

Pest of Banana

Major Pest

Rhizome weevil	<i>Cosmopolites sordidus</i>
Pseudostem borer	<i>Odoiporus longicollis</i>
Banana aphid	<i>Pentalonia nigronervosa</i>
Lacewing bugs	<i>Stephanitis typicus</i>

Minor Pest

Thrips	<i>Helionothrips kadaliphilus, Thrips florum, Chaetanothrips signipennis</i>
Scale	<i>Aspidiotus destructor</i>
Leaf Feeder	<i>Pericallia ricini</i>
Tobacco Caterpillar	<i>Spodoptera litura</i>
Bagworm	<i>Kophene cuprea</i>

1. Rhizome weevil: *Cosmopolites sordidus*



Host range: Banana, cocoa

Damage symptoms

- Grubs bore into the rhizome causing death of unopened pipe, withering of outer leaves and finally death of the plant.

Management

- Select infestation - free suckers
- Under take soil incorporation of lindane 1.3 D 20 g/plant or carbaryl 5D 10-20 g/plant or carbofuran 3G 20 g/plant or phorate 10 G 10 g/plant around pseudostem.
- Adopt paring and pralinage of banana suckers before planting.

2. Pseudostem borer: *Odoiporus longicollis*



Host range: Banana

Damage symptoms

- Grubs bore holes and tunnels in the pseudostem causing wilting of the plant.
- They also feed on tissues of leaf sheath from the inner surface and also on decaying tissues.

Management

- Adopt good cultivation practices to improve weevil tolerance
- Maintain healthy plantation by periodical removal of dry leaves and suckers.
- Prune the side suckers every month
- Inject pseudostem with monocrotophos 36 WSC (50 ml + 350 ml water) @ 2 ml at 45 cm height and another at 150 cm height from ground level at monthly intervals from 5th - 8th month. Beyond 8 months (after flowering), this should not be done

3. Banana aphid: *Pentalonia nigronervosa*



Host range: Banana, cardamom , *Alocasia* sp, *Colocasia* sp, caladium

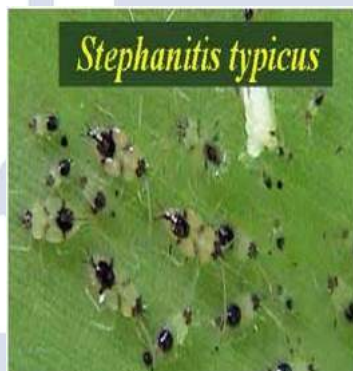
Damage symptoms

- Aphids are seen in colonies on leaf axils and pseudostems.
- It causes indirect damage by transmitting the notorious virus disease bunchy top.
- Green streaks initially appear on the secondary veins on the ventral side of the lamina.
- Affected leaves become brittle, small and petioles get elongated.
- crown composed of narrow stunted leaves gives bunchy top appearance.

Management

- Spray monocrotophos 36 SL 1.5 - 2.0 L methyl demeton 25 EC or dimethoate 30 EC 3.0-4.0 L in 1500-2000 L water per ha towards the crown and pseudostem base.
- Inject pseudostem with monocrotophos 36 SL @1 ml in 4 ml of water per tree at 45 days interval from the 3rd month till flowering.
- Avoid monocrotophos injection after flowering.

4. Lacewing bugs: *Stephanitis typicus*



Host range: Banana, ginger, turmeric, cardamom and jasmine

Damage symptoms

- Both nymphs and adults feed in colonies on undersurface of leaves and cause discolouration.

Management

- Spray methyl demeton 25 EC or dimethoate or monocrotophos 36 SL 1.5 - 2.0 L or quinalphos 25 EC 3.0 – 4.0 L in 1500-2000 L of water per ha