



VEGETATIVE GROWTH



REPRODUCTIVE STAGES AND RIPENING

Plant population

Plant stress

Black Sigatoka detection*

Plant vigor analysis

Drought analysis**

Canopy cover

* The management of Black leaf strike disease (BLSD) aims at conserving a minimum number of functional leaves until harvest to ensure normal growth and fruit quality (if possible). In commercial plantation of Cavendish and Plantain cultivars the disease is usually controlled through a combination of cultural, practice, such as de-leaving, and the application of fungicides, which are effective before the necrotic stages of the disease. Black Sigatoka (*Micospharella fijiensis/ Paracercospora fijiensis*) have an indirect effect on the physiology and the quality of the fruit (bananas harvested from the heavily infected plants cannot be exported because of premature ripening). Thus, BLSD could have a potential influence on banana susceptibility to post-harvest diseases, anthracnose, and crown rot. Fast detection of Black Sigatoka disease on large areas (Agremo can cover around 500 acres in less than two hours), will give farmers better insight of what to expect. Other diseases of the Banana plant could be analysed based on demands.

** Ground image of dry plant is necessary