Pacific Pests, Pathogens & Weeds - Mini Fact Sheet Edition

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Banana streak disease (215)



Photo 1. Symptoms of *Banana streak virus* showing lines of yellow in large blocks from midrib to leaf edge, turning brown or black with age.



Photo 2. Close up of the yellow and black lines caused by *Banana streak virus*.

Summary

- Worldwide distribution. On banana and plantains. Occurs on AAB, ABB, AAAB tissue cultures. A minor disease (but, severe strains in Cavendish in Africa, Central and South America internal rots, splits and death).
- Yellow streaks or bands from midrib to the margin, darkening with age. Affects vigour and fruit size.
- Spread is in planting material, and by mealybugs.
- Cultural control: disease-free suckers; survey and remove diseased plants as soon as disease seen.
- Chemical control: treat mealybugs with white or horticultural oils or soap.

Common Name

Banana streak, banana streak disease

Scientific Name

Banana streak badnavirus. Several strains have been recognised, and some of these are now considered to be distinct viruses.

AUTHOR Grahame Jackson

Information from Diseases of fuit crops in Australia (2009). Editors, Tony Cooke, Denis Persley, Susan House. CSIRO Publishing. Photos 1&2 Kohler F, Pellegrin F, Jackson G, McKenzie E (1997) Diseases of cultivated crops in Pacific Island countries. South Pacific Commission. Prire Printers Pty Limited, Canberra, Australia.

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