

Panama Disease Containment for Banana Farms

Insist on Whiteley Medical when ordering your Infection Control products

Panama disease is caused by the soil borne fungus *Fusarium oxysporum f. sp. Cubense*, and is also known as *Fusarium wilt*. Panama disease is considered to be the most destructive disease of bananas in modern times.

The disease is commonly spread with soil and water movement or on contaminated tools, equipment and motor vehicle wheels. Once established the Fungus can persist in the soil for many years.

The most effective control measure for Panama disease is the exclusion of the Fungus and simple farm hygiene procedures to contain the spread from infected farms to non-infected farms.

How do I implement a Containment Strategy?

Rigorous hygiene procedures for non-infected farms is currently the best method for minimising the spread of this devastating Banana disease.

Bactex CF is a liquid cationic sanitiser registered by the APVMA for the treatment of mould and bacteria on farming equipment. The in-built detergent system incorporated in Bactex CF is highly effective at removing soil and other contamination from vehicles and equipment.

Bactex CF is safe for use on most surfaces including all metal types, stainless steel, plastics and glass. Bactex CF should be diluted 10mL/Litre of water (1:100).

Once diluted the solution should be sprayed onto the surface for a contact time of at least 10 minutes. It is recommended to use a high pressure washer to rinse the surface to remove all soil and detergent residue.

Wash down areas should:

- Be readily accessible and located between the driveway and farm roads.
- Be well away from crops.
- Have access to power and water.
- Have a packed gravel or sealed concrete or bitumen surface.
- Not drain into a waterway or crop.
- Have a sump or collection area for easy inspection.

For further information on Bactex CF please contact

DP Cleaning Supplies on 07 4092 7582 or admin@dpcleaning.com.au



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