

Prevention and control of banana fusarium wilt

Fusarium wilt is a destructive soil borne fungus that easily moves on shoes and hoes however through using clean resistant planting materials can be a solution to already infected soils.

Fusarium wilt can easily be identified through, yellowing in older leaves which turn yellow from margins, collapsing of leaves at the petiole, stunted growth, failure to flower in young plants, colour discolouration in fruit stalk and splitting of longitudinal pseudo stem at the base.

Transmission

Through suckers from infected soils, movement of soil from infected fields on shoes and hoes.

Through using clean planting materials from clean fields.

By planting resistant banana varieties.

Substitute susceptible suckers with resistant varieties like FHIA 25, East African highland banana, Cavendish, FHIA 17.

Through crop rotation with cassava and maize to break the disease life cycle.