

## Control the bean stem maggot

### And Get high bean yields

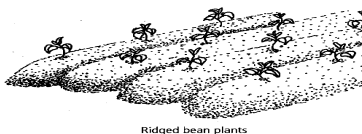


The bean stem maggot is a serious pest in the semi-arid areas of eastern Kenya. The leaves of damaged plants show mining tracks where the maggots feed. The lower parts of the stems become dry, swollen and cracked. Attack by this pest often causes death of young bean plants. Damage by the bean stem maggot is more serious in dry areas where yield losses can be as high as 50 to 100%.

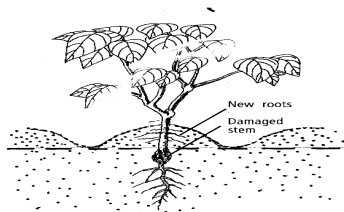
### How to control the bean stem maggot

Farmers in Machakos, Makindu and Kajiado have shown that you can control the bean stem maggot by doing one or more of these things:

- Plant early before the rains start.
- Treat bean seed using Murtano: Mix 1 packet of Murtano (10 gm) with 3 Kimbo (1 kg) tins of beans. Protect your hands with gloves or plastic bags.
- Remove remains of bean stems from the field after harvest. The pest may hide in the old stems and attack young beans in the following season.



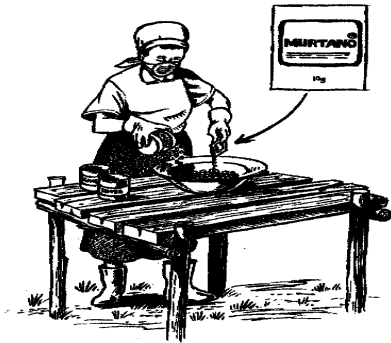
Ridged bean plants



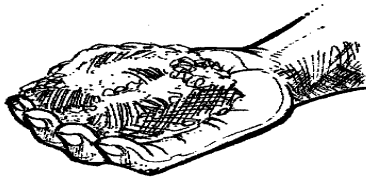
### Ridged bean plants

### New roots and Damaged stem

- Apply farmyard manure at planting: 1 handful in each planting hole. This makes the plant strong and able to recover from damage.
- Ridge plants with soil using a hand hoe or oxen plough. Ridging helps damaged plants form new roots and recover from pest damage.
- Apply 1 bottle top of DAP fertilizer between every 2 plants along each row. This makes the plant strong and able to recover from damage. (Fertilizer should only be used when the season is good).



Seed treatment using Murtano



One handful of farmyard manure in each planting hole



One bottle top of DAP fertilizer between 2 plants along each row

**For more information, contact:**

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