

Banana Bunchy Top Virus (BBTV) Tests available for BBTV in Hawaii County Testing banana leaves at ADSC Hilo



Testing banana leaf samples for BBTV in Summer 2022



Cooperative Extension received a grant for equipment to detect the presence of the Banana Bunchy Top Virus (BBTV) in samples of banana plants. The grant was approved by the County of Hawaii to lease a fluorometer to detect the presence of BBTV in samples of banana leaves, to support homeowners and commercial growers through this grant.

During Summer 2022, homeowners in the County of Hawaii can submit one sample for testing at no cost, while supplies last. Commercial growers in the County of Hawaii can submit up to two samples at no cost, while supplies last. For more information, email adschilo@hawaii.edu

Alternatively, samples for plant disease testing cost \$12 through ADSC. https://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/site/ADSC.aspx

How to sample for BBTV:

- 1. Select the third leaf from the top of the plant, not counting the youngest unfurled "cigar leaf."
- 2. Cut a 6-12 inch section from the center of the leaf, including the midrib. Submit the leaf lamina and the midrib together.
- 3. Keep the sample in a plastic bag in a cool, dry place and bring it to the nearest UH-CTAHR Cooperative Extension office, preferably on a Monday.



Hilo: Komohana Research and Extension Center, 875 Komohana St, Hilo, Phone: (808) 981-5199

Kona: Kona Extension Office 79-7381 Mamalahoa Hwy. Kealakekua, Phone: (808) 322-4892

Kamuela: Kamuela Extension Office, 67-5189 Kamamalu Rd, Kamuela, Phone: (808) 887-6183

For more information on BBTV:

https://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/bbtd/downloads/brochure1.pdf

https://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/oc/freepubs/pdf/PD-12.pdf