

# Pineapple

## Disorders

### Multiple Crowns

Ordinarily fruit bears a single crown but in some cases fruit bears more than one. Consequently the top of the fruit will be flat and broad and fruit will be unfit for canning. Such fruits taste insipid and are corky. It is supposed to be a heritable character, found mostly in Cayenne group to which the variety Kew belongs.

### Fruit and Crown Fasciation

Fasciated fruits are deformed to such an extent that they are totally useless. In certain cases, proliferation is so extreme that fruit is highly flattened and twisted with innumerable crowns. Fruits and crowns fasciation is associated with high vigour of plants, which take longer time to flower. High fertility of soil, warm weather and calcium or zinc deficiency may favour fasciation.

### Collar of Slips

The collar of slips is typified by the presence of a large number of slips arising from stem close to the base of the fruit, or even directly from the fruits itself. The excessive slip growth is at the expense of the fruit, resulting in small, tapered fruits, often with knobs at the base. High nitrogen fertilization and high rainfall along with relatively low temperature are supposed to be congenial for such an abnormality (Ganapathy et al., 1977). ICAR pineapple

### Dry Fruit and Bottle Neck

The dry fruit and bottle neck fruit types are very similar and may be derived from the same parent. In dry fruit type, fruit is small, flowers are absent and fruitlets do not develop. In bottle neck, lower fruitlets develop normally and upper ones do not develop and give the same appearance as dry fruits. Suckers are freely produced from both the types.

### Sun-Scald

This results when plant leans or falls over to one side, thus exposing one side of the fruit to direct sunlight. The cells of the exposed surface get damaged. Later shell surface assumes a brownish to black colour and cracks may appear between fruitlets. Affected fruits soon rot and become infested with pests. They must be cut as soon as noticed and safely disposed of where they will not contaminate other fruits. In high-density planting, intensity of sun-scald is very much minimised. Under favourable climates where leaf growth is luxuriant, leaves can be tied around the fruits to protect them from sun-scald. The other method is to cover sun-exposed portion of the fruit with dry straw or grass or with any other locally available materials.