

MAIZE LETHAL NECROSIS DISEASE (MLND)





SYMPTOMS OF MLND

- Leaves: Fine chlorotic specks starting from the base of young leaves in the whorl; specks merge to produce chlorotic stripes leading to premature drying/ burnt appearance and entire leaf death.
- Stem: Short internodes, stunted growth, drying leaf sheaths.
- Tassels: Deformed male flowers and infertile tassels.
- Ears: Malformed ears, premature drying, partially filled cobs, moldy rotting ears.

MANAGEMENT OF MLND

- Seed: Use certified seeds; avoid recycling of seed.
- Varieties: Use recommended MLND tolerant varieties, suitable for your area.
- Farm hygiene: Use clean farm tools/equipment, remove infested maize debris and destroy alternative host plants/volunteer maize plants.
- Agronomic practices: Practice timely planting, rogue out diseased plants, crop rotation with non MLND host crops (sweet potato, Irish potato, sunflower, pyrethrum, etc), and use of manure and recommended fertilizers. Avoid relay planting of maize.
- Pest Management: Scout regularly for insect damage and diseased plants, use recommended pesticides to control insect vectors.
- Postharvest management: Practice timely harvesting, sorting, drying and proper storage.
- Closed Season: Observe a closed maize season of at least 3 months.

Recommended pesticides: Seed dressers: PONCHO 600 FS; CRIUSER 600 FS; BELLAMID 600 FS; MARATHON 250 FSL; SEEDPRID 600 FS; SEEDPOWER 250 FS; AMIGO GT 275 FS; SADDLER 350 SC; SHIELD 600 FS and GAUCHO FLEXX FS 600 Foliar: THUNDER OD 145















