

Banana streak disease

Banana streak virus



Characteristic patterns in the pigmentation of the pseudostem (Photo by David Jones)



Chlorotic streak symptoms of BSV in leaf of cultivar Mysore (Photo by David Jones)



Banana mealybug (*Pseudococcus elisae*) nymph (United States National Collection of Scale Insects Photographs, USDA Agricultural Research Service, Bugwood.org)

Prevention	Monitoring	Direct Control
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The banana streak disease is a virus that is transmitted by the citrus mealybug (<i>Planococcus citri</i>) and can cause high yield losses in plants with severe symptoms • Use virus-free planting material from plantations that are free from banana streak disease and mealybugs • Remove diseased plants as soon as they are seen and burn them (if it is allowed in your area) or deeply bury to at least 50 cm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Symptoms can vary by country as they depend on the virus strain and the environment. • Symptoms include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discontinuous or continuous necrotic yellow streaks which run from the midrib of the leaf to the margin • These streaks are either scattered throughout the leaf or in bands • Streaks turn brown or black as the leaf ages • Smaller plants than normal which are less vigorous with smaller bunches • Dieback and internal rotting of the pseudostem • Symptoms may disappear and reappear during the growth cycle. • BSV symptoms can be similar to those of Cucumber mosaic virus (CMV), however CMV symptoms occur on the leaf midrib and BSV symptoms do not • Consider taking action when 10 plants with symptoms are seen in a 50 m² area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Control mealybug vectors (e.g. by using horticultural oil or soap solution) if virus incidence is high, since they can spread disease from plant to plant. Use one of the following soap or oil solutions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • White oil: 3 tbsp cooking oil in 4 L water. Add 0.5 tsp detergent soap. Shake well and use • Soap: 5 tbsp of pure soap (not detergent) in 4 L water OR 2 tbsp dish washing liquid in 4 L water • Horticultural oil: Follow instructions on the bottle • Spray underside of leaves with one of the above solutions and be sure that the soap/oil contacts the mealybugs. A second application may be required after 3-4 weeks

Note: Pesticides may be available to control this pest. Please check with the Ministry of Agriculture in your country to find out which pesticides are registered in your country and the local restrictions for their use.