




Weevil on banana

Cosmopolites sordidus Kayovu, ekikoko

 <p>Tunneling on corm due to banana weevils (Photo: NARO)</p>  <p>Snapped pseudostem (Photo: NARO)</p>  <p>Weevils on pseudostem trap (Photo: Walter Ocimati, Bioversity Int)</p>	<p>Prevention</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use clean planting materials e.g. tissue cultured plantlets, tolerant/resistant bananas e.g. NAROBAN 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 or pared healthy sword/maiden suckers from field(s) free of banana weevils • Dip pared suckers in boiling water for 20 to 30 seconds to kill eggs and larva, in a 20% neem seed solution (2mL in 8mL of water) or cold water overnight to suffocate larva and eggs • Ensure appropriate plant spacing, density and proper field sanitation by uprooting corms after harvesting, volunteer plants, and water suckers to eliminate breeding sites for weevils • Enhance soil and plant nutrition by mulching (2ft away), weed and apply manure to improve tolerance to weevil attack 	<p>Monitoring</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • After every harvest, examine the corm for presence of tunnels due to weevil damage and weevils (black insects with clearly pronounced snout and hard forewings) • Regularly check around the plantations for presence of any snapped plants • Set-up weevil traps (cut and split pieces 1ft long of pseudo-stems placed near the stools) on regular basis (after every 2 weeks) to establish weevil presence in the field • Regularly check the base of the outer leaf sheath of pseudostems (just above ground) for signs of weevils e.g. gummy exudates and irregular circular tunnels or cavities made by young white larvae 	<p>Direct Control</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use pseudostem traps to capture adult weevils and destroy the trapped weevils to reduce on their populations • Uproot, chop and dry infected corms to kill eggs and larva • Apply 50 -100g neem seed powder around each stool at 4 months interval (higher rates can harm the plant) or 1kg of neem leaf mulch per stool • Apply 2L concoction of tithonia, mexican marigold, black jack, ash, and urine fermented for 14 -21 days and diluted at a ratio of 1: 2, concoction: water 	<p>Direct Control</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No certified chemical available in Uganda 	<p>Restrictions</p>
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Uganda

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