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Center for Smart Agriculture

Hi Tech Fruit Culture



Module 5: Pest And Disease Management
Session 3: Pine Apple Pests and Diseases



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Pests of Pineapple: Mealy/lace bug
(*Pseudococcus/Dysmicoccus brevipes*)

Diseases of Pineapple:

- Heart/stem rot (*Phytophthora parasitica*),
- Wilt (Virus),
- Fruit rot



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Diseases of Pineapple

1. Heart rot : *Phytophthora cinnamomi* *Phytophthora parasitica*

- In the field, heart rot of young plants is seen as a change in the colour of leaves from normal green to yellowish green and browning of leaf tips.
- The affected area has a foul odour due to secondary bacterial invasion.
- The rot extends into the stem of the plant producing a soft cheesy-like rotting condition.



Management:

- Deep planting should be avoided.
- Soil should not be allowed to enter the hearts during planting.
- Bordeaux mixture(1%) spray reduces the disease



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2) Wilt (Virus)

- Leaves develop characteristic bronzing starting from third or fourth whorl of leaves.
- The leaves show bright pink colour browning of the tips with downwards curling of the margin. Finally the tips dry up completely.
- The bright pink colour becomes dull and the root system collapses.



Management:

- Higher levels of nitrogen decreases the disease incidence.
- Diseased sucker can be recovered within 30-50 days by hot water or heat treatment at 50oc for 3 hours.



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4. PINK DISEASE: - *Pantoea citrea*

- The diseased fruit develops a pink-brown internal discoloration in the field or during the canning (heating) process.
- Heating causes the formation of red to rusty brown coloration of the usually golden yellow tissue.
- **Control:** Di-syston 10G [disulfoton], hand-dusted 4 times at 0.83 kg/ha on developing pineapple inflorescences significantly reduces pink disease.





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Pests of Pineapple: Mealy/lace bug
(*Pseudococcus/Dysmicoccus brevipes*)

- Both nymphs and adults suck the saps from young leaves and foliage causing the plant to wilt.
- when fruits are infested they become entirely covered with white, waxy coating making it unfit for marketing.





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Management:

- dip crowns in diazinon mixed with white oil to get rid of mealy bug incidence from planting material.
- use ant bait traps that are used in pineapple to allow predators and parasitoids the opportunity to control the mealy bugs naturally.
- spray of diazinon or synthetic pyrethroids to effectively control the pest



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Thank you