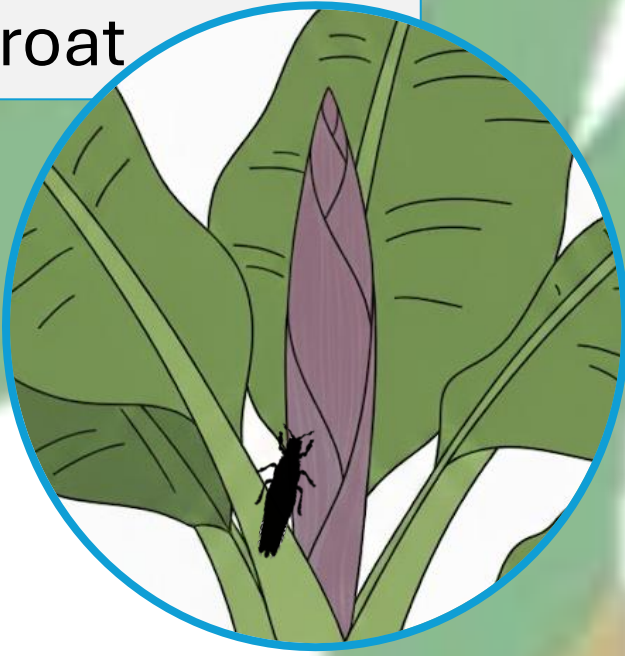
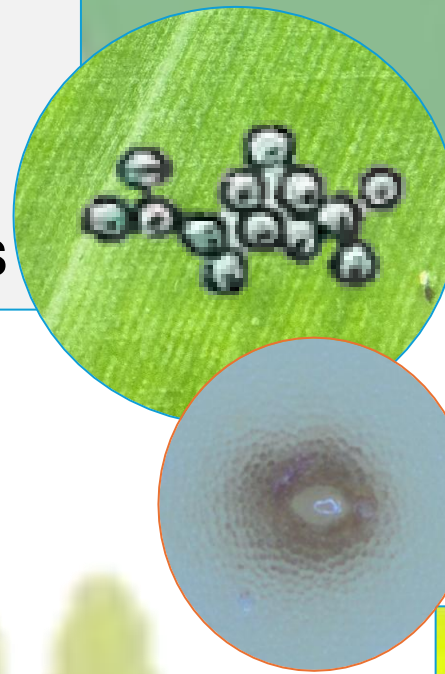


Banana flower thrips life cycle & biology

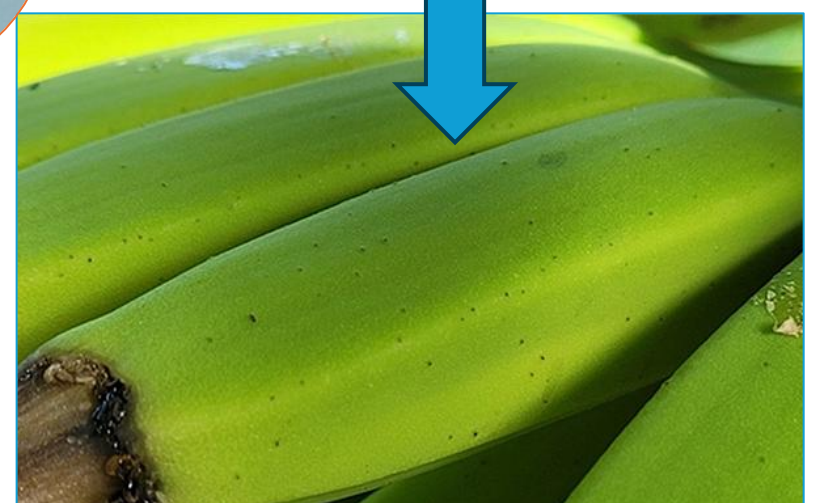
1. Adults (1 mm length) can inhabit the bunch as it emerges from the throat



2. Adults move into emerging bunches, sheltering under bracts and in florets

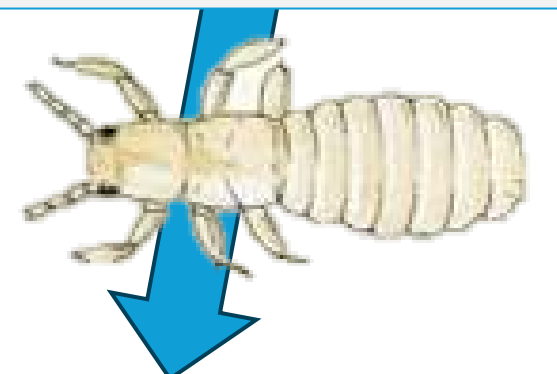


3. Females lay eggs (oviposition) in developing fruit and bracts, causing black raised bumps¹



Egg laying damage

4. Eggs hatch into feeding nymphs (< 1mm) after ~2-3 days, developing through several stages (instars) feeding on fruit and bracts



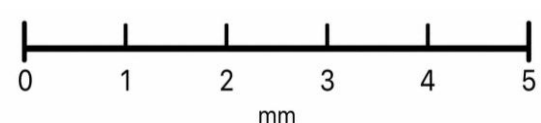
5. Thrips actively move down the bunch to remain protected under bracts

7. Adults emerge after ~4-7 days and repeat the cycle.

(*Thrips hawaiiensis*)

Immature

Adult



6. Pupation (non-feeding stage) occurs on the bunch (between fingers, inside florets, and on bracts).



Full cycle completed
~14 – 21 days

Cycle completed on the bunch only



Bract feeding

Seasonality: Present year-round, higher pressure in warm, wet conditions

Critical control:



Severe feeding damage – corky scab