

# Preparing Banana and Plantain Suckers for Planting to Reduce Pests and Increase Yield

## Sucker preparation

First, to treat suckers with boiling water, one needs fire wood, flame of fire, container for boiling, water, 2 pieces of rope of 60cm long, a stick of 2.5m-3m long, 30 small stones or beans and a small container. Build the fire flame and place the container and fill it with 2/3 water.

Similarly, tie each end of one piece of rope to each handle of basket to create a loop with rope and place stick through each loop of rope. Put the basket with suckers into boiling water and mark the time to treat suckers.

Place 30 stones into pile, place container of 50cm and once water is boiling, place suckers in basket and lower it in boiling water for 30 seconds. Remove basket from boiling water and treat the suckers for the right amount of time.

Furthermore, also cut stems into piece of 20cm long, split them into half and place facing down onto soil and place the cut stem about 40cm away from banana plant as these will attract weevils. Place cut stems in field around 6pm in evening and check stems daily for 4 days in morning, collect weevils and kill them.

Finally, replace the cut side facing down back onto soil.