**Original Research Article**

**Survey of Banana Fusarium Fruit Rot under South Gujarat Condition**

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**A B S T R A C T**

This survey was carried out to identify the *Fusarium musae* for postharvest deterioration of banana fruits. The weekly survey carried out from the first week of June to fourth week of December, 2017 and 2018 revealed the presence of fusarium fruit rot at two locations of Navsari and Surat market for assessing the disease incidence. The highest incidence of banana fusarium fruit rot 10.80% and 11.00% were recorded in 3rd week of September and 2nd week of September in Navsari market during 2017 and 2018, respectively. Whereas, in Surat market, highest incidence of banana fusarium fruit rot 12.60% and 11.60% were recorded in 2nd week of September during 2017 and 2018, respectively.

**Keywords**
Banana, Fusarium fruit rot, *Fusarium musae*, Market survey, Post harvest

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**Introduction**

Banana (*Musa paradisiaca* L.) is one of the most important commercial fruit crop grown all over the world in the tropical and subtropical areas. It is the second largest fruit crop, belongs to family *Musaceae* in order *Zingiberales*. It is the most important fruit crop of south Gujarat region. The farmers prefer it because of its high demand as a fresh fruit in the market. Cultivated banana is susceptible to many diseases, mostly fungal pathogen which attacks various part of the plant from root to fruit. Bananas are highly perishable commodities with post-harvest losses estimated up to 25-30 per cent (Kachwaha *et al.*, 1991). Banana fruit suffers from many serious diseases such as crown-rot, anthracnose, pitting disease, squirter disease, fruit rot, finger-stalk rot, brown specks on fruit, cigar-end rot of fruit and brown spot disease are reported from different parts of the world. The current postharvest problems for bananas are mainly concerned with storage and marketing. The banana fruit infecting fungus *Fusarium musae* Van Hove was originally known as a distinct population within *Fusarium verticillioides*. An alternative hypothesis is that *Fusarium musae* is not only present on banana fruits, but also on other plant hosts or environmental sources (Triesta *et al.*, 2016). Post harvest diseases caused by various microbes had considerable influence nutritive value, harvesting,
transhipment and storage of fruits. However, much attention need to be paid to the studies on the economic aspect of fungal disease encountered during storage condition and it is necessary to stress upon finding the ways and means of saving the fruits from infection by various pathogenic microorganisms. In this connection, present investigation was undertaken to study the disease prevalence in Navsari and Surat markets.

Materials and Methods

Survey of fusarium fruit rot of banana was carried out at weekly intervals at Navsari market, Surat market and Horticulture and Organic Farm Navsari, for starting from 2017-18 to 2018-19. Five samples were selected randomly from retailers each containing 100 fruits from both the locations of market and was examined for the per cent disease incidence at each visit was calculate. Infected fruits representing different symptoms were collect at each visit and brought to the laboratory for isolation and symptomatological studies. The per cent fusarium fruit rot incidence was calculated by following standard formula given by Panse and Sukhatme (1985).

\[
\text{Per cent incidence} = \frac{\text{Number of infected fruits}}{\text{Total number of fruits}} \times 100
\]

Results and Discussion

The weekly survey carried out from the first week of June to fourth week of December during 2017 and 2018 revealed the presence of fusarium fruit rot at Navsari and Surat market for assessing the disease incidence of banana. The results of the survey are presented in table 1 and 2. The results indicated that the average of per cent disease incidence ranged from 6.47 to 6.67 per cent during 2017 and 7.67 to 7.45 per cent during 2018 at Navsari market and Surat market, respectively.

**Disease incidence of fusarium fruit rot of banana during 2017 in Navsari market**

The data presented in table 1 indicated that at Navsari market. The highest incidence of banana fusarium fruit rot (10.80%) was recorded in 3rd week of September followed by 2nd week of September (10.00%). Whereas, lowest per cent disease incidence was recorded in 1st week of June i.e., 0.60% during 2017.

**Disease incidence of fusarium fruit rot of banana during 2018 in Navsari market**

The data presented in table 1 indicated that at Navsari market. The highest incidence of banana fusarium fruit rot (11.00%) was recorded in 2nd week of September followed by 3rd week of September (10.40%). Whereas, lowest per cent disease incidence was recorded in 1st week of June i.e., 1.40% during 2018.

**Disease incidence of fusarium fruit rot of banana during 2017 in Surat market**

The data presented in table 2 indicated that at Surat market. The highest incidence of banana fusarium fruit rot (12.60%) was recorded in 2nd week of September followed by 3rd week of September (11.80%). Whereas, lowest per cent disease incidence was recorded in 2nd week of June i.e., 2.20% during 2017.

**Disease incidence of fusarium fruit rot of banana during 2018 in Surat market**

The data presented in table 2 indicated that at Surat market. The highest incidence of banana fusarium fruit rot (11.60%) was recorded in 2nd week of September followed by 1st week of September (10.00%). Whereas, lowest per cent disease incidence was recorded in 3rd week of June i.e., 2.00% during 2018.
The result was support with different scientist. Desai (1973) carried out survey at Navsari, Surat, Gandevi and Bardoli under south Gujarat condition and indicated that eight fungal and bacterial diseases associated with banana *viz.*, Fusarium fruit rot, deightoniella fruit spot, tip end rot, cigar end rot, black tip disease, dothiorella fruit spot, immature fruit rot and heart streaking splitting disease. Joshi (1985) surveyed of field and market of south Gujarat and reported various pre and post-harvest diseases of banana *viz.*, main stalk rot, crown rot, neak rot, watery fruit rot, cigar end rot, black spot, spitting peel, anthracnose, squirter disease, tip rot and premature ripening. Aoudou and Phalon (2017) surveyed markets located at Western Region, of Cameroon and recorded *Aspergillus, Colletotrichum, Fusarium* and *Vetricillium* were the most common genera that colonized banana, mango and safou fruits with different incidences.

**Table 1** Incidence of banana fusarium fruit rot at Navsari market during 2017 and 2018

| Sr. No. | Month   | Week | Per cent disease incidence |
|---------|---------|------|-----------------------------|
| 1       | June    | I    | 0.60                        |
| 2       |         | II   | 1.60                        |
| 3       |         | III  | 3.40                        |
| 4       |         | IV   | 3.80                        |
| 5       | July    | I    | 4.00                        |
| 6       |         | II   | 4.80                        |
| 7       |         | III  | 5.60                        |
| 8       |         | IV   | 7.00                        |
| 9       | August  | I    | 7.80                        |
| 10      |         | II   | 8.60                        |
| 11      |         | III  | 7.80                        |
| 12      |         | IV   | 8.00                        |
| 13      | September | I   | 7.00                        |
| 14      |         | II   | 10.00                       |
| 15      |         | III  | 10.80                       |
| 16      |         | IV   | 7.80                        |
| 17      | October | I    | 8.00                        |
| 18      |         | II   | 8.40                        |
| 19      |         | III  | 6.60                        |
| 20      |         | IV   | 7.60                        |
| 21      | November| I    | 6.60                        |
| 22      |         | II   | 7.40                        |
| 23      |         | III  | 7.80                        |
| 24      |         | IV   | 7.00                        |
| 25      | December| I    | 6.60                        |
| 26      |         | II   | 5.60                        |
| 27      |         | III  | 5.80                        |
| 28      |         | IV   | 5.20                        |
| Mean    |         |      | **6.47**                    | **6.67**                    |
Table.2 Incidence of banana fusarium fruit rot at Surat market during 2017 and 2018

| Sr. No. | Month       | Week | Per cent disease incidence |
|---------|-------------|------|-----------------------------|
|         |             |      | 2017 | 2018 |
| 1       | June        | I    | 2.40 | 3.40 |
| 2       | June        | II   | 2.20 | 3.80 |
| 3       | June        | III  | 3.80 | 2.00 |
| 4       | June        | IV   | 3.60 | 2.20 |
| 5       | July        | I    | 5.40 | 6.20 |
| 6       | July        | II   | 6.20 | 5.40 |
| 7       | July        | III  | 6.80 | 6.40 |
| 8       | July        | IV   | 7.60 | 7.40 |
| 9       | August      | I    | 9.60 | 9.00 |
| 10      | August      | II   | 10.20| 9.20 |
| 11      | August      | III  | 9.40 | 9.60 |
| 12      | August      | IV   | 9.80 | 8.80 |
| 13      | September   | I    | 9.00 | 10.00|
| 14      | September   | II   | 12.60| 11.60|
| 15      | September   | III  | 11.80| 9.60 |
| 16      | September   | IV   | 9.60 | 9.00 |
| 17      | October     | I    | 8.80 | 9.60 |
| 18      | October     | II   | 9.40 | 8.60 |
| 19      | October     | III  | 7.60 | 7.60 |
| 20      | October     | IV   | 8.20 | 9.00 |
| 21      | November    | I    | 7.40 | 7.00 |
| 22      | November    | II   | 8.40 | 8.00 |
| 23      | November    | III  | 9.00 | 9.00 |
| 24      | November    | IV   | 8.40 | 8.00 |
| 25      | December    | I    | 7.40 | 6.60 |
| 26      | December    | II   | 6.40 | 6.00 |
| 27      | December    | III  | 7.20 | 7.60 |
| 28      | December    | IV   | 6.60 | 8.00 |
| Mean    |             |      | 7.67 | 7.45 |

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