



Pacific Pests, Pathogens & Weeds - Mini Fact Sheet Edition

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Coconut tinangaja (198)



Photo 1. Distorted small nuts on a coconut palm with tinangaja viroid disease.



Photo 2. Long, thin nuts on a coconut with tinangaja viroid disease. On the right, the seednut is also showing "scarification" - longitudinal lines down the husk. Another typical feature of the disease.



Photo 3. Coconut palm with advanced symptoms of tinangaja viroid.



Photo 4. Coconut palm with advanced symptoms of tinangaja viroid showing the "pencil-point" tapering of the trunk.

Summary

- Narrow distribution. Guam. On coconuts. An important disease. Thought to be caused by a viroid related to *Coconut cadang-cadang viroid*.
- Yellow spots on leaves, small seednuts, production slows, trunks taper, palm dies, taking up to 15 years.
- Impact high: import of coconuts for food and drink are high; lack of coconuts for landscaping schemes; loss of diversity.
- Spread maybe pollen, seednuts, or on tools.
- Biosecurity: follow the international guidelines.
- Cultural control: only take seed from areas free of the disease; treat tools with 10% bleach and 1% mineral oil; remove and burn infected trees; the variety Javanica Red Dwarf may have tolerance.
- Chemical control: none recommended.

Common Name

Tinangaja, yellow mottle decline

Scientific Name

Coconut tinangaja viroid. The abbreviation is CTiVd.

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Information from CABI (2014). Crop Protection Compendium: Coconut tinangaja viroid (<http://www.cabi.org/cpc/>). Photos 1-4 George Wall, formerly CALS/AES University of Guam.

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