### Cigar end rot on banana

*Verticillium theobromae and Trachsphaera fructigena*

#### Prevention
- Use tolerant varieties such as Grande Naine
- De-sucker banana stools to maintain 3-4 plants per stool
- Prune banana plants and shade trees to reduce humidity which may create favourable conditions for disease development
- Remove floral remains on tip of fingers manually 8-11 days after bunch formation
- Remove the male bud 15cm below the last hand (when the fingers have folded in)
- Harvest at maturity to reduce susceptibility to the disease
- Store in a cool dry place to reduce the incidences of the disease
- Minimize bruising of the fruits during harvesting and transportation

#### Monitoring
- Look out for:
  - A black necrosis spread from the flower into the tip of immature fingers which appears like a cigar-end.
  - Act after the first infestation is noticed.

#### Direct Control
- Remove collapsing, dying and dead leaves and burn to reduce inoculum levels.
- Remove and bury infected fingers to prevent spread of fungus.

#### Direct Control
- Spray affected bunches with fungicides such as:
  - Mancozeb (Dithane M45 at a rate of 60gms/20L of water)
  - Thiophanate methyl (Topsin M SC at a rate of 15mls/20L of water)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Direct Control</th>
<th>Restrictions</th>
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<tr>
<td>WHO Class U (Unlikely to present acute hazard in normal use)</td>
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#### Restrictions
- When using a pesticide, always wear protective clothing. Follow the instructions on the product label, such as dosage, timing of application, pre-harvest interval, max number of sprays, restricted re-entry interval. Do not empty into drains.
- Always consult recent list of registered pesticides (PCPB)

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**Kenya**

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