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TYPE AND OTHER SPECIMENS DEPOSITED IN THE UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEMATODE COLLECTION,  
BELTSVILLE, MARYLAND. **Handoo, Zafar A., M. R. Kantor, L. K. Carta and D. J. Chitwood.** Mycology and Nematology Genetic Diversity and Biology Laboratory USDA, ARS, Northeast Area, Beltsville, MD 20705, USA.

The United States Department of Agriculture Nematode Collection (USDANC) is one of the largest and most valuable nematode repositories in existence and includes millions of specimens housed in over 40,000 permanent slides and over 9,400 vials. The USDANC was established in 1960 by A. Morgan Golden and currently contains more than 49,200 species entries. The USDANC Type Collection preserves type specimens of nematodes to serve as references for identifications and future taxonomic revisions. A list of the type specimens added to the USDANC since 1998 was recently published. Currently the Type Collection includes more than 7,600 slides and 600 vials. The other constituent divisions of the Collection are the General Collection with 21,875 slides and almost 7,700 vials from many different hosts and areas, the Thorne Collection with 6,602 slides with many original types, the Steiner Mermithid Collection with original types of 2,303 slides, the Mass Collection, a reservoir for undescribed taxa with 1,267 slides and 1,101 vials, the Gates Collection with 356 slides, and a Demonstration Collection of 88 museum jars showing symptoms and effects of nematodes on hosts. All depositions are entered in a computerized database which is available at: <https://nt.ars-grin.gov/nematodes/>. The online collection database is user friendly; typing the genus and the species name will reveal a list with all relevant entries and provide information about the host, the collector, the collection date, and the date when the sample was received. The database also provides a detailed list of specimens that are deposited in the USDANC and that are available to interested scientists throughout the world. Along with the publicly available database records, many specimens are available for 640 loan for limited periods of time to scientists in trusted organizations. We encourage nematologists and private nematode collection owners throughout the world to enrich our collection by depositing valuable type and other specimens in the USDANC for taxonomic research and use by future generations.