

APHID ALERT SUMMARY

This alert summarises up-to-date results from the Rothamsted/SASA suction-trap (ST) network and the FERA yellow water-pan trap (YWT) network. Further details of the ST results can be found below and further details of the YWT results can be found at www.potato.org.uk/online-toolbox/aphid-monitoring.

GENERAL

Aphid flight activity dropped for a second consecutive week due to continued unsettled weather and rapidly mounting pressure from natural enemies.

CEREALS

Grain aphid (*Sitobion avenae*) numbers have increased a little this week as they leave ripening crops, but cereal aphid numbers overall remain low for the time of year. There have been no reports of significant numbers of cereal aphids in crops. The threshold for control is 66% of tillers infested from GS61 to two weeks before the end of grain filling, but many crops are clearly already beyond this stage. The first barley crops have been harvested in East Anglia and southern England on lighter land, but the winter wheat harvest is yet to begin.

POTATOES

Virus pressure continued to drop throughout the country, but remains high in the midlands and the south west, but low across Scotland. Numbers of the peach-potato aphid (*Myzus persicae*) have fallen again this week, and are now low everywhere. Numbers of the black bean aphid (*Aphis fabae*) are dropping, but this species continues to drive much of the virus pressure. This species is a good vector of PVA, so PVA-susceptible varieties may be especially at risk. Cereal aphids remain at low levels for the time of year. Further regional information on potato virus vectors can be accessed here: www.potato.org.uk/online-toolbox/aphid-monitoring.

OILSEED RAPE

Aphids are no longer an issue in most crops with harvesting well underway in East Anglia and southern England on lighter land.

FIELD BRASSICAS and LEAFY VEGETABLES

Numbers of the mealy cabbage aphid (*Brevicoryne brassicae*) have risen this week in central England. The currant-lettuce aphid (*Nasonovia ribisnigri*) was caught in the suction-traps at Writtle and Hereford.

CARROTS

The numbers of the willow-carrot aphid (*Cavariella aegopodii*) flying are now very low everywhere.

PEAS and BEANS

Field reports suggest numbers of the black bean aphid (*Aphis fabae*) remains high in crops across much of England. The threshold for spraying is 10% of plants infested where the pods are still filling. Numbers of the pea aphid (*Acyrtosiphon pisum*) have risen a little in our traps and reports indicate they are common in peas, particularly in eastern England. Combining peas should be sprayed when around 20% of plants are infested and vining peas when 15% are infested.

SUCTION-TRAPPING RESULTS



The information below relates to suction-trap samples collected during bulletin week 15:13/7 – 19/7.

- Grain aphid (*Sitobion avenae*) numbers have increased a little this week as they leave ripening crops, but cereal aphid numbers overall remain low for the time of year.
- Numbers of the peach-potato aphid (*Myzus persicae*) have fallen again this week, and are now low everywhere.
- The potato aphid (*Macrosiphum euphorbiae*) was caught in low numbers at eight sites.
- The numbers of the willow-carrot aphid (*Cavariella aegopodii*) are now low everywhere.
- The mealy cabbage aphid (*Brevicoryne brassicae*) was caught at ten sites this week, with high numbers at Wellesbourne (855) and Hereford (413).
- Numbers of the pea aphid (*Acyrtosiphon pisum*) increased at nine sites this week, with accumulated numbers highest at Starcross.
- Numbers of the black bean aphid (*Aphis fabae*) remain high, but are now decreasing across much of England.
- Numbers of aphid predators (hoverflies, ladybirds and lacewings) are increasing in our trap samples and field reports suggest are now much more common in the field.

Suction-trap sites

The tables below show current and accumulated totals with comparisons to previous years. '/' indicates that identifications have not been completed and '*' indicates where totals have been corrected proportionally to seven days, because fewer days' samples having been identified.

Rose-grain aphid (*Metopolophium dirhodum*)

| Rose-grain aphid (<i>Metopolophium dirhodum</i>) | Bulletin Week Totals 13/07-19/07 | | | | Accumulated until 19/07 | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|------|-------------------------|----------------------------|------|-------------------------|
| | 2015 | Compared to last Bulletin week | 2014 | 10-year average 2005-14 | 2015 | 2014 | 10-year average 2005-14 |
| Dundee | 25* | ↑ | 640 | 977 | 45 | / | 1631 |
| Gogarbank (Edinburgh) | 45 | ↑ | 24 | 139 | 79 | 169 | 499 |
| Newcastle | 0* | ↓ | 30 | 59 | 16 | / | 149 |
| York | 5* | ↓ | N/A | N/A | 49 | N/A | N/A |
| Preston | 2* | ↓ | 8 | 26 | 75 | / | 355 |
| Kirton | 11 | ↑ | / | 134 | 163 | / | 1235 |
| Broom's Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds) | 8 | ↑ | 1 | 102 | 231 | 133 | 1149 |
| Wellesbourne | 0* | ↓ | 12 | 49 | 276 | / | 402 |
| Hereford | 21* | ↓ | 10 | 79 | 272 | 91 | 489 |
| Rothamsted (Harpenden) | 4 | ↓ | 10 | 59 | 150 | 146 | 629 |
| Writtle | 0* | ↓ | 5 | 64 | 103 | 236 | 639 |
| Silwood Park (nr Ascot) | 5* | ↓ | / | 6 | 94 | / | 176 |
| Wye | 26* | ↑ | / | 44 | 74 | / | 255 |
| Starcross (nr Exeter) | 4* | ↓ | 21 | 13 | 392 | 933 | 342 |

The rose-grain aphid was caught at eleven sites this week, with a minor hotspot at Edinburgh (45), but numbers decreased at nine sites. Accumulated numbers are below the ten year average everywhere except Starcross.

Bird cherry–oat aphid (*Rhopalosiphum padi*)

| Bird cherry–oat aphid (<i>Rhopalosiphum padi</i>) | Bulletin Week Totals | | | | Accumulated until | | |
|--|-------------------------|---|------|-------------------------------|----------------------|------|-------------------------------|
| | 2015 | Compared to last Bulletin week | 2014 | 10-year average 2005-14 | 2015 | 2014 | 10-year average 2005-14 |
| Dundee | 0* | ↓ | 447 | 303 | 12 | / | 846 |
| Gogarbank (Edinburgh) | 0 | | 101 | 65 | 5 | 336 | 720 |
| Newcastle | 0* | | 47 | 33 | 4 | / | 303 |
| York | 2* | ↓ | N/A | N/A | 22 | N/A | N/A |
| Preston | 0* | ↓ | 28 | 30 | 15 | / | 140 |
| Kirton | 16 | ↑ | / | 71 | 85 | / | 765 |
| Broom's Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds) | 5 | ↑ | 5 | 76 | 52 | 90 | 817 |
| Wellesbourne | 1* | ↓ | 33 | 93 | 17 | / | 264 |
| Hereford | 5* | ↑ | 41 | 53 | 31 | 118 | 251 |
| Rothamsted (Harpenden) | 3 | ↑ | 42 | 54 | 25 | 121 | 385 |
| Writtle | 6* | ↑ | 22 | 52 | 75 | 178 | 472 |
| Silwood Park (nr Ascot) | 5* | ↑ | / | 28 | 22 | / | 240 |
| Wye | 8* | ↑ | / | 55 | 47 | / | 285 |
| Starcross (nr Exeter) | 2* | ↓ | 68 | 72 | 78 | 292 | 408 |

The bird cherry–oat aphid was caught at ten sites in very low numbers. The accumulated numbers are below average.

Grain aphid (*Sitobion avenae*)

| Grain aphid (<i>Sitobion avenae</i>) | Bulletin Week Totals | | | | Accumulated until | | |
|---|-------------------------|---|------|-------------------------------|----------------------|------|-------------------------------|
| | 2015 | Compared to last Bulletin week | 2014 | 10-year average 2005-14 | 2015 | 2014 | 10-year average 2005-14 |
| Dundee | 4* | ↓ | 587 | 150 | 26 | / | 305 |
| Gogarbank (Edinburgh) | 18 | ↑ | 139 | 55 | 27 | 347 | 232 |
| Newcastle | 6* | ↑ | 54 | 46 | 10 | / | 114 |
| York | 49* | ↓ | N/A | N/A | 252 | N/A | N/A |
| Preston | 16* | ↑ | 63 | 63 | 60 | / | 281 |
| Kirton | 4 | ↑ | / | 269 | 38 | / | 1092 |
| Broom's Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds) | 12 | ↑ | 5 | 220 | 60 | 149 | 986 |
| Wellesbourne | 22* | ↓ | 78 | 268 | 88 | / | 826 |
| Hereford | 88* | ↑ | 81 | 163 | 229 | 217 | 568 |
| Rothamsted (Harpenden) | 13 | ↑ | 99 | 315 | 58 | 309 | 1141 |
| Writtle | 14* | ↑ | 92 | 270 | 66 | 553 | 1101 |
| Silwood Park (nr Ascot) | 16* | ↑ | / | 100 | 75 | / | 542 |
| Wye | 8* | ↑ | / | 450 | 36 | / | 685 |
| Starcross (nr Exeter) | 140* | ↑ | 105 | 71 | 368 | 343 | 441 |

Numbers of grain aphid increased at thirteen sites this week, with hotspots at Hereford (88) and Starcross (140). The accumulated numbers are below average for the time of year.

Peach–potato aphid (*Myzus persicae*)

| Peach–potato aphid (<i>Myzus persicae</i>) | Bulletin Week Totals | | | | Accumulated until | | |
|---|-------------------------|---|------|-------------------------------|----------------------|------|-------------------------------|
| | 2015 | Compared to last Bulletin week | 2014 | 10-year average 2005-14 | 2015 | 2014 | 10-year average 2005-14 |
| Dundee | 0* | ↓ | 5 | 3 | 10 | / | 10 |
| Gogarbank (Edinburgh) | 3 | ↑ | 2 | 1 | 30 | 6 | 10 |
| Newcastle | 8* | ↓ | 5 | 2 | 32 | / | 15 |
| York | 21* | ↓ | N/A | N/A | 432 | N/A | N/A |
| Preston | 9* | ↓ | 5 | 2 | 154 | / | 110 |
| Kirton | 8 | ↓ | / | 26 | 2330 | / | 412 |
| Broom's Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds) | 2 | ↓ | 1 | 49 | 2170 | 1351 | 728 |
| Wellesbourne | 15* | ↓ | 5 | 6 | 1194 | / | 368 |
| Hereford | 7* | ↓ | 3 | 10 | 697 | 105 | 121 |
| Rothamsted (Harpenden) | 39 | ↑ | 3 | 74 | 1051 | 520 | 427 |
| Writtle | 4* | ↓ | 5 | 53 | 1661 | 1158 | 751 |
| Silwood Park (nr Ascot) | 7* | ↑ | / | 2 | 129 | / | 56 |
| Wye | 9* | ↓ | / | 16 | 588 | / | 190 |
| Starcross (nr Exeter) | 11* | | 4 | 7 | 891 | 168 | 90 |

The peach–potato aphid was caught at thirteen sites this week. Numbers fell at ten sites, but the accumulated totals are above the 10 yr averages throughout the Country.

Potato aphid (*Macrosiphum euphorbiae*)

| Potato aphid (<i>Macrosiphum euphorbiae</i>) | Bulletin Week Totals | | | | Accumulated until | | |
|---|-------------------------|---|------|-------------------------------|----------------------|------|-------------------------------|
| | 2015 | Compared to last Bulletin week | 2014 | 10-year average 2005-14 | 2015 | 2014 | 10-year average 2005-14 |
| Dundee | 2* | ↓ | 5 | 6 | 8 | / | 20 |
| Gogarbank (Edinburgh) | 2 | ↑ | 2 | 4 | 13 | 27 | 47 |
| Newcastle | 1* | ↑ | 2 | 4 | 12 | / | 19 |
| York | 0* | ↓ | N/A | N/A | 19 | N/A | N/A |
| Preston | 0* | | 0 | 1 | 40 | / | 28 |
| Kirton | 0 | ↓ | / | 6 | 75 | / | 65 |
| Broom's Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds) | 0 | ↓ | 0 | 4 | 19 | 29 | 48 |
| Wellesbourne | 6* | ↑ | 0 | 5 | 50 | / | 42 |
| Hereford | 12* | ↑ | 0 | 9 | 98 | 31 | 78 |
| Rothamsted (Harpenden) | 6 | ↑ | 1 | 3 | 23 | 13 | 26 |
| Writtle | 3* | ↑ | 0 | 3 | 51 | 35 | 46 |
| Silwood Park (nr Ascot) | 1* | ↑ | / | 2 | 29 | / | 18 |
| Wye | 0* | | / | 2 | 6 | / | 19 |
| Starcross (nr Exeter) | 0* | ↓ | 1 | 1 | 56 | 21 | 40 |

The potato aphid was caught at eight sites this week in low numbers, with highest numbers at Hereford (12).

Mealy Cabbage aphid (*Brevicoryne brassicae*)

| Cabbage aphid (<i>Brevicoryne brassicae</i>) | Bulletin Week Totals 13/07-19/07 | | | | Accumulated until 19/07 | | |
|---|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|------|-------------------------|-------------------------|------|-------------------------|
| | 2015 | Compared to last Bulletin week | 2014 | 10-year average 2005-14 | 2015 | 2014 | 10-year average 2005-14 |
| Dundee | 0* | | 0 | 1 | 0 | / | 3 |
| Gogarbank (Edinburgh) | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| Newcastle | 0* | | 0 | 0 | 4 | / | 8 |
| York | 14* | | N/A | N/A | 109 | N/A | N/A |
| Preston | 0* | ↓ | 2 | 1 | 7 | / | 25 |
| Kirton | 50 | ↓ | / | 12 | 920 | / | 93 |
| Broom's Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds) | 10 | ↓ | 0 | 29 | 188 | 43 | 260 |
| Wellesbourne | 855* | ↑ | 9 | 17 | 4682 | / | 376 |
| Hereford | 413* | ↑ | 4 | 8 | 1191 | 11 | 142 |
| Rothamsted (Harpenden) | 14 | ↓ | 3 | 19 | 152 | 21 | 228 |
| Writtle | 14* | ↓ | 1 | 29 | 564 | 122 | 607 |
| Silwood Park (nr Ascot) | 47* | ↓ | / | 5 | 139 | / | 61 |
| Wye | 51* | ↓ | / | 19 | 348 | / | 92 |
| Starcross (nr Exeter) | 65* | ↑ | 14 | 12 | 192 | 70 | 168 |

The mealy cabbage aphid was caught at ten sites this week, with hotspots at Wellesbourne (855), and Hereford (413). Accumulated numbers are above the 10-year averages at Wellesbourne, Kirton, Hereford and Wye.

Willow-carrot aphid (*Cavariella aegopodii*)

| Willow-carrot aphid (<i>Cavariella aegopodii</i>) | Bulletin Week Totals 13/07-19/07 | | | | Accumulated until 19/07 | | |
|--|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|------|-------------------------|-------------------------|------|-------------------------|
| | 2015 | Compared to last Bulletin week | 2014 | 10-year average 2005-14 | 2015 | 2014 | 10-year average 2005-14 |
| Dundee | 4* | ↓ | 2 | 5 | 77 | / | 75 |
| Gogarbank (Edinburgh) | 3 | ↑ | 0 | 3 | 232 | 98 | 88 |
| Newcastle | 4* | ↓ | 2 | 3 | 109 | / | 109 |
| York | 0* | ↓ | N/A | N/A | 454 | N/A | N/A |
| Preston | 0* | ↓ | 2 | 2 | 545 | / | 545 |
| Kirton | 8 | ↓ | / | 4 | 1978 | / | 612 |
| Broom's Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds) | 16 | ↑ | 0 | 7 | 1979 | 375 | 737 |
| Wellesbourne | 0* | ↓ | 0 | 1 | 1169 | / | 434 |
| Hereford | 2* | ↑ | 0 | 3 | 366 | 60 | 390 |
| Rothamsted (Harpenden) | 0 | | 0 | 5 | 1412 | 103 | 380 |
| Writtle | 3* | ↑ | 0 | 3 | 2400 | 148 | 833 |
| Silwood Park (nr Ascot) | 0* | ↓ | / | 1 | 671 | / | 238 |
| Wye | 4* | ↑ | / | 0 | 1073 | / | 360 |
| Starcross (nr Exeter) | 2* | ↓ | 3 | 2 | 346 | 42 | 158 |

The willow-carrot aphid was caught at nine sites this week, with numbers highest at Broom's Barn (16). Numbers decreased at eight sites and are now low everywhere.

Pea aphid (*Acyrtosiphon pisum*)

| Pea aphid (<i>Acyrtosiphon pisum</i>) | Bulletin Week Totals 13/07-19/07 | | | | Accumulated until 19/07 | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|------|-------------------------|----------------------------|------|-------------------------|
| | 2015 | Compared to last Bulletin week | 2014 | 10-year average 2005-14 | 2015 | 2014 | 10-year average 2005-14 |
| Dundee | 2* | ↓ | 12 | 16 | 6 | / | 58 |
| Gogarbank (Edinburgh) | 8 | ↑ | 6 | 4 | 17 | 26 | 38 |
| Newcastle | 0* | | 5 | 4 | 1 | / | 25 |
| York | 7* | ↑ | N/A | N/A | 26 | N/A | N/A |
| Preston | 1* | ↑ | 2 | 3 | 12 | / | 49 |
| Kirton | 18 | ↓ | / | 101 | 188 | / | 959 |
| Broom's Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds) | 14 | ↓ | 2 | 102 | 66 | 125 | 647 |
| Wellesbourne | 43* | ↑ | 87 | 110 | 127 | / | 384 |
| Hereford | 12* | ↑ | 14 | 34 | 52 | 37 | 141 |
| Rothamsted (Harpenden) | 24 | ↑ | 35 | 96 | 106 | 169 | 446 |
| Writtle | 25* | ↑ | 20 | 117 | 148 | 264 | 786 |
| Silwood Park (nr Ascot) | 15* | ↑ | / | 24 | 43 | / | 138 |
| Wye | 20* | ↓ | / | 106 | 101 | / | 338 |
| Starcross (nr Exeter) | 25* | ↑ | 9 | 19 | 260 | 86 | 133 |

The pea aphid was caught at thirteen sites this week, with numbers increasing slightly at nine sites. Accumulated numbers are below the 10yr averages everywhere except Starcross.

Further information

Please send information on crop aphids to: mark-s.taylor@rothamsted.ac.uk

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