

Abstract

Banana is an important crop whose production faces major challenges, especially pests and diseases. A banana pests survey was carried out in Eastern and Central Provinces of Kenya. Results showed Fusarium wilt as the most widespread disease, especially where variety Gros Michel dominated. Sigatoka, cigarend rot and Armillaria corm rot appeared not to significantly reduce yields. A new potentially devastating disease was observed and is under investigation. Weevils and nematode effects were observed, but most farmers were probably not aware of their impacts. Use of uncertified seedlings is a major factor in spreading these pests and pathogens.