

HOW TO IDENTIFY BUNCHY TOP



Look for these symptoms:



New leaves are shorter, narrower and stand more upright, creating a 'bunched effect'.

Plant growth is stunted and the leaves roll slightly upwards and tend to become yellow or lighter green.



Dark green stripes along the mid-rib may also be present.



Short dot-dash lines along the veins of the youngest leaves (left), starting from the mid-rib.

Look at the underside, holding the leaf up to the sun. A magnifying glass will also help.



Aphids are NOT a sure sign that the plants are infected. Only aphids that have feet on an infected plant can spread the disease and aphids are commonly found on bananas.

One sign is that the plant is not throwing bunches or they are small and deformed. The plants get 'choked' at the top of the plant so they cannot throw a bunch.

If in doubt, take photographs of the plant, the leaf and the mid rib (see video on Banana Bunchy Top Project Facebook page) & send them to the Bunchy Top team and we can assist in identifying whether they have Bunchy Top or not. Send the photos via direct message on Facebook or email david.peasley@abgc.org.au.



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