

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

Peach–potato aphids have been flying in larger than usual numbers this year. Potato aphids and cereal aphids have been about average. Potato virus Y vector pressure is higher than usual for the time of year. Aphid natural enemies, especially ladybirds and parasitic wasps, are generally abundant and helping considerably to keep aphids under control.

CEREALS

Numbers of cereal aphids flying are about average for the time of year. Numbers in crops are generally low, probably as a result of natural enemy activity.

POTATOES

Virus pressure as suggested by vector aphid abundance is higher than usual for the time of year throughout the UK. Peach–potato aphid, glasshouse–potato aphid and several non-colonising species such as willow–carrot aphid and leaf-curling plum aphid are the main culprits. Further regional information on potato virus vectors can be accessed here: www.potato.org.uk/online-toolbox/aphid-monitoring.

WINTER OILSEED RAPE

Mealy cabbage aphids are flying in low numbers. The threshold for control is >13% plants infested before petal fall. Most crops are past this stage.

SPRING OILSEED RAPE

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

FIELD BRASSICAS

Peach–potato aphids are flying in larger numbers than usual. Mealy cabbage aphids are flying in low numbers.

CARROTS

Willow–carrot aphids are flying throughout the Country.

PEAS AND BEANS

Pea aphids are flying throughout the Country and colonies are present in many crops.

SUCTION-TRAPPING RESULTS



The information below relates to suction-trap samples collected during Bulletin Week 9: 26/5-1/6.

- Aphid flight activity increased slowly as the unsettled weather improved towards the end of the week. Field reports suggest that natural enemy pressure is also increasing, in particular ladybirds and aphid parasitoids.
- Numbers of the main cereal aphids in the suction-traps are slowly increasing, but reports from the field continue to indicate only low numbers in the crops in central and southern England.
- Numbers of peach–potato aphid (*Myzus persicae*) have increased in the south eastern England, but still none in our Scottish suction-traps.
- The potato aphid (*Macrosiphum euphorbiae*) was caught across the Country in low numbers.
- The pea aphid (*Acyrtosiphon pisum*) was caught at eight sites in low numbers this week.
- The mealy cabbage aphid (*Brevicoryne brassicae*) was caught at five sites this week in low numbers. Field reports have been received of heavy infestations on volunteer OSR in Kent.
- The willow–carrot aphid (*Cavariella aegopodii*) migration continued this week, with highest numbers at Preston, Kirton and in Scotland.

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 26/05-01/06				Accumulated until 01/06		
	2014	Compared to last Bulletin week	2013	10-year average 2004-13	2014	2013	10-year average 2004-13
Dundee	2	↑	0	0	3	0	2
Gogarbank (Edinburgh)	2		1	2	5	1	7
Newcastle	/		0	1	0	0	6
Preston	1	↓	0	12	9	1	30
Kirton	7	↑	0	4	21	0	15
Broom's Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds)	15	↑	0	5	37	0	41
Wellesbourne	1		/	/	4	/	/
Hereford	7	↑	1	6	7	1	24
Rothamsted (Harpenden)	10	↑	2	2	16	4	12
Writtle	*5	↑	0	7	15	0	24
Silwood Park (nr Ascot)	/		0	1	7	0	17
Wye	/		0	2	5	0	6
Starcross (nr Exeter)	*25	↑	3	12	36	5	74

The rose–grain aphid was caught at ten sites this week in low numbers, about average for the time of year, but slowly increasing at seven sites this week.

Bird cherry–oat aphid (*Rhopalosiphum padi*)

Bird cherry–oat aphid (<i>Rhopalosiphum padi</i>)	Bulletin Week Totals				26/05-01/06		Accumulated until		01/06
	2014	Compared to last Bulletin week	2013	10-year average 2004-13	2014	2013	2014	2013	10-year average 2004- 13
Dundee	7	↑	0	3	9	0	12		
Gogarbank (Edinburgh)	5	↑	0	4	12	3	13		
Newcastle	/		0	3	2	0	21		
Preston	1	↓	4	6	19	4	20		
Kirton	5	↑	2	18	30	4	96		
Broom's Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds)	13	↑	1	18	31	2	119		
Wellesbourne	1		/	/	1	/	/		
Hereford	1	↓	2	6	13	3	33		
Rothamsted (Harpenden)	5	↑	7	5	17	10	43		
Writtle	*5	↓	1	16	39	1	80		
Silwood Park (nr Ascot)	/		1	15	10	7	94		
Wye	/		2	27	12	2	114		
Starcross (nr Exeter)	*13	↑	12	24	51	13	183		

The bird cherry–oat aphid was caught at ten sites this week, with accumulated numbers a little below average.

Grain aphid (*Sitobion avenae*)

Grain aphid (<i>Sitobion avenae</i>)	Bulletin Week Totals				26/05-01/06		Accumulated until		01/06
	2014	Compared to last Bulletin week	2013	10-year average 2004-13	2014	2013	2014	2013	10-year average 2004- 13
Dundee	0	↓	0	4	1	0	14		
Gogarbank (Edinburgh)	8	↑	1	3	9	2	7		
Newcastle	/		0	3	0	0	10		
Preston	*12	↑	0	9	22	0	24		
Kirton	3	↑	0	5	8	0	15		
Broom's Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds)	10	↑	0	3	21	1	7		
Wellesbourne	*4		/	/	6	/	/		
Hereford	2	↓	0	6	5	0	19		
Rothamsted (Harpenden)	8	↑	0	2	17	0	7		
Writtle	*5	↑	0	5	14	0	13		
Silwood Park (nr Ascot)	/		2	4	18	2	21		
Wye	/		0	5	6	0	19		
Starcross (nr Exeter)	2	↓	2	9	11	2	69		

The grain aphid was caught at nine sites this week in low numbers, with a slight increase at six of these sites since last week.

Peach–potato aphid (*Myzus persicae*)

Peach–potato aphid (<i>Myzus persicae</i>)	Bulletin Week Totals 26/05-01/06				Accumulated until 01/06		
	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	1
Gogarbank (Edinburgh)	0		0	1	0	0	3
Newcastle	/		0	1	0	0	4
Preston	2	↑	0	3	6	0	8
Kirton	7	↑	0	3	26	0	22
Broom's Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds)	99	↓	0	9	592	0	70
Wellesbourne	*43		/	/	64	/	/
Hereford	9	↓	0	9	23	0	26
Rothamsted (Harpenden)	124	↑	0	12	206	0	53
Writtle	*89	↑	0	21	279	0	102
Silwood Park (nr Ascot)	/		0	2	7	0	18
Wye	/		0	15	31	0	78
Starcross (nr Exeter)	*22	↓	0	6	100	0	34

The peach–potato aphid was caught at eight sites this week, with numbers increasing at four sites. There were hotspots at Rothamsted (124), Broom's Barn (99) and Writtle (89). Accumulated numbers are above the 10-year means in eastern and south western England.

Potato aphid (*Macrosiphum euphorbiae*)

Potato aphid (<i>Macrosiphum euphorbiae</i>)	Bulletin Week Totals 26/05-01/06				Accumulated until 01/06		
	2014	Compared to last Bulletin week	2013	10-year average 2004-13	2014	2013	10-year average 2004-13
Dundee	1		0	1	3	0	4
Gogarbank (Edinburgh)	4	↑	0	5	6	0	12
Newcastle	/		0	2	0	0	8
Preston	*4	↓	0	5	9	0	9
Kirton	4	↓	0	2	18	0	5
Broom's Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds)	5	↑	0	1	18	0	5
Wellesbourne	2		/	/	7	/	/
Hereford	4	↑	0	4	9	0	12
Rothamsted (Harpenden)	4	↑	0	1	9	1	6
Writtle	0	↓	1	3	10	1	13
Silwood Park (nr Ascot)	/		0	2	3	1	10
Wye	/		0	0	6	0	4
Starcross (nr Exeter)	0	↓	2	2	6	3	22

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

Mealy Cabbage aphid (*Brevicoryne brassicae*)

Cabbage aphid (<i>Brevicoryne brassicae</i>)	Bulletin Week Totals 26/05-01/06				Accumulated until		01/06
	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	0
Gogarbank (Edinburgh)	0		0	0	0	0	1
Newcastle	/		0	0	0	0	2
Preston	0	↓	0	4	3	0	12
Kirton	1	↑	0	3	5	0	22
Broom's Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds)	10	↑	0	6	21	0	18
Wellesbourne	*7		/	/	7	/	/
Hereford	1		0	8	3	0	46
Rothamsted (Harpenden)	0	↓	0	3	2	0	10
Writtle	0	↓	0	23	9	0	86
Silwood Park (nr Ascot)	/		0	1	0	0	15
Wye	/		0	4	1	0	19
Starcross (nr Exeter)	1	↑	0	16	4	0	58

The mealy cabbage aphid was caught at five sites this week in low numbers, somewhat below average for the time of year.

Willow-carrot aphid (*Cavariella aegopodii*)

Willow-carrot aphid (<i>Cavariella aegopodii</i>)	Bulletin Week Totals 26/05-01/06				Accumulated until		01/06
	2014	Compared to last Bulletin week	2013	10-year average 2004-13	2014	2013	10-year average 2004-13
Dundee	61	↑	0	15	107	0	34
Gogarbank (Edinburgh)	44	↑	0	19	52	0	40
Newcastle	/		0	10	16	0	35
Preston	*317	↓	2	160	948	2	318
Kirton	93	↓	6	87	766	6	423
Broom's Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds)	13	↓	20	216	314	27	675
Wellesbourne	*30		/	/	96	/	/
Hereford	18	↑	9	158	48	9	315
Rothamsted (Harpenden)	8	↑	19	102	59	19	330
Writtle	*9	↓	8	327	85	9	809
Silwood Park (nr Ascot)	/		8	31	13	9	243
Wye	/		11	91	22	12	303
Starcross (nr Exeter)	1	↓	76	31	10	81	112

The willow-carrot aphid was caught at all sites this week, with numbers increasing at four sites. There were noticeable hotspots at Preston (317), Kirton (93) and in Scotland.

Pea aphid (*Acyrtosiphon pisum*)

Pea aphid (<i>Acyrtosiphon pisum</i>)	Bulletin Week Totals 26/05-01/06				Accumulated until		01/06
	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	1
Gogarbank (Edinburgh)	7	↑	0	0	7	0	1
Newcastle	/		0	0	0	0	0
Preston	2	↑	0	1	4	0	2
Kirton	3	↓	0	1	8	0	5
Broom's Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds)	6	↑	0	3	18	0	11
Wellesbourne	0		/	/	4	/	/
Hereford	1	↑	0	2	2	0	10
Rothamsted (Harpenden)	9	↑	0	3	21	0	14
Writtle	*2	↓	0	5	12	0	21
Silwood Park (nr Ascot)	/		0	3	7	0	15
Wye	/		0	1	5	0	9
Starcross (nr Exeter)	*5	↓	3	5	11	3	28

The pea aphid was caught at eight sites this week in low numbers.



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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