

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

This is the last planned bulletin of the summer season as many crops are now past the stage at which aphids cause problems, but if any particular issues arise we will report them. The regular series of autumn bulletins, especially relevant in relation to barley yellow dwarf virus and turnip yellows virus will begin in mid-September.

In summary for the year to date, we were predicting average first flights and this was realised for most species in England, but things were a little later in Scotland. This was then followed by above average summer flights of black bean aphid (*Aphis fabae*), peach-potato aphid (*Myzus persicae*) and willow-carrot aphid (*Cavariella aegopodii*) in England, although not in Scotland. Cereal aphids have been conspicuous by their relative absence so far this year, but it's too early to predict accurately what will happen in autumn.

CEREALS

Cereal aphid numbers overall remain low for the time of year. There have been no reports of significant numbers of cereal aphids in crops. Winter barley crops are being harvested across England in between frustrating rain delays.

POTATOES

Virus pressure has begun to drop throughout the Country and is now low in all regions except northern England. 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 also 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 in all regions this week.

In Scotland the potato crop is that much later and the three main cereal aphids may contribute to PVY vector pressure through August, but there is no sign of a migration as yet. Further regional information on potato virus vectors can be accessed through August here: www.potato.org.uk/online-toolbox/aphid-monitoring.

OILSEED RAPE

Harvesting is in progress, but somewhat delayed by the recent wet weather. Aphids are no longer an issue in most crops.

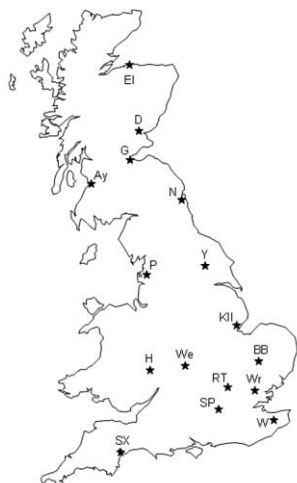
FIELD BRASSICAS and CARROTS

Numbers of the mealy cabbage aphid (*Brevicoryne brassicae*) have fallen this week. Single currant-lettuce aphids (*Nasonovia ribisnigri*) were caught in the suction-traps at Hereford, Rothamsted and Starcross this week.

PEAS and BEANS

Field reports suggest the high numbers of the black bean aphid (*Aphis fabae*) have started to decline 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 fallen in the traps. The earliest crops have now been harvested, but late crops of 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 16:20/7 – 26/7.

- Cereal aphid numbers are very 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 numbers of the willow–carrot aphid (*Cavariella aegopodii*) are now low everywhere.
- The mealy cabbage aphid (*Brevicoryne brassicae*) was caught at nine sites this week, with highest numbers at Wellesbourne (48) and Hereford (47).
- Numbers of the pea aphid (*Acyrtosiphon pisum*) decreased at most sites this week.
- Numbers of the black bean aphid (*Aphis fabae*) are now decreasing across much of England.
- Numbers of aphid predators (hoverflies, ladybirds and lacewings) are increasing in our trap samples and field reports reinforce heightened natural enemy activity.

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 20/07-26/07				Accumulated until 26/07		
	2015	Compared to last Bulletin week	2014	10-year average 2005-14	2015	2014	10-year average 2005-14
Dundee	14*	↓	432	1354	59	/	2986
Gogarbank (Edinburgh)	6	↓	32	98	85	201	598
Newcastle	7*	↑	6	55	23	/	204
York	8	↑	N/A	N/A	57	N/A	N/A
Preston	0	↓	/	20	75	/	375
Kirton	2	↓	5	242	165	/	1477
Broom’s Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds)	4	↓	4	71	235	137	1220
Wellesbourne	2	↑	5	11	278	/	414
Hereford	9	↓	4	37	281	95	527
Rothamsted (Harpenden)	3	↓	3	23	153	149	652
Writtle	1*	↑	6	63	105	242	702
Silwood Park (nr Ascot)	2	↓	2	3	96	/	178
Wye	1	↓	0	13	75	/	269
Starcross (nr Exeter)	5	↑	23	8	397	956	350

The rose–grain aphid was caught at thirteen sites this week, 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 20/07-26/07				Accumulated until 26/07		
	2015	Compared to last Bulletin week	2014	10-year average 2005-14	2015	2014	10-year average 2005-14
Dundee	0*		796	363	12	/	1209
Gogarbank (Edinburgh)	0		192	119	5	528	839
Newcastle	0*		34	41	4	/	343
York	2	↓	N/A	N/A	24	N/A	N/A
Preston	2	↑	/	46	17	/	186
Kirton	1	↓	56	130	86	/	895
Broom's Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds)	7	↑	32	61	59	122	878
Wellesbourne	4	↑	64	70	21	/	333
Hereford	9	↑	36	72	40	154	323
Rothamsted (Harpenden)	2	↓	46	66	27	167	450
Writtle	0*	↓	82	63	75	260	535
Silwood Park (nr Ascot)	1	↓	42	34	23	/	274
Wye	0	↓	55	61	47	/	345
Starcross (nr Exeter)	5	↑	101	106	83	393	514

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

Grain aphid (*Sitobion avenae*)

Grain aphid (<i>Sitobion avenae</i>)	Bulletin Week Totals 20/07-26/07				Accumulated until 26/07		
	2015	Compared to last Bulletin week	2014	10-year average 2005-14	2015	2014	10-year average 2005-14
Dundee	33*	↑	222	398	60	/	703
Gogarbank (Edinburgh)	8	↓	103	157	35	450	389
Newcastle	11*	↑	26	60	21	/	174
York	24	↓	N/A	N/A	276	N/A	N/A
Preston	5	↓	/	75	65	/	356
Kirton	1	↓	33	353	39	/	1445
Broom's Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds)	5	↓	15	164	65	164	1150
Wellesbourne	4	↓	17	230	92	/	1056
Hereford	22	↓	28	169	251	245	737
Rothamsted (Harpenden)	6	↓	38	226	64	347	1366
Writtle	11*	↓	49	260	77	602	1360
Silwood Park (nr Ascot)	11	↓	15	120	86	/	661
Wye	5	↓	18	121	41	/	806
Starcross (nr Exeter)	22	↓	61	64	390	404	505

The grain aphid was caught at all fourteen sites this week, but numbers decreased at twelve sites. 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 20/07-26/07				Accumulated until 26/07		
	2015	Compared to last Bulletin week	2014	10-year average 2005-14	2015	2014	10-year average 2005-14
Dundee	0*		9	4	10	/	14
Gogarbank (Edinburgh)	1	↓	2	1	31	8	11
Newcastle	4*	↓	1	2	36	/	17
York	2	↓	N/A	N/A	434	N/A	N/A
Preston	4	↓	/	2	158	/	112
Kirton	4	↓	0	44	2334	/	456
Broom's Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds)	1	↓	0	47	2171	1351	776
Wellesbourne	4	↓	0	4	1198	/	371
Hereford	5	↓	0	16	702	105	137
Rothamsted (Harpenden)	4	↓	0	24	1055	520	451
Writtle	6*	↑	8	31	1666	1166	782
Silwood Park (nr Ascot)	0	↓	0	0	129	/	57
Wye	2	↓	0	7	590	/	197
Starcross (nr Exeter)	9	↓	0	9	900	168	99

The peach–potato aphid was caught at twelve sites this week. Numbers fell at most sites and are now low, 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 20/07-26/07				Accumulated until 26/07		
	2015	Compared to last Bulletin week	2014	10-year average 2005-14	2015	2014	10-year average 2005-14
Dundee	2*		5	17	9	/	37
Gogarbank (Edinburgh)	0	↓	3	14	13	30	61
Newcastle	0*	↓	1	3	12	/	22
York	0		N/A	N/A	19	N/A	N/A
Preston	0		/	2	40	/	30
Kirton	0		0	9	75	/	74
Broom's Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds)	0		0	2	19	29	50
Wellesbourne	2	↓	0	3	52	/	45
Hereford	3	↓	0	17	101	31	94
Rothamsted (Harpenden)	0	↓	0	1	23	13	27
Writtle	1*	↓	0	1	52	35	47
Silwood Park (nr Ascot)	0	↓	0	1	29	/	19
Wye	0		0	0	6	/	19
Starcross (nr Exeter)	0		1	1	56	22	42

The potato aphid was caught at four sites this week in low numbers.

Mealy Cabbage aphid (*Brevicoryne brassicae*)

Cabbage aphid (<i>Brevicoryne brassicae</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*		0	1	0	/	3
Gogarbank (Edinburgh)	0		0	1	0	0	4
Newcastle	0*		0	1	4	/	8
York	0	↓	N/A	N/A	109	N/A	N/A
Preston	0		/	3	7	/	28
Kirton	12	↓	5	7	932	/	100
Broom's Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds)	2	↓	0	15	190	43	275
Wellesbourne	48	↓	2	21	4730	/	397
Hereford	47	↓	1	12	1238	12	154
Rothamsted (Harpenden)	15	↑	0	11	167	21	238
Writtle	8*	↓	3	31	573	125	637
Silwood Park (nr Ascot)	9	↓	2	2	148	/	64
Wye	6	↓	0	10	354	/	102
Starcross (nr Exeter)	13	↓	12	52	205	82	220

The mealy cabbage aphid was caught at nine sites this week, with small hotspots at Wellesbourne (48), and Hereford (47). Accumulated numbers are noticeably 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				Accumulated until		
	2015	Compared to last Bulletin week	2014	10-year average 2005-14	2015	2014	10-year average 2005-14
Dundee	0*	↓	0	4	77	/	80
Gogarbank (Edinburgh)	0	↓	6	2	232	104	91
Newcastle	0*	↓	0	2	109	/	111
York	2	↑	N/A	N/A	456	N/A	N/A
Preston	0		/	2	545	/	546
Kirton	1	↓	2	2	1979	/	614
Broom's Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds)	0	↓	0	1	1979	375	738
Wellesbourne	0		0	1	1169	/	435
Hereford	2	↓	0	1	368	60	391
Rothamsted (Harpenden)	1	↑	0	1	1413	103	381
Writtle	3*		0	1	2402	148	834
Silwood Park (nr Ascot)	0		0	0	671	/	239
Wye	0	↓	0	0	1073	/	360
Starcross (nr Exeter)	4	↑	0	1	350	42	158

The willow-carrot aphid was caught at six sites this week, and numbers are now low everywhere.

Pea aphid (*Acyrtosiphon pisum*)

Pea aphid (<i>Acyrtosiphon pisum</i>)	Bulletin Week Totals 20/07-26/07				Accumulated until 26/07		
	2015	Compared to last Bulletin week	2014	10-year average 2005-14	2015	2014	10-year average 2005-14
Dundee	0*	↓	4	23	6	/	93
Gogarbank (Edinburgh)	0	↓	2	11	17	28	43
Newcastle	4*	↑	3	11	5	/	35
York	6	↓	N/A	N/A	32	N/A	N/A
Preston	0	↓	/	9	12	/	51
Kirton	12	↓	4	454	200	/	1233
Broom's Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds)	7	↓	1	150	73	126	712
Wellesbourne	26	↓	7	24	153	/	391
Hereford	0	↓	1	28	52	38	144
Rothamsted (Harpenden)	18	↓	11	85	124	180	508
Writtle	34*	↑	17	176	182	281	862
Silwood Park (nr Ascot)	10	↓	4	17	53	/	141
Wye	7	↓	1	63	108	/	351
Starcross (nr Exeter)	12	↓	3	8	272	89	141

The pea aphid was caught at ten sites this week, with numbers decreasing at most 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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