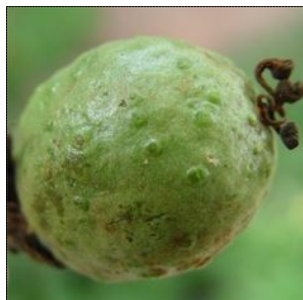


Flower abortion in passionfruit

Thrips and nutrient imbalance



Thrips can cause flower abortion as well as damage to fruits (A. M. Varela, icipe)

Prevention	Monitoring	Direct Control	Direct Control	Restrictions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carry out soil testing before fertilizer application Boost crop health by applying the recommended fertilizers and manure Establish the orchard on an East-West orientation to receive maximum light to enhance quality of pollen quality Plant more flowering plants around the orchard to attract bees Keep the field weed free to ease nutrient competition Avoid water stress Avoid excess use of chemical sprays especially at flowering so as not to kill pollinators Intercrop with trap crops e.g. carrots, cucurbits, kales, spider plant 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Look out for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fallen, withered flowers (petals) Dry scars of floral stalk remains on the vine with no small fruits attached Presence of thrips (minute slender dark brown insects with fringed wings) Take action when 5% of the flowers are aborted in 100 plants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apply Yara Milla fertilizer at planting at the rate of 100g/tree in two splits (N,P,K,B:15,9,20,0.02) Spray foliar feed with boron nutrient e.g. Solubor at the rate 50-60g/20litres of water or Easygro-flowers-30-40g/20l before and during flowering and at fruiting stages at fortnight interval Put up at least one beehive near the orchard, bees are the best insect pollinators Carry out hand pollination using a paint brush Spray alpha naphthalene acetic acid before flowering e.g. Plantone at exactly 4mls/20 litres of water Spray 2 spoonfuls of mild detergent (tepeal) in 5 litres of water to control thrips 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> When using a pesticide always wear protective equipment. Follow the instructions on the product label, such as dosage, timing of application, max number of sprays, restricted re-entry interval. Always consult recent list of registered pesticides (PCPB). In case of presence of thrips during flowering, spray alphacypermethrin (Albaz 10 EC, Alfatox 10% EC, Alphacymba 10% EC at 5ml/20litres of water) Spray Deltamethrin (Atom 2.5 EC at 10-15mls in 20 litres of water, Keshet 2.5 EC at 15mls in 20 litres of water) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WHO Class III (Slightly hazardous) PHI 3 days WHO Class II (Moderately hazardous) and PHI 1 day, MRL 0.3mg/kg. Spray during flowering at 2 weeks interval



Kenya

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