

SCOTTISH APHID BULLETINS

The Scottish Aphid Bulletins up to 14 July 2013 are now available on the SASA website (<http://www.sasa.gov.uk/wildlife-environment/aphid-monitoring/aphid-bulletins>).

Virus epidemiology – see <http://www.sasa.gov.uk/seed-ware-potatoes/virology/virus-epidemiology>
Aphid activity has increased during the last week, but the number of bulletin species caught in the Scottish suction traps still stands at approximately 10-20% of the 30 year average. Cereal aphids are starting to increase in number, and a few Peach-Potato aphids have also been caught in Dundee. At present, and without a dominant species across Scotland, the three east coast aphid suction traps portray different pictures; Edinburgh aphid vector pressure stood at 149 on 14 July (with the Bird Cherry-Oat aphid (*Rhopalosiphum padi*) being the predominant species), Dundee was at 248 (the Grain aphid *Sitobion avenae* making up 46% of this value) and Elgin stood at 8.5 (the Shallot aphid *Myzus ascalonicus* being responsible for 26% of the pressure recorded).

Peach Potato aphids – see <https://www.sasa.gov.uk/wildlife-environment/aphid-monitoring/peach-potato-aphid>

The first Peach-Potato aphid was recorded in the Dundee suction trap on 7 July, three weeks later than the predicted date. Two more Peach-Potato aphids have been caught in the Dundee trap up to 14 July. This species has yet to make an appearance in the other traps, however, individuals have also been recorded in low numbers in yellow water traps operated by Fera at sites in Ayrshire, Cromarty, Aberdeenshire, Fife and near Edinburgh (Gogarbank).

Potato aphids – see <https://www.sasa.gov.uk/wildlife-environment/aphid-monitoring/potato-aphid>

The first Potato aphid for 2013 was caught in Dundee on 6 May, almost one month ahead of the predicted date. Potato aphids have also been caught at Edinburgh (5 June) and Elgin (3 June). A total of 32 Potato aphids have so far been caught in Scottish suction traps. This total ranks 21st when compared to the totals to the same date over the previous 30 years.

Cereal aphids – see <https://www.sasa.gov.uk/wildlife-environment/aphid-monitoring/cereal-aphids>

The Rose-Grain aphid (*Metopolophium dirhodum*) remains active in relatively low levels, and is now present in all traps, particularly Edinburgh and Dundee. The Grain aphid (*Sitobion avenae*) has increased in numbers over the last fortnight, particularly in Dundee. The Bird Cherry-Oat aphid (*Rhopalosiphum padi*) has also increased in numbers over the last week. Numbers of cereal aphids still remain low to average when compared to the same date in previous years. However, they are expected to continue to increase over the next couple of weeks, so we will be monitoring closely to report significant changes quickly if they do occur.

Any feedback gratefully received, e.g. difficulties accessing the site, suggestions for improvement, changes to this alert mailing list, etc.

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