

# Pacific Pests, Pathogens and Weeds - Online edition

## Banana mosaic (100)

### Summary

- Worldwide distribution, in temperate, sub-tropical and tropical countries. Very wide host range: cucurbit, bean, potato families, weeds as well as crops. A minor disease of banana.
- Light and dark green dots, short lines or patches along the veins; sometimes distortions. Later, new leaves appear healthy.
- Aphids spread sap and virus from diseased to healthy plants, moving by wing or wind between them.
- Cultural control: not appropriate as disease is not important on banana; important for many other crops.
- Chemical control: insecticides are not appropriate, mineral oil repel aphids and may reduce virus spread.

### Common Name

Banana mosaic, cucumber mosaic, infectious chlorosis.

### Scientific Name

*Cucumber mosaic cucumovirus*. The abbreviation for this virus is CMV. There are a number of strains.



Photo 1. Banana leaf showing light and dark green (mosaic) patterns on banana infected with *Cucumber mosaic virus*.



Photo 2. Light and dark green (mosaic) patterns on banana leaf infected with *Cucumber mosaic virus*. Note that some areas of yellow are continuous, whereas others show broken lines.



Photo 4. General yellowing throughout leaves of snake gourd, and distortions at the margins, in plants infected with *Cucumber mosaic virus*.



Photo 3. Leaves of snake gourd infected with *Cucumber mosaic virus* showing light and dark green patterns and distorted margins.

AUTHORS Helen Tsatsia & Grahame Jackson  
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