

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 at www.sasa.gov.uk/seed-ware-potatoes/virology/virus-epidemiology. Further details of the YWT results can be found at www.potato.org.uk/online-toolbox/aphid-monitoring.

GENERAL

Most aphid flight activity decreased over the past week with exception of the cereal aphids. Generally the numbers of aphids flying are low for the time of year. Most aphids trapped are now leaving ripening or mature crops and only pose a threat to younger crops.

CEREALS

Numbers of cereal aphids flying are increasing, particularly in Scotland, but accumulated totals are generally still well below average for the time of year. Most crops in England are past the stage that damage is likely and there are reports of hoverfly natural enemies having significant impacts. The recommended threshold for control is 66% of tillers infested from GS61 to two weeks before the end of grain filling. Almost all crops are beyond this stage and in fact some winter barley has been harvested in southern England this week.

POTATOES

Virus pressure as suggested by vector aphid abundance has dropped to around or below normal. In England virus pressure is now low but the residual pressure is mainly due to the peach-potato aphid. In Scotland a noticeable increase in all three cereal aphids now represents the main contributor to PVY vector pressure. Further regional information on potato virus vectors can be accessed at www.sasa.gov.uk/seed-ware-potatoes/virology/virus-epidemiology and www.potato.org.uk/online-toolbox/aphid-monitoring.

WINTER OILSEED RAPE

Aphids are no longer an issue and in southern England harvesting has begun.

SPRING OILSEED RAPE

Mealy cabbage aphids are flying in low numbers across central and southern England. The threshold for control is >4% plants infested before petal fall.

FIELD BRASSICAS

Numbers of peach-potato aphids flying are now low with a minor hotspot at Wellesbourne. Mealy cabbage aphids are flying in low numbers across central and southern England.

CARROTS

The numbers of willow-carrot aphid flying are now very low everywhere.

PEAS AND BEANS

The pea aphid is flying throughout central and southern England with a slight increase on last week. Field reports indicate colonies present in many pea and bean crops. Combining peas should be sprayed when around 1 plant in 5 is infested and vining peas at about 1 plant in 7. The black bean aphid was caught throughout the Country this week in low numbers.

SUCTION-TRAPPING RESULTS



The information below relates to suction-trap samples collected during Bulletin Week 14: 30/6-6/7.

- Generally aphid flight activity as monitored by the suction-traps was down this week, with the exception of the cereal aphids.
- All three cereal aphids increased this week, particularly in Scotland, but for the time of year accumulated numbers are low. There are reports of the first winter barley crops being harvested in the south.
- Numbers of the peach–potato aphid (*Myzus persicae*) fell almost everywhere this week, with just a minor hotspot persisting at Wellesbourne.
- The potato aphid (*Macrosiphum euphorbiae*) was caught in low numbers at seven sites.
- The pea aphid (*Acyrtosiphon pisum*) has been caught at nine sites with a hotspot at Wellesbourne. Field reports indicate colonies present in many pea and bean crops.
- The mealy cabbage aphid (*Brevicoryne brassicae*) was caught at eight sites in central and southern England.
- The black bean aphid, (*Aphis fabae*), was caught in nine suction-traps this bulletin week with a hotspot at Writtle (13).

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, fewer days’ samples having been identified.

Rose–grain aphid (*Metopolophium dirhodum*)

Rose–grain aphid (<i>Metopolophium dirhodum</i>)	Bulletin Week Totals 30/06-06/07				Accumulated until 06/07		
	2014	Compared to last Bulletin week	2013	10-year average 2004-13	2014	2013	10-year average 2004-13
Dundee	85	↑	4	209	182	4	653
Gogarbank (Edinburgh)	27	↑	22	198	82	58	417
Newcastle	9	↑	0	37	11	1	155
Preston	3	↑	9	44	16	41	357
Kirton	4	↓	6	474	49	13	1268
Broom’s Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds)	13	↓	38	418	125	66	1358
Wellesbourne	49	↑	/	/	185	/	/
Hereford	*7	↓	20	143	72	40	488
Rothamsted (Harpenden)	21		19	200	131	33	618
Writtle	11	↓	15	226	212	32	733
Silwood Park (nr Ascot)	/		0	28	7	10	149
Wye	/		4	101	5	13	269
Starcross (nr Exeter)	63	↓	29	100	857	88	528

The rose–grain aphid was caught at eleven sites this week, and was increasing at five sites, with hotspots at Starcross (63), Dundee (85) and Wellesbourne (49). Accumulated numbers are below average everywhere except Starcross.

Bird cherry–oat aphid (*Rhopalosiphum padi*)

Bird cherry–oat aphid (<i>Rhopalosiphum padi</i>)	Bulletin Week Totals				Accumulated until		
	30/06-06/07				06/07		
	2014	Compared to last Bulletin week	2013	10-year average 2004-13	2014	2013	10-year average 2004-13
Dundee	72	↑	12	143	111	13	504
Gogarbank (Edinburgh)	66	↑	11	427	104	18	645
Newcastle	13	↑	2	40	17	3	276
Preston	4	↑	1	22	32	13	120
Kirton	14	↑	2	242	70	17	1556
Broom's Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds)	9	↓	2	260	80	11	923
Wellesbourne	15	↑	/	/	42	/	/
Hereford	*19	↑	4	46	52	14	209
Rothamsted (Harpenden)	12	↑	3	122	63	27	419
Writtle	17	↓	1	155	132	10	499
Silwood Park (nr Ascot)	/		0	39	10	20	283
Wye	/		0	60	12	13	302
Starcross (nr Exeter)	19	↓	49	49	214	148	447

The bird cherry–oat aphid was caught at eleven sites this week, with numbers increasing at eight sites, with hotspots at Dundee (72) and Gogarbank (66). The accumulated numbers remain well below average.

Grain aphid (*Sitobion avenae*)

Grain aphid (<i>Sitobion avenae</i>)	Bulletin Week Totals				Accumulated until		
	30/06-06/07				06/07		
	2014	Compared to last Bulletin week	2013	10-year average 2004-13	2014	2013	10-year average 2004-13
Dundee	37	↑	44	31	54	48	165
Gogarbank (Edinburgh)	37	↑	0	88	67	6	197
Newcastle	8	↑	0	26	10	0	116
Preston	29	↑	9	112	71	18	258
Kirton	8	↑	4	385	23	23	1223
Broom's Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds)	33	↑	0	378	99	4	1086
Wellesbourne	72	↑	/	/	169	/	/
Hereford	*43	↑	9	168	76	14	505
Rothamsted (Harpenden)	83	↑	14	421	137	17	1125
Writtle	71	↓	1	372	295	5	1163
Silwood Park (nr Ascot)	/		3	74	18	17	548
Wye	/		1	195	6	8	745
Starcross (nr Exeter)	60	↓	8	80	197	31	488

The grain aphid was caught at eleven sites, with increases at nine of these sites since last week, and hotspots at Wellesbourne (72), Rothamsted (83), Writtle (71) and Starcross (60).

Peach–potato aphid (*Myzus persicae*)

Peach–potato aphid (<i>Myzus persicae</i>)	Bulletin Week Totals				Accumulated until		
	2014	Compared to last Bulletin week	2013	10-year average 2004-13	2014	2013	10-year average 2004-13
Dundee	1	↑	0	2	2	0	8
Gogarbank (Edinburgh)	0	↓	0	3	4	0	11
Newcastle	0	↓	0	2	6	0	15
Preston	4	↓	0	70	41	2	109
Kirton	9	↓	3	106	120	8	384
Broom's Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds)	15	↓	93	177	1345	133	583
Wellesbourne	79	↓	/	/	655	/	/
Hereford	*14	↑	7	21	100	7	110
Rothamsted (Harpenden)	20	↓	6	96	505	9	318
Writtle	11	↓	10	147	1144	35	608
Silwood Park (nr Ascot)	/		0	7	7	3	51
Wye	/		2	9	31	32	194
Starcross (nr Exeter)	3	↓	3	6	163	13	83

The peach–potato aphid was caught at nine sites this week, with numbers decreasing at most sites. There was a hotspot at Wellesbourne (79).

Potato aphid (*Macrosiphum euphorbiae*)

Potato aphid (<i>Macrosiphum euphorbiae</i>)	Bulletin Week Totals				Accumulated until		
	2014	Compared to last Bulletin week	2013	10-year average 2004-13	2014	2013	10-year average 2004-13
Dundee	3	↑	0	2	9	4	15
Gogarbank (Edinburgh)	2	↑	1	16	24	4	45
Newcastle	0		3	2	1	7	17
Preston	0	↓	3	6	14	18	29
Kirton	0		8	24	23	11	60
Broom's Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds)	1	↑	2	15	29	11	45
Wellesbourne	3	↑	/	/	19	/	/
Hereford	*2		3	15	31	12	69
Rothamsted (Harpenden)	0		3	4	12	9	24
Writtle	1	↓	2	5	35	14	45
Silwood Park (nr Ascot)	/		1	1	3	5	16
Wye	/		1	2	6	5	16
Starcross (nr Exeter)	5	↑	5	5	19	37	44

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

Mealy Cabbage aphid (*Brevicoryne brassicae*)

Cabbage aphid (<i>Brevicoryne brassicae</i>)	Bulletin Week Totals				30/06-06/07		Accumulated until		06/07
	2014	Compared to last Bulletin week	2013	10-year average 2004-13	2014	2013	10-year average 2004-13		
Dundee	0		0	0	0	0	3		
Gogarbank (Edinburgh)	0		0	1	0	0	3		
Newcastle	0		0	0	0	0	8		
Preston	2	↑	0	3	5	0	24		
Kirton	5	↑	0	11	13	0	86		
Broom's Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds)	4	↑	0	63	38	1	247		
Wellesbourne	21	↑	/	/	68	/	/		
Hereford	*1		0	18	6	0	145		
Rothamsted (Harpenden)	3	↑	0	14	15	1	218		
Writtle	17	↓	3	83	113	5	584		
Silwood Park (nr Ascot)	/		0	2	0	0	52		
Wye	/		0	5	1	2	75		
Starcross (nr Exeter)	19		3	15	44	6	203		

The mealy cabbage aphid was caught at eight sites this week, with hotspots at Wellesbourne (21), Writtle (17) and Starcross (19). Accumulated numbers are well below the 10-year means.

Willow-carrot aphid (*Cavariella aegopodii*)

Willow-carrot aphid (<i>Cavariella aegopodii</i>)	Bulletin Week Totals				30/06-06/07		Accumulated until		06/07
	2014	Compared to last Bulletin week	2013	10-year average 2004-13	2014	2013	10-year average 2004-13		
Dundee	1	↑	0	2	180	7	51		
Gogarbank (Edinburgh)	0	↓	0	11	97	2	88		
Newcastle	14	↑	0	8	40	4	100		
Preston	4	↓	10	21	972	267	476		
Kirton	0	↓	36	24	874	131	614		
Broom's Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds)	3	↓	119	21	375	625	849		
Wellesbourne	4	↓	/	/	189	/	/		
Hereford	*0		68	12	59	329	394		
Rothamsted (Harpenden)	2	↓	42	11	102	196	441		
Writtle	1	↓	40	10	148	232	936		
Silwood Park (nr Ascot)	/		1	2	13	104	268		
Wye	/		11	10	22	71	387		
Starcross (nr Exeter)	0	↓	58	9	37	485	178		

The willow-carrot aphid was caught at seven sites this week, with numbers low everywhere.

Pea aphid (*Acyrtosiphon pisum*)

Pea aphid (<i>Acyrtosiphon pisum</i>)	Bulletin Week Totals				Accumulated until		
	30/06-06/07				06/07		
	2014	Compared to last Bulletin week	2013	10-year average 2004-13	2014	2013	10-year average 2004- 13
Dundee	3	↑	0	4	8	0	20
Gogarbank (Edinburgh)	0	↓	1	12	16	3	22
Newcastle	0		0	3	0	1	10
Preston	1	↑	0	24	6	1	38
Kirton	10	↑	3	146	31	3	477
Broom's Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds)	15	↑	3	106	109	10	465
Wellesbourne	30	↑	/	/	78	/	/
Hereford	*9	↑	3	26	23	5	87
Rothamsted (Harpenden)	23	↑	12	73	120	17	315
Writtle	14	↓	5	128	180	7	583
Silwood Park (nr Ascot)	/		1	13	7	4	96
Wye	/		0	56	5	11	229
Starcross (nr Exeter)	6	↓	10	13	76	51	128

The pea aphid was caught at nine sites this week, with numbers increasing at seven sites and hotspots at Wellesbourne (30) and Rothamsted (23).



Further information

www.hgca.com/pests

www.potato.org.uk/online-toolbox/aphid-monitoring

[Rothamsted Insect Survey](#)

[HDC pest bulletin](#)

<http://www.sasa.gov.uk/seed-ware-potatoes/virology/virus-epidemiology>

Please send information on crop aphids to

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