *L. iranicus* is reported for the first time in cultivated olive, while *X. italiae* and *L. closelongatus* are reported for the first time in wild olive in Crete. Data on the occurrence of phytoparasitic nematode species in cultivated olives, wild olives and grapevines are updated with those previously published.

Additional keywords: *Longidorus closelongatus*, *L. cretensis*, *L. iranicus*, *L. pseudoelongatus*, *X. israeliae*

Olive tree and grapevine are the most important crops on the island of Crete, occupying 177,000 and 25,500 hectares, respectively. These represent about 22% for olive trees and 20% for grapevines of the total corresponding cultivated areas in Greece. In addition, wild olive trees are also located in some south coastal areas of the island.

Dagger and needle nematodes of the genera *Xiphinema* and *Longidorus*, respectively, include a number of large plant ectoparasitic nematode species with long life cycles. They cause damage to a wide range of fruit and vegetable crops as well as wild plants by their direct feeding on root cells and transmission of nepoviruses (Decraemer and Robbins, 2007; Taylor and Brown, 1997).

The presence of *Xiphinema* and *Longidorus* nematodes on cultivated and wild olive and grapevines in Crete was investigated by Tzortzakakis *et al.* (2014, 2015). The soil samples were collected from:

- 101 olive orchards in Heraklion and Lassithi provinces,
- 22 individual wild olive trees in Heraklion province and
- 30 vineyards in Heraklion province and assigned to the Nematology Laboratory (affiliation of the 1st author) by farmers for nematode diagnosis.

Five known *Xiphinema* species (viz. *X. index*, *X. israeliae*, *X. italiae*, *X. pachtaicum* and *X. simile*), five known *Longidorus* species (viz. *L. closelongatus*, *L. cretensis*, *L. iranicus* (synonym of *L. moesicus*), *L. orientalis*, and *L. pseudoelongatus*) and two newly described (for the first time) *Xiphinema* species (viz. *X. cretense* and *X. herakliense*) were found.

The current work presents supplementary data on the occurrence of *Xiphinema* and *Longidorus* nematodes on olive trees and grapevines in Crete based on additional soil samples, which were collected from:

- the topotype locality (cultivated olive) of

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X. cretense (Tzortzakakis *et al.*, 2014) and an olive orchard where *X. herakliense* had been found (Tzortzakakis *et al.*, 2015), aiming at the detection of first-stage juveniles (J_1) which could not be detected after repeated samplings at the original description of these species. This life-stage may have a practical significance when distinguishing species closely related (Hunt, 1995),

- b) 45 olive orchards in Heraklion, Rethymno and Lasithi provinces and 14 individual wild olive trees in Heraklion province, different to the ones in Tzortzakakis *et al.* (2014, 2015) study and
- c) 100 vineyards in Heraklion and Chania provinces and assigned to the Nematology Laboratory (affiliation of the 1st author) by farmers for nematode diagnosis.

Soil sampling (for olive trees), nematode extraction, fixing and identification protocols were carried out as by Tzortzakakis *et al.* (2014, 2015).

Description of J_1 s of *Xiphinema cretense* and *Xiphinema herakliense*

In both species, J_1 s were positively identified by the position of the replacement odontostyle, which lies mostly within the odontophore, with the anterior tip near the base of the functional odontostyle (Figures 1, 2) (Hunt, 1995).

Xiphinema cretense (J_1)

Measurements ($n = 5$): $L = 1103 \pm 24.4$ (1083–1128) μm ; $a = 51.7 \pm 1.8$ (50.4–53.7); $b = 4.3 \pm 0.3$ (4.0–4.6); $c = 22.9 \pm 1.3$ (22.1–24.4); $c' = 3.2 \pm 0.1$ (3.1–3.3); odontostyle length = 55.3 ± 0.5 (56.0–57.0) μm ; replacement odontostyle length = 73.2 ± 1.2 (73.0–75.0) μm ; odontophore length = 41.9 ± 1.0 (41.0–43.0) μm ; lip region width = 7.7 ± 0.5 (7.5–8.5) μm ; oral aperture-guiding ring distance = 38.7 ± 4.0 (34.0–41.5) μm ; tail length = 48.6 ± 2.5 (46.0–51.0) μm ; hyaline region at tail tip = 11.5 ± 0.6 (11.0–12.0) μm .

Description: Morphologically similar to adult specimens described by Tzortzakakis *et al.* (2014), apart from developed reproductive system, shorter body length, tail

shape and presence of replacement odontostyle (Figure 1A). Anterior part characterized by position of replacement odontostyle just posterior to functional odontostyle, its tip touching or very close to base of functional odontostyle (Figure 1B). Bluntly conoid tail shape well curved dorso-ventrally with a slight dorsal depression at hyaline region level (Figures 1C–E).

Xiphinema herakliense (J_1)

Measurements ($n = 1$): $L = 1183 \mu\text{m}$; $a = 42.3$; $b = 5.0$; $c = 27.5$; $c' = 3.0$; odontostyle length = $63.0 \mu\text{m}$; replacement odontostyle length = $81.5 \mu\text{m}$; odontophore length = $39.0 \mu\text{m}$; lip region width = $8.0 \mu\text{m}$; oral aperture-guiding ring distance = $43.0 \mu\text{m}$; tail length = $43.0 \mu\text{m}$; hyaline region at tail tip = $20.0 \mu\text{m}$.

Description: Only one specimen was found. General morphology agrees closely to adults specimens described by Tzortzakakis *et al.* (2015), except for its developed reproductive system, shorter body length in open C-shape, tail shape and presence of replacement odontostyle (Figure 2A). Anterior part characterized by position of replacement odontostyle into odontophore, just posterior to base of functional odontostyle (Figure 2B). Bluntly conoid tail shape well curved dorso-ventrally with a strong dorsal depression at hyaline region level (Figure 2C).

Distribution of *Xiphinema* and *Longidorus* species in cultivated olive, oleaster and grapevine

In the soil samples of 45 olive orchards, three *Xiphinema* (viz. *X. israeliae*, *X. italiae*, and *X. pachtaicum*) and two *Longidorus* (viz. *L. iranicus*, and *L. pseudoelongatus*) species were found. In three out of the 14 wild olive tree sampling points, two *Xiphinema* (viz. *X. herakliense* and *X. italiae*), and one *Longidorus* species (viz. *L. closelongatus*) were found.

In the grapevine samples, the data on the presence of *X. index*, *X. italiae* and *X. pachtaicum* were not considered in this study, as these are quite common nematode species found on grapevine in Crete. However, in 12 out of the 100 examined grapevine soil

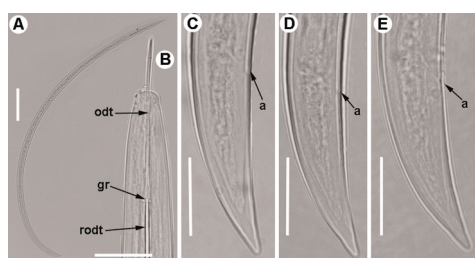


Figure 1. Light micrographs of first-stage juvenile of *Xiphinema cretensis* Tzortzakakis *et al.*, 2014. A) Whole body. B) Anterior region showing odontostyle (odt), replacement odontostyle (rodt), and guiding-ring (gr). C-E) Tail regions showing anus (a). (Scale bars: A = 100 μ m; B-E = 20 μ m).

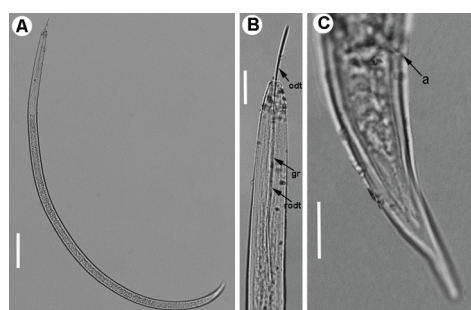


Figure 2. Light micrographs of first-stage juvenile of *Xiphinema herakliense* Tzortzakakis *et al.*, 2015. A) Whole body. B) Anterior region showing odontostyle (odt), replacement odontostyle (rodt), and guiding-ring (gr). C) Tail region showing anus (a). (Scale bars: A = 100 μ m; B = 20 μ m; C = 10 μ m).

Table 1. Longidoridae species found in cultivated olive (OLI), wild olive (OLE) and grapevine (GRA) in Crete.

Nematode species	Plant, locality	Sample code
<i>Longidorus closelongatus</i> Stoyanov 1964	Grapevine, Xamoudochori	GRA36
<i>Longidorus closelongatus</i>	Grapevine, Ag Paraskies	GRA37
<i>Longidorus closelongatus</i>	Grapevine, Akrotiri	GRA39
<i>Longidorus closelongatus</i>	Wild olive, Agiofaraggo	OLE 34
<i>Longidorus cretensis</i> Tzortzakakis <i>et al.</i> , 2001	Grapevine, P. Elias	GRA34
<i>Longidorus iranicus</i> Sturhan and Barooti, 1983	Olive, Arkalochori	OLI131
<i>Longidorus iranicus</i>	Grapevine, Archanes	GRA33
<i>Longidorus iranicus</i>	Grapevine, Ag. Thomas	GRA35
<i>Longidorus iranicus</i>	Grapevine, Roukani	GRA38
<i>Longidorus iranicus</i>	Grapevine, Lousakies	GRA31
<i>Longidorus pseudoelongatus</i> Altherr, 1976	Olive, Arkalochori	OLI132
<i>Longidorus pseudoelongatus</i>	Olive, Faneromeni	OLI136
<i>Longidorus pseudoelongatus</i>	Grapevine, Gazi	GRA 32
<i>Longidorus pseudoelongatus</i>	Grapevine, P. Elias	GRA40
<i>Xiphinema cretense</i> Tzortzakakis <i>et al.</i> , 2014	Grapevine, P. Elias	GRA40
<i>Xiphinema herakliense</i> Tzortzakakis <i>et al.</i> , 2015	Wild olive, Agiofaraggo	OLE 33, 34, 36
<i>Xiphinema herakliense</i>	Grapevine, P. Elias	GRA41
<i>Xiphinema herakliense</i>	Grapevine, P. Elias	GRA42
<i>Xiphinema israeliae</i> Luc <i>et al.</i> , 1982	Olive, Roufas	OLI14
<i>Xiphinema israeliae</i>	Olive, Neapoli	OLI115
<i>Xiphinema israeliae</i>	Olive, Pyrgiotisa	OLI138
<i>Xiphinema israeliae</i>	Olive, Dermatos	OLI145
<i>Xiphinema israeliae</i>	Olive, Dermatos	OLI146
<i>Xiphinema israeliae</i>	Grapevine, Akrotiri	GRA39
<i>Xiphinema italiae</i> Meyl, 1953	Wild olive, Agiofaraggo	OLE 34
<i>Xiphinema italiae</i>	Olive, Episkopi	OLI 104
<i>Xiphinema pachtaicum</i> (Tulaganov, 1938) Kirjanova 1951	Olive, 12 samples	*

*Sample codes = 101, 102, 103, 105, 107, 110, 123, 129, 130, 137, 139, 140

samples, three *Xiphinema* (viz. *X. cretense*, *X. herakliense* and *X. israeliae*) and four *Longidorus* species (viz. *L. closelongatus*, *L. cretensis*, *L. iranicus*, and *L. pseudoelongatus*) were found. Although *L. moesicus* was previously reported on grapevine in Crete (Tzortzakakis et al., 2014), after recent studies (Maafi et al., 2015), this species has been synonymized with *Longidorus iranicus*. All these data are presented in Table 1, which supplements previously published results (Tzortzakakis et al., 2014, 2015) for cultivated and wild olive trees and grapevines from Crete. Thus the updated records, considering also the previous studies, on the percentage of occurrence for the detected nematode species is as follows:

- a) In 146 soil samples from olive orchards: *L. closelongatus* 1.4%, *L. cretensis* 0.7%, *L. iranicus* 0.7%, *L. pseudoelongatus* 6.2%, *X. cretense* 2%, *X. herakliense* 0.7%, *X. index* 2%, *X. israeliae* 7.5%, *X. italiae* 7.5% and *X. pachtaicum* 39%,
- b) In 36 soil samples from wild olive trees: *L. closelongatus* 2.8%, *X. herakliense* 36.1%, *X. israeliae* 2.8%, *X. italiae* 2.8% and *X. pachtaicum* 5.6%,
- c) In 130 samples from vineyards (excluding *X. index*, *X. italiae* and *X. pachtaicum*): *L. closelongatus* 5.4%, *L. cretensis* 2.3%, *L. iranicus* 6.2%, *L. orientalis* 0.8%, *L. pseudoelongatus* 1.5%, *X. cretense* 0.8%, *X. herakliense* 1.5%, *X. israeliae* 0.8% and *X. simile* 0.8%.

In conclusion, the data presented herein, indicate some new information for the presence of Longidoridae in Crete. *Xiphinema israeliae*, *X. cretense*, *X. herakliense* and *L. pseudoelongatus* were found on grapevine, while until now they had been found exclusively on olive trees; *L. iranicus* was found on cultivated olive trees, whereas until now it had been found only on grapevines; *X. italiae* and *L. closelongatus* are reported for first time on wild olive trees.

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ΣΥΝΤΟΜΗ ΑΝΑΚΟΙΝΩΣΗ

Περιγραφή της προνύμφης πρώτου σταδίου των νηματωδών *Xiphinema cretense* και *X. herakliense*. Διασπορά των νηματωδών *Xiphinema* και *Longidorus* σε ελιές, αγριελιές και αμπέλια στην Κρήτη

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Περίληψη Η παρουσία νηματωδών της οικογένειας Longidoridae διερευνήθηκε σε δείγματα εδάφους προερχόμενα από καλλιεργούμενες ελιές, αγριελιές και αμπέλια στην Κρήτη. Έγινε περιγραφή της προνύμφης πρώτου σταδίου των ειδών *Xiphinema cretense* και *X. herakliense*. Τα είδη *X. israeliae*, *X. cretense*, *X. herakliense* και *Longidorus pseudoelongatus*, τα οποία μέχρι τώρα είχαν αναφερθεί μόνο σε ελιά στην Κρήτη, βρέθηκαν στην ριζόσφαιρα αμπελιών. Επιπλέον, το είδος *L. iranicus* αναφέρεται για πρώτη φορά σε καλλιεργούμενη ελιά, ενώ τα είδη *X. italiae* και *L. closelongatus* αναφέρονται για πρώτη φορά σε αγριελιά στην Κρήτη. Η παρουσία φυτοпараσιτικών ειδών νηματωδών σε καλλιεργούμενη ελιά, αγριελιά και αμπέλι συνοψίζεται λαμβάνοντας υπόψη προηγούμενες δημοσιεύσεις.

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