



Pacific Pests, Pathogens & Weeds - Mini Fact Sheet Edition

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Banana tip rot (125)



Photo 1. Black rots at the end stem end of banana fruits caused by banana tip or crown rot, *Colletotrichum musae*.

Summary

- Worldwide distribution. On banana and plantains.
- Round to oval sunken spots with pink spore masses on fingers, and black rots at cut ends of hands. An important disease in storage.
- A common fungus on trash. Spores spread in wind and rain or insects; green fruit infected 20-40 days after emergence. Rots occur when fruit ripens.
- Cultural control: bag bunches after removing male bud; remove old hanging leaves and flower remains; do not bruise bunches; keep packing sheds clean.
- Chemical control: commercial growers - registered chemicals, e.g., benzimidazoles or triazoles.

Common Name

Banana tip rot, banana crown rot

Scientific Name

Colletotrichum musae

AUTHOR Grahame Jackson

Information (and Photo 1) *Diseases of fruit crops in Australia* (2009). Editors, Tony Cooke, Denis Persley, Susan House. CSIRO Publishing. ²Anthracnose is the name given to diseases caused by *Colletotrichum* (and some other) fungi.

Produced with support from the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research under project PC2010/090: *Strengthening integrated crop management research in the Pacific Islands in support of sustainable intensification of high-value crop production*, implemented by the University of Queensland and the Secretariat of the Pacific Community.

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Australian Government
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