

# Managing birds in climbing beans

Climbing beans produce three times more, and are sweeter than bush beans. But Mouse birds can damage the harvest. This is the way to manage the birds.

Mouse birds are slender, brown or greyish, about 10cm long with a thin tail twice as long as their body. They are plant eaters, feed on young shoot, young leaves, flowers, fruits and seed. They move in groups of about 30 birds and can damage the entire field. They hide in nearby trees and banana plantations and damage is severe at flowering.

## Scaring devices

Put any scaring device before flowering and regularly change the scaring devices. You can also make sounds in the field in the early morning, to evict birds. If farmers plant in the same period, birds will do less damage to the harvest. Having banana and flowering plants around the bean field helps to distract the birds from the beans.