

Banana diamond leaf spot (072)

Summary

- Widespread. In the tropics ('old world'). On banana only.
- Oval to diamond-shaped spots up to 10 cm, brown, zoned, with yellow margins, often on spots of black cross (*Phyllachora*). Often merge at leaf margin.
- Spores on underside, turning spots greyish/brown.
- Minor importance on Cavendish; more severe on cooking bananas. Worse if misting oils used for black Sigatoka disease control.
- Cultural control: resistant varieties.
- Chemical control: Unlikely to be needed.

Common Name

Banana (Cordana) leaf spot, banana diamond leaf spot

Scientific Name

Cordana musae



Photo 1. Large diamond-shaped spots of *Cordana musae*, parallel to the leaf veins.



Photo 4. Leaf spots of *Cordana johnsonii*, up to 2 cm x 1 cm, brown or grey on lower surface, with small black centres. Paler on upper surface. (This is a photo of a herbarium-dried leaf.)



Photo 2. Association of diamond leaf spot, *Cordana musae*, with leaf spots of banana black cross, *Phyllachora musicola*. The suggestion is that *Cordana* is a weak pathogen needing a wound to infect.

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Information from McKenzie E (2013) *Cordana musae*: PaDIL - <http://www.padil.gov.au>; and (including Photo 4) McKenzie E (2013) *Cordana johnsonii*: PaDIL - (<http://www.padil.gov.au>); and Vézina A, Dreyer BS (2020) *Cordana* leaf spot. ProMusa. (<https://www.promusa.org/Cordana+leaf+spot>).

Produced with support from the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research under project PC/2010/090: *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.



Photo 3. Diamond leaf spots, *Cordana musae*, centred on those of banana black cross, *Phyllachora musicola*.

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