



Pacific Pests, Pathogens & Weeds - Mini Fact Sheet Edition

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Sugarcane Fiji disease (077)



Photo 1. Galls on the midrib or larger veins of the leaf are the first sign of infection from *Sugarcane Fiji disease virus*.



Photo 2. Stunted plant infected by *Sugarcane Fiji disease virus*.



Photo 3. Leaflets infected by *Sugarcane Fiji disease virus* are short, stiff and green and have a "bitten-off" appearance, as if chewed by cattle.



Photo 4. The plant on the right has a witches' broom appearance from infection by *Sugarcane Fiji disease virus*.



Photo 5. Adult and nymphs of *Perkinsiella* sp., the planthopper that spreads *Sugarcane Fiji disease virus*.

Summary

- Widespread distribution. Asia, Africa, Oceania. On sugarcane, lowland pitpit, and other *Saccharum* species. Occasionally, an important virus disease.
- Galls occur on the leaves; leaves are stiff, stunted, and flat-topped (as if chewed).

- Spread is by planthoppers, and in planting setts.
- Cultural control: use varieties bred for resistance (Fiji and Australia); do not take planting material from affected plants, even if some stalks in a stool look healthy; carefully remove diseased plants as soon as disease seen without spreading insects; collect and burn trash, after harvest.
- Chemical control: none recommended.

Common Name

Fiji disease of sugarcane

Scientific Name

Sugarcane Fiji disease fijiavirus; the abbreviation is FDV.

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Information from CABI (2012) *Fiji disease virus* Crop Protection Compendium. (<http://www.cabi.org/cpc/>). Photo 1 Bureau of Sugar Experimental Stations, Australia.

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