

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

Most aphids, as predicted, are flying two to four weeks earlier than usual. This is mainly as a result of the mild winter, helped by the favourable conditions of spring. The very wet winter does not appear to have had a major impact. Spring crops, especially if sown/planted later than usual are expected to be at higher than usual risk from aphids.

WINTER CEREALS

Numbers flying are currently low but they are early. Reports from crops suggest that aphids are present in low numbers. Crops will be past the stage at which further BYDV infection would be an issue. With more aphids expected to fly in and with many Grain aphids being resistant to pyrethroids it is likely generally to be premature to spray.

SPRING CEREALS

Late-sown crops may be at risk from BYDV primary infection (brought in by winged aphids) in the face of earlier than usual aphid migrations if these continue to build in number.

POTATOES

The peach-potato aphid (*Myzus persicae*) has been caught throughout England but not yet in Scotland. Especially large numbers for the time of year have been found in East Anglia and the South East.

The potato aphid (*Macrosiphum euphorbiae*) has been caught as far north as Elgin.

The glasshouse and potato aphid (*Aulacorthum solani*) is much more abundant than usual throughout the UK.

Various other vectors of PVY and PVA are flying, for example willow-carrot aphid (*Cavariella aegopodii*) and leaf-curling plum aphid (*Brachycaudus helichrysi*). Further regional information on potato virus vectors can be accessed here: www.potato.org.uk/online-toolbox/aphid-monitoring.

WINTER OILSEED RAPE

Mealy cabbage aphid is flying in the far South and many will have made it through the mild winter on the crop. The threshold for control is >13% plants infested before petal fall.

SPRING OILSEED RAPE

Mealy cabbage aphid is flying in the far South. The threshold for control is >4% plants infested before petal fall.

FIELD BRASSICAS

Peach-potato aphid is flying earlier and in larger numbers than usual. Mealy cabbage aphid is already on the wing in the far South and is expected generally to fly earlier than usual.

CARROTS

Willow-carrot aphid is flying throughout England a week or so earlier than usual.

PEAS

Pea aphid is flying in the South East two to four weeks earlier than usual.

SUCTION-TRAPPING RESULTS



Suction-trap sites

The information below relates to suction-trap samples collected during Bulletin Week 5: 28/4-4/5.

- Aphid flight activity increased this week with many species appearing earlier than average and roughly in line with the predictions made in early March.
- Numbers of the main cereal aphid are low, but with the grain aphid noticeably early this year. Field reports confirm low numbers of cereal aphids in crops, but well below threshold levels.
- The peach–potato aphid (*Myzus persicae*) was caught at eight sites this week, with a particular hotspot at Broom’s Barn (41). A field report indicates large numbers arriving in vegetable crops in Surrey.
- Six potato aphids (*Macrosiphum euphorbiae*) were caught, including first arrivals at Edinburgh and Silwood.
- Eight pea aphids (*Acyrtosiphon pisum*) were caught, including first arrivals at Broom’s Barn and Silwood.
- The second cabbage aphid (*Brevicoryne brassicae*) in our UK traps this year was caught as a first arrival at Starcross.
- The spring migration of the willow–carrot aphid (*Cavariella aegopodii*) is slowly building, with a particular hotspot at Broom’s Barn (30).
- The early flight of glasshouse–potato aphids (*Aulacorthum solani*) continues with low numbers being caught at ten sites this week right across the Country.

The tables below show species of importance which have appeared for the first time at specific sites, together with forecast dates where available, their time of first arrival last year, and the average time of their first arrival over the last ten years.

Rose–grain aphid (*Metopolophium dirhodum*)

Rose–grain aphid	FIRST ARRIVALS			
	2014	forecast	2013	04-13
D= Dundee	0	24/5	Na	24/5
G= Edinburgh	28/4	15/5	29/5	21/5
N= Newcastle	0	22/5	21/6	24/5
P = Preston	3-9/3	11/5	17/5	27/4
K = Kirton	30/4	25/4	3/6	14/5
BB = nr Bury St Edmunds	24/4	23/4	9/6	6/5
We = Wellesbourne	0	Na	10/6	29/4
H = Hereford	0	7/5	30/5	14/5
RT = Harpenden	24/4	24/4	16/5	8/5
WR = Writtle	17-21/4	1/4	9/6	29/4
SP = nr Ascot	24/4	12/4	5/6	23/4
W = Wye	1/5	7/4	10/6	3/5
SX = nr Exeter	17-23/2	17/3	16/5	27/3

The rose–grain aphid was caught at seven sites this week in low numbers, with a first arrival at Edinburgh three weeks earlier than the 10-year mean, at Kirton two weeks early and at Wye almost spot on the 10-year mean.

Bird cherry–oat aphid (*Rhopalosiphum padi*)

Bird cherry–oat aphid	FIRST ARRIVALS			
	2014	forecast	2013	04-13
D= Dundee	0	18/5	15/6	19/5
G= Edinburgh	0	10/5	19/5	10/5
N= Newcastle	0	14/5	8/6	12/5
P = Preston	10/4	8/5	29/5	5/5
K = Kirton	16/4	25/3	22/5	13/4
BB = nr Bury St Edmunds	13/4	11/4	16/5	23/4
We = Wellesbourne	0	Na	15/4	11/4
H = Hereford	10/4	6/4	29/5	13/3
RT = Harpenden	24/4	19/4	6/5	28/4
WR = Writtle	13-19/1	4/4	27/5	19/4
SP = nr Ascot	28/4	11/4	16/5	24/4
W = Wye	8/4	27/3	26/5	8/4
SX = nr Exeter	10-16/3	7/3	25/5	4/3

The bird cherry–oat aphid was caught at nine sites this week in low numbers, including a first arrival at Silwood, close to the 10-year mean.

Grain aphid (*Sitobion avenae*)

Grain aphid	FIRST ARRIVALS			
	2014	forecast	2013	04-13
D= Dundee	0	26/5	4/6	30/5
G= Edinburgh	0	16/5	20/5	22/5
N= Newcastle	0	20/5	10/7	1/6
P = Preston	23/4	21/5	7/6	17/5
K = Kirton	0	23/4	10/6	17/5
BB = nr Bury St Edmunds	24/4	22/4	14/5	13/5
We = Wellesbourne	31/3	Na	9/6	16/4
H = Hereford	0	26/4	5/6	16/5
RT = Harpenden	16/4	23/4	19/6	19/5
WR = Writtle	9/4	10/4	16/6	30/4
SP = nr Ascot	28/4	27/4	31/5	4/5
W = Wye	14/4	15/4	13/6	20/5
SX = nr Exeter	18/4	3/4	29/5	12/4

The grain aphid was caught at four sites this week, with a small hotspot at Silwood (13) including its first arrival at this site which was about one week earlier than the 10-year mean.

Peach–potato aphid (*Myzus persicae*)

Peach–potato aphid	FIRST ARRIVALS			
	2014	forecast	2013	04-13
D= Dundee	0	1/6	7/7	11/6
G= Edinburgh	0	27/5	20/7	20/6
N= Newcastle	0	31/5	22/7	14/6
P = Preston	16/4	20/5	18/6	27/5
K = Kirton	17-23/3	27/4	16/6	16/5
BB = nr Bury St Edmunds	9/4	18/4	16/6	13/5
We = Wellesbourne	29/4	Na	21/6	24/4
H = Hereford	0	1/5	1/7	24/5
RT = Harpenden	29/4	15/4	20/6	20/5
WR = Writtle	17-21/4	4/4	14/6	2/5
SP = nr Ascot	29/4	28/4	19/6	10/5
W = Wye	24-30/3	10/4	14/6	26/4
SX = nr Exeter	31/3	7/4	2/6	20/4

The peach–potato aphid was caught at eight sites this week, with a hotspot at Broom’s Barn (41). There were first arrivals at Wellesbourne, Rothamsted and Silwood, ranging from very close to three weeks earlier than the 10-year means.

Potato aphid (*Macrosiphum euphorbiae*)

Potato aphid	FIRST ARRIVALS			
	2014	forecast	2013	04-13
D= Dundee	0	17/5	18/6	28/5
G= Edinburgh	29/4	8/5	5/6	19/5
N= Newcastle	0	22/5	12/6	31/5
P = Preston	0	22/5	5/6	17/5
K = Kirton	11/4	24/4	21/6	20/5
BB = nr Bury St Edmunds	1/4	27/4	16/6	17/5
We = Wellesbourne	0	Na	31/5	9/5
H = Hereford	18/4	27/4	19/6	13/5
RT = Harpenden	11/4	29/4	16/5	14/5
WR = Writtle	24/4	8/4	27/5	30/4
SP = nr Ascot	29/4	22/4	18/5	5/5
W = Wye	27/4	27/4	29/6	16/5
SX = nr Exeter	0	16/4	25/5	30/4

Six potato aphids were caught this week, spread across four sites, including a first arrival three weeks earlier than the 10-year mean at Edinburgh and one at Silwood six days early.

Cabbage aphid (*Brevicoryne brassicae*)

Cabbage aphid	FIRST ARRIVALS			
	2014	forecast	2013	04-13
D= Dundee	0	7/7	Na	7/7
G= Edinburgh	0	17/6	Na	14/6
N= Newcastle	0	24/6	7/8	30/6
P = Preston	0	2/7	Na	30/5
K = Kirton	0	4/5	24/7	7/6
BB = nr Bury St Edmunds	0	10/5	27/6	31/5
We = Wellesbourne	0	Na	1/7	19/5
H = Hereford	0	12/5	11/7	1/6
RT = Harpenden	0	4/5	6/7	31/5
WR = Writtle	0	21/4	19/6	25/5
SP = nr Ascot	0	18/5	Na	22/5
W = Wye	23/4	27/4	25/6	3/6
SX = nr Exeter	29/4	21/4	3/6	2/5

The second cabbage aphid (*Brevicoryne brassicae*) in our UK traps this year was caught as a first arrival at Starcross, close to the 10-year mean and the forecast.

Willow-carrot aphid (*Cavariella aegopodii*)

Willow-carrot aphid	FIRST ARRIVALS		
	2014	2013	04-13
D= Dundee	0	16/6	23/5
G= Edinburgh	0	16/6	9/5
N= Newcastle	0	12/6	20/5
P = Preston	29/4	26/5	10/5
K = Kirton	1/5	26/5	4/5
BB = nr Bury St Edmunds	24/4	18/5	1/5
We = Wellesbourne	24/4	22/5	3/5
H = Hereford	1-4/5	4/1	27/4
RT = Harpenden	24/4	28/5	2/5
WR = Writtle	28/4	19/5	28/4
SP = nr Ascot	27/4	20/4	29/4
W = Wye	24/4	25/5	2/5
SX = nr Exeter	5/4	21/5	29/4

The willow-carrot aphid was caught at eight sites this week, including first arrivals at four more sites close to or a little earlier than the 10-year means. There was a notable hotspot at Broom's Barn (30).

Pea aphid (*Acyrtosiphon pisum*)

Pea aphid	FIRST ARRIVALS		
	2014	2013	04-13
D= Dundee	0	Na	13/6
G= Edinburgh	0	17/6	1/6
N= Newcastle	0	24/6	14/6
P = Preston	0	29/6	30/5
K = Kirton	0	5/7	24/5
BB = nr Bury St Edmunds	29/4	26/6	18/5
We = Wellesbourne	21/4	18/6	7/5
H = Hereford	0	18/6	11/5
RT = Harpenden	24/4	14/6	18/5
WR = Writtle	23/4	14/6	6/5
SP = nr Ascot	28/4	20/6	6/5
W = Wye	14/4	19/6	12/5
SX = nr Exeter	0	29/5	9/5

The pea aphid was caught at three sites this week, including first arrivals at Broom's Barn and Silwood, one to three weeks earlier than the 10-year means.



Further information

www.hgca.com/pests

[Rothamsted Insect Survey](#)

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

[HDC pest bulletin](#)

Please send information on crop aphids to

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