

WHAT IS HAPPENING
TO OUR BANANAS ?

HOW TO CONTROL BANANA BACTERIAL WILT

BANANA BACTERIAL WILT IS A DISEASE THAT AFFECTS ALL VARIETIES OF BANANA. IT SPREADS EASILY VIA CUTTING TOOLS, INSECTS, BIRDS AND BROWSING ANIMALS. IT CAN CAUSE A COMPLETE LOSS OF HARVEST!

SYMPTOMS:



EARLY AND UNEVEN
RIPENING OF THE
BANANAS



LEAVES WILT, TURNING
YELLOW AND THEN BROWN



BANANA PULP HAS
BROWN STREAKS



SOMETIMES, THE
MALE BUD WILTS



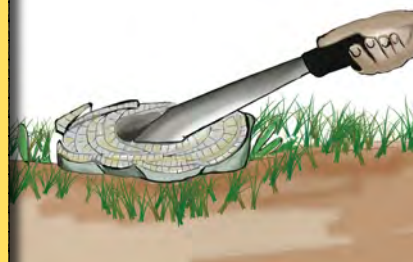
YELLOW OOZE
FROM CUT STEM



WHAT TO DO IF PLANTS ARE SICK



AFTER CUTTING, ALWAYS KILL THE PLANT BY REMOVING THE MERISTEM. DO THIS BY DIGGING A HOLE WITH THE MACHETE IN THE MIDDLE PORTION OF THE STUMP.



BECAUSE BANANA WILT DOESN'T SPREAD TO ALL PLANTS IN A BANANA MAT, CUT DOWN ONLY THE PLANTS THAT SHOW SYMPTOMS. CUT DOWN AT GROUND LEVEL. BE CAREFUL NOT TO CONTAMINATE THE SURROUNDING HEALTHY PLANTS WITH THE MACHETTE. REMOVE THE MERISTEM, THEN COVER THE EXPOSED STUMP WITH SOIL. LEAVE THE CUT STEM INTACT. CUT STEMS CAN ALSO BE ADDED TO A COMPOSTING HEAP.



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YOU CAN AVOID DAMAGE TO BEANS FROM FALLING PLANTS BY CUTTING IN TWO OR MORE STAGES.

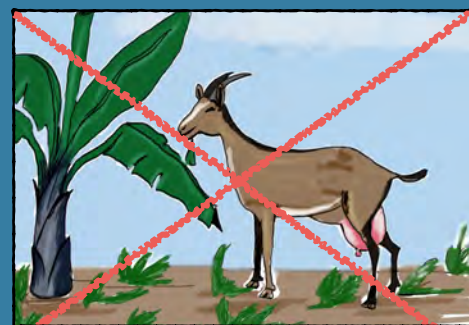
STOP INFECTIONS FROM SPREADING



AFTER CUTTING DOWN ALL SICK PLANTS, **DISINFECT** THE MACHETE IN FIRE.



DO NOT REMOVE ANY LEAVES OR HEALTHY SUCKERS FOR 4 MONTHS.



DO NOT LET GOATS, SHEEP OR COWS BROWSE AMONGST THE BANANAS.

HOW TO PREVENT BANANA WILT



IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE LAST HAND OF BANANAS HAS FORMED, **BREAK OFF THE FLOWER** USING A FORKED STICK.

REMEMBER TO INSPECT YOUR BANANA PLANTS **WEEKLY** FOR BANANA WILT SYMPTOMS! CUT DOWN ALL VISIBLY DISEASED PLANTS, INCLUDING DISEASED SUCKERS.