

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

The weather was unsettled for most of this week restricting aphid flight largely to one fine day mid-week. Trap catches on that good day went up sharply and suggests that if the weather settles down, there are plenty of aphids ready and willing to take flight.

WINTER CEREALS

Numbers of cereal aphids flying are currently low. Winter crops are past the stage at which further BYDV infection would be an issue.

SPRING CEREALS

BYDV problems in spring-sown cereals are unusual and arise generally from primary infection through large numbers of flying aphids, not through secondary spread via their offspring. Late-sown crops will only be at risk if conditions produce large scale migrations soon. No field reports of cereal aphids have been received this week.

POTATOES

Low numbers of the peach-potato aphid (*Myzus persicae*) have been caught throughout eastern and southern England and as far north as Lincolnshire, but not yet in Scotland.

The potato aphid (*Macrosiphum euphorbiae*) has been caught in low numbers from Lancashire down to Devon this week.

The glasshouse and potato aphid (*Aulacorthum solani*) has appeared in southern England traps this week.

The numbers of other vectors of PVY have increased this week, in particular, the willow-carrot aphid (*Cavariella aegopodii*) and the leaf-curling plum aphid (*Brachycaudus helichrysi*). These always fly early in the season when the plants are young and vulnerable. The black bean aphid (*Aphis fabae*) is a good vector of PVA and is also now flying throughout central, eastern and southern England. Further regional information on potato virus vectors can be accessed here: www.potato.org.uk/online-toolbox/aphid-monitoring.

OILSEED RAPE

Mealy cabbage aphid (*Brevicoryne brassicae*) has started flying this week. In winter oilseed rape the threshold for control is >13% plants infested before petal fall, and in spring rape the threshold for control is >4% plants infested before petal fall.

FIELD BRASSICAS and LEAFY VEGETABLES

Low numbers of the peach-potato aphid (*Myzus persicae*) have been caught throughout eastern and southern England and as far north as Lincolnshire, plus some field reports from Kent. Mealy cabbage aphid has started flying this week.

CARROTS

Numbers of the willow-carrot aphid (*Cavariella aegopodii*) flying have increased and were highest in south eastern England.

PEAS and BEANS

Pea aphid (*Acyrtosiphon pisum*) is flying in the far south and the black bean aphid (*Aphis fabae*) is now flying throughout central, eastern and southern England.

SUCTION-TRAPPING RESULTS



The information below relates to suction-trap samples collected during Bulletin Week 6: 11/5 – 17/5, with one particularly good day being enough to ratchet up the overall numbers for the week.

- Numbers of the main cereal aphids are low this week, with just a minor hotspot in the south west for the rose–grain aphid.
- The peach–potato aphid has been caught at six sites in southern and eastern England this week, including a first arrival at Silwood within a few days of both the 10-year average and the forecast.
- The potato aphid has been caught at four sites this week in low numbers, and found on lettuce in Kent.
- Numbers of the willow–carrot aphid (*Cavariella aegopodii*) have increased this week, with highest numbers in south eastern England.
- The first mealy cabbage aphid (*Brevicoryne brassicae*) caught in our UK traps this year turned up at Writtle this week, almost two weeks earlier than the 10-year average.
- Five pea aphids (*Acyrtosiphon pisum*) were caught this week across three sites in southern England.
- The black bean aphid (*Aphis fabae*) has been caught at six sites this week.
- This week’s suction trap catches were dominated by a big flight of sycamore aphids.

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			
	2015	forecast	2014	05-14
D= Dundee	0	4/6	17/5	20/5
G= Edinburgh	0	24/5	28/4	21/5
N= Newcastle	0	30/5	28/5	25/5
Y = York	16/4	N/A	N/A	N/A
P = Preston	0	5/5	6/3	23/4
K = Kirton	4/5	10/5	30/4	13/5
BB = Bury St Edmunds	0	16/5	24/4	2/5
We = Wellesbourne	13/5	N/A	18/5	2/5
H = Hereford	0	18/5	27/5	16/5
RT = Harpenden	0	10/5	24/4	4/5
WR = Writtle	17/5	23/4	19/4	25/4
SP = nr Ascot	20/4	8/5	24/4	25/4
W = Wye	7/5	7/5	1/5	1/5
SX = nr Exeter	15/4	30/3	20/2	31/3

Low numbers of rose–grain aphids were caught at four sites this bulletin week, with a minor hotspot at Starcross (7). There were first arrivals at Wellesbourne and Writtle, two to three weeks later the 10-year average.

Bird cherry–oat aphid (*Rhopalosiphum padi*)

Bird cherry–oat aphid	FIRST ARRIVALS			
	2015	forecast	2014	05-14
D= Dundee	0	21/5	17/5	17/5
G= Edinburgh	0	17/5	13/5	11/5
N= Newcastle	0	19/5	18/5	11/5
Y = York	22/4	N/A	N/A	N/A
P = Preston	0	3/5	10/4	2/5
K = Kirton	27/4	15/4	16/4	14/4
BB = Bury St Edmunds	0	2/5	13/4	22/4
We = Wellesbourne	0	N/A	27/4	11/4
H = Hereford	16/4	24/4	10/4	12/3
RT = Harpenden	4/5	6/5	23/4	28/4
WR = Writtle	4/5	25/4	16/1	9/4
SP = nr Ascot	10/5	1/5	28/4	25/4
W = Wye	2-8/3	21/4	8/4	8/4
SX = nr Exeter	19-25/1	24/3	13/3	11/3

The bird cherry–oat aphid has been caught at four sites in low numbers this week.

Grain aphid (*Sitobion avenae*)

Grain aphid	FIRST ARRIVALS			
	2015	forecast	2014	05-14
D= Dundee	0	5/6	23/5	31/5
G= Edinburgh	0	28/5	25/5	22/5
N= Newcastle	0	28/5	22/5	2/6
Y = York	11/5	N/A	N/A	N/A
P = Preston	0	17/5	23/4	16/5
K = Kirton	0	8/5	14/5	17/5
BB = Bury St Edmunds	0	15/5	25/4	11/5
We = Wellesbourne	0	N/A	31/3	16/4
H = Hereford	12/5	14/5	21/5	17/5
RT = Harpenden	0	12/5	16/4	17/5
WR = Writtle	15/4	3/5	9/4	27/4
SP = nr Ascot	0	13/5	24/4	4/5
W = Wye	0	7/5	14/4	18/5
SX = nr Exeter	1/5	15/4	18/4	13/4

Single grain aphids have been caught at three sites this week. Those at York and Hereford were first arrivals, with the Hereford individual close to both the 10-year average and the forecast.

Peach–potato aphid (*Myzus persicae*)

Peach–potato aphid	FIRST ARRIVALS			
	2015	forecast	2014	05-14
D= Dundee	0	13/6	18/6	13/6
G= Edinburgh	0	12/6	12/6	23/6
N= Newcastle	0	12/6	7/6	15/6
Y = York	0	NA	NA	NA
P = Preston	0	17/5	16/4	26/5
K = Kirton	30/4	8/5	20/3	12/5
BB = Bury St Edmunds	7/5	17/5	9/4	11/5
We = Wellesbourne	0	NA	29/4	29/4
H = Hereford	2/5	27/5	17/5	25/5
RT = Harpenden	7/5	15/5	29/4	21/5
WR = Writtle	9/5	30/4	19/4	30/4
SP = nr Ascot	13/5	15/5	29/4	9/5
W = Wye	9/5	7/5	27/3	22/4
SX = nr Exeter	10/5	20/4	31/3	15/4

The peach–potato aphid has been caught at six sites in southern and eastern England this week, including a first arrival at Silwood within a few days of both the 10-year average and the forecast.

Potato aphid (*Macrosiphum euphorbiae*)

Potato aphid	FIRST ARRIVALS			
	2015	forecast	2014	05-14
D= Dundee	0	31/5	17/5	30/5
G= Edinburgh	0	20/5	29/4	19/5
N= Newcastle	0	30/5	3/6	3/6
Y = York	0	N/A	N/A	N/A
P = Preston	13/5	19/5	10/5	17/5
K = Kirton	23/4	5/5	12/4	17/5
BB = Bury St Edmunds	21/4	20/5	1/4	15/5
We = Wellesbourne	0	N/A	12/5	10/5
H = Hereford	0	15/5	18/4	12/5
RT = Harpenden	13/5	14/5	11/4	12/5
WR = Writtle	24/4	29/4	24/4	30/4
SP = nr Ascot	23/4	10/5	29/4	5/5
W = Wye	0	11/5	27/4	16/5
SX = nr Exeter	20/4	24/4	16/5	2/5

The potato aphid has been caught at four sites this week in low numbers, with first arrivals at Preston and Rothamsted, both very close to the 10 year average and the forecast.

Cabbage aphid (*Brevicoryne brassicae*)

Cabbage aphid	FIRST ARRIVALS			
	2015	forecast	2014	05-14
D= Dundee	0	28/7	0	8/7
G= Edinburgh	0	17/7	28/7	19/6
N= Newcastle	0	17/7	20/6	2/7
Y = York	0	N/A	N/A	N/A
P = Preston	0	21/6	19/5	30/5
K = Kirton	0	29/5	12/5	7/6
BB = Bury St Edmunds	0	5/6	13/5	31/5
We = Wellesbourne	0	N/A	24/5	21/5
H = Hereford	0	5/6	12-14/5	2/6
RT = Harpenden	0	6/6	21/5	31/5
WR = Writtle	13/5	24/5	15/5	26/5
SP = nr Ascot	0	8/6	31/5	25/5
W = Wye	0	7/6	23/4	31/5
SX = nr Exeter	0	3/5	29/4	3/5

The first cabbage aphid (*Brevicoryne brassicae*) caught in our UK traps this year turned up at Writtle this week, almost two weeks earlier than the 10-year average.

Willow-carrot aphid (*Cavariella aegopodii*)

Willow-carrot aphid	FIRST ARRIVALS		
	2015	2014	05-14
D= Dundee	0	12/5	22/5
G= Edinburgh	20-26/4	25/5	11/5
N= Newcastle	0	16/5	20/5
Y = York	4/5	N/A	N/A
P = Preston	8/5	29/4	9/5
K = Kirton	21/4	30/4	4/5
BB = Bury St Edmunds	4/5	24/4	30/4
We = Wellesbourne	19/4	24/4	2/5
H = Hereford	11/5	2/5	26/4
RT = Harpenden	23/4	24/4	30/4
WR = Writtle	7/5	28/4	28/4
SP = nr Ascot	1/5	27/4	29/4
W = Wye	7/5	24/4	30/4
SX = nr Exeter	30/4	5/4	27/4

The willow-carrot aphid has been caught at eleven sites this week, including a first arrival at Hereford, two weeks later than the 10-year average. Numbers flying have increased and were highest in south eastern England.

Pea aphid (*Acyrtosiphon pisum*)

Pea aphid	FIRST ARRIVALS		
	2015	2014	05-14
D= Dundee	0	8/6	16/6
G= Edinburgh	0	26/5	3/6
N= Newcastle	0	31/5	11/6
Y = York	0	NA	NA
P = Preston	0	18/5	27/5
K = Kirton	0	15/5	24/5
BB = Bury St Edmunds	0	29/4	18/5
We = Wellesbourne	0	21/4	7/5
H = Hereford	0	17/5	11/5
RT = Harpenden	0	24/4	19/5
WR = Writtle	4/5	23/4	6/5
SP = nr Ascot	13/5	28/4	5/5
W = Wye	16/5	14/4	8/5
SX = nr Exeter	16/5	18/5	10/5

The first pea aphids were caught at three sites this week close to the 10-year average.



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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