**Weevil on Banana**

*Cosmopolites sordidus*

### Prevention
- Use clean planting material by selecting vigorous healthy planting material, paring (trimming) to reduce the number of eggs and grubs and immersing clean trimmed suckers in a bath with hot water at 52 to 55°C for 15 to 27 minutes before planting.
- Avoid moving infested plant material from plantation to plantation as this will spread banana weevils.
- After harvesting, chop all banana stems into small pieces to accelerate drying. This reduces chances of weevil’s favourable breeding areas for egg laying.
- Mulch, weed and apply manure in banana gardens to keep the plant health and able to tolerate attack.

### Monitoring
- Trap weevils using pheromones or by cutting two slices from a banana stem and placing them near the banana stool with the inner side facing down. Check the traps every morning too for weevil presence.
- Replace traps every 1-2 weeks.
- Examine planting materials for presence of grubs, pupae or tunnels by taking one or two slices from it.
- Monitor the base of outer leaf-sheath of above ground stem for tunnels of young white larvae.

### Direct Control
- Trap adult weevils at the base of the pseudostem and expose them to *Beauveria bassiana* placed on the traps.
- Check the traps the following morning and pick the mature black insects found under the trap and kill them.
- Replace traps every 1-2 weeks to remain effective.
- Trim all plants meant for planting by cutting of the outer layers of the corm and kill any observed grubs and pupae.

### Direct Control
- Dip peeled/trimmed suckers in a chemical solution such as chlorpyrifos-methyl to kill any larvae that might be present. Consult your extension worker/Agro-input dealer and always read the label for direction on use. Always wear protective gear (overalls, gumboots, goggles, caps, gloves and face masks) when handling chemicals.

### Restrictions
- WHO Class III; slightly hazardous.

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**Uganda**

**CREATED/UPDATED:** December 2014  
**AUTHOR(S):** Innocent Arinaitwe (Mbarara District Local Government) and Denis Ssebinojjo (Masaka District Local Government)  
**EDITED BY:** Plantwise