

Prevention and control of banana bunchy-top disease (BBTD)

Banana bunchy top disease (BBTD) is a banana plant disease caused by banana bunchy top virus (BBTV)

Banana bunchy top virus (BBTV) is mainly transmitted by aphids and planting materials from infected fields.

Identifying BBTD: Narrow upright tightly bunched leaves. Dark green dots and dashes on both leaf veins and petioles.

Prevention: Use clean suckers from clean fields. Also use tissue cultured plants if available.

BBTV control: Uproot and destroy all infected plants and suckers to remove the inoculum. Monitor plants within 5 metre radius from infected plants as these may show symptoms later.