

SPOT THE SIGNS OF KAVA DIEBACK DISEASE

Know what to look for and act fast to protect your crop

Caused by: Cucumber Mosaic Virus (CMV) · Spread by: Aphids · Source: Infected planting material



SIGN 1

ON LEAVES

YELLOW PATCHES

Young leaves develop sharply defined yellow or white patches against a green background. The yellow patches and spots are the first visible signs of KDD.



SIGN 2

ON LEAVES

CRINKLING & PUCKERING

Leaves become curly, crinkly, and blistered along the veins. New leaves that grow follow this same pattern.



SIGN 3

CHECK STEMS TOO

CUT & LOOK INSIDE

Cut the stem of a suspicious leaf — brown lines inside confirm the rot has started. The inside turns brown before the outside turns black.



SIGN 4 – STEM ROT

ON STEMS – ACT IMMEDIATELY

BLACK SOFT ROT SPREADING FAST

The stem turns black and soft, starting at a node or the tip. The rot spreads quickly, causing the stem to collapse. This progression from leaf to stem to root can kill the whole plant if left untreated. Remove the infected stem immediately — break it off at the first node, bag it, and burn or bury it deep. Never cut with a knife as this spreads the virus to other plants.

IF YOU SPOT IT — ACT FAST

- 1 **Break off** the infected stem at the first node. Do not use a knife — it spreads the virus.
- 2 **Bag all leaves and stem** in a plastic, rice or fertiliser bag. Tie it shut.
- 3 **Remove from the farm** and burn or bury deep in the soil.
- 4 **Monitor weekly.** New stems on the same plant are often disease-free.
- 5 **Young plants (<1 yr):** Remove the entire plant and replant from nursery stock.



PROTECT YOUR KAVA

Contact Ministry of Agriculture and Waterways: 3384233 agrihelp@moa.gov.fj

Scan or click for Kava
Hub Resources