

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:607  
ANSWERED ON:03.03.2008  
DISEASE IN BANANA CROP  
Jawale Shri Haribhau Madhav

**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has conducted any survey in regard to damage caused by Sigatoka disease to banana crop in the country particularly in Maharashtra;
- (b) if so, the details of estimated loss suffered by the banana producing farmers;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to give some financial aid to the farmers for the damage caused by the said disease to their crops; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA)

(a)&(b): A team comprising Officers from Directorate of Plant Protection Quarantine & Storage, (DPPQ&S) Faridabad; Central Integrated Plant Management Centres, Nagpur, a sub office of the DPPQ&S, Horticulturist, Banana Research station, ICAR, Jalgaon, and an officer from State Agriculture Department, Maharashtra was constituted to survey the disease affected areas and assess the loss caused by the disease, in consultation with the Director of Horticulture, Government of Maharashtra.

(b): The team has reported that the older plantation is more severely attacked by the disease. The damage in young plantation is 10 to 15 %. Mahalaxmi variety seems to be more susceptible, where higher damage was observed.

(c)&(d): Under State Plant Protection Scheme, grant of Rs.21 lakh has been released to A.D.O., Zilla Parishad, Jalgaon, for supply of recommended fungicides on 50% subsidy at block level to the farmers. The Government of India as well as the State are taking appropriate measures for protecting the Banana crop including widespread dissemination of information on the disease, its management and corrective action.