

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 – Aphid numbers rose significantly across much of the country as result of a week of warm weather. This week's big mover is the peach–potato aphid (*Myzus persicae*), with particularly high numbers in some YWT samples, possibly moving away from maturing oilseed rape crops. Tests show these migrants are carrying high levels of Turnip yellows virus. Field reports from cereals and pulses in particular suggest that natural enemy populations (predators and parasitoids) at present are doing a good job in keeping crop infestations under control.

WINTER AND SPRING CEREALS

Numbers of the cereal aphids in the suction-traps were relatively stable this week with only small increases, but the accumulated numbers of the bird cherry–oat aphid remain above the 10yr mean for this stage in the year. Field reports indicate that cereal aphid numbers in the crop are below the threshold for control. The thresholds are 50% of tillers infested before GS61 increasing to 66% of tillers infested from GS61 to two weeks before the end of grain filling. Most damage occurs when grain aphids colonise the ears between GS 61-73. **Monitoring crops is advised.**

POTATOES

The peach–potato aphid (*Myzus persicae*) has been caught in exceptionally high numbers in the midlands (ST+YWT) and northern England (YWT). Virus pressure is very high in the midlands and northern England and moderate in East Anglia and northern Scotland, principally due to the numbers of peach–potato aphids.

The potato aphid (*Macrosiphum euphorbiae*) and the glasshouse and potato aphid (*Aulacorthum solani*) have been caught in low numbers in both ST and YWT.

Numbers of non-colonising vectors of PVY and PVA such as the willow-carrot aphid, the mealy cabbage aphid and the leaf curling plum aphid are also quite high and contributing to the overall virus pressure. Although relatively low at present cereal aphids and the black bean aphid may also pose a threat later on. Further regional information on potato virus vectors can be accessed here: www.potato.org.uk/online-toolbox/aphid-monitoring.

WINTER and SPRING OILSEED RAPE

Peach–potato aphid and mealy cabbage aphid numbers in both ST and YWT are high especially in the midlands, but are thought to be moving away from maturing winter OSR. Field reports indicate mealy cabbage aphid numbers are higher than recent years, but below the threshold of >4% plants infested before petal fall in spring OSR.

FIELD BRASSICAS and LEAFY VEGETABLES

Peach–potato aphid and mealy cabbage aphid numbers in both ST and YWT are high especially in the midlands. The currant-lettuce aphid (*Nasonovia ribisnigri*) was caught at Dundee and Kirton ST this week. Brassicas growers thoughts will be dominated by the recent exceptionally high numbers of diamondback moths arriving in the UK see link :- <http://www.rothamsted.ac.uk/news-views/exceptionally-high-numbers-diamondback-moths-are-arriving-uk>

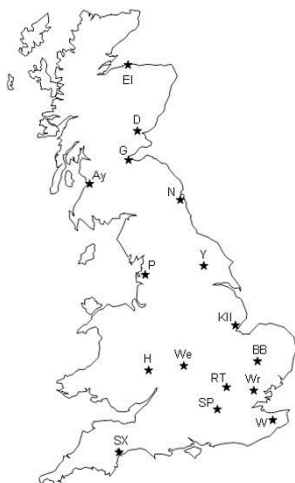
CARROTS and PARSNIPS

The willow–carrot aphid was caught at most sites this week, with numbers increasing at 11 ST sites and a big hotspot at Preston (818). Numbers of parsnip aphids increased, also particularly at Preston ((*Cavariella pastinaceae* at Preston 120, Wellesbourne 20, York 8 and Silwood 2) and (*Cavariella theobaldi* at Preston 20)).

PEAS and BEANS

The pea aphid was caught at ten sites this week, with numbers increasing at nine sites and a hotspot at Wellesbourne. Field reports indicate pea aphid infestations in the crop continue to increase and some crops in southern England have been sprayed. Combining peas should be sprayed when around 20% of plants are infested and vining peas when 15% are infested. Few black bean aphids have been caught in our traps so far and field reports indicate that although there are high numbers of aphids in some crops they are being contained by equally high numbers of predators. The threshold for black bean aphid in field and broad beans is 10% colonisation.

SUCTION-TRAPPING RESULTS



The information below relates to suction-trap samples collected during **Bulletin Week 12: 6/6 – 12/6**.

- Despite the warm weather numbers of the cereal aphids in the suction-traps were relatively stable this week with only small increases.
- Numbers of the first peach–potato aphid rose significantly with big hotspots at Wellesbourne (800) and Hereford (226) and high numbers generally across much of central England.
- The mealy cabbage aphid was caught at 11 sites this week, with two discrete hotspots at Wellesbourne (1050) and Hereford (907).
- The willow–carrot aphid was caught at all sites this week, with numbers increasing at 11 sites and a big hotspot at Preston (818).
- The pea aphid was caught at ten sites this week, with numbers increasing at nine sites and a hotspot at Wellesbourne (98).
- Starcross continues as a very distinctive hotspot for black bean aphids, so far elsewhere it has been reluctant to visit our suction-traps.
- The currant-lettuce aphid (*Nasonovia ribisnigri*) was caught at Dundee and Kirton ST this week.
- Numbers of parsnip aphids increased, particularly at Preston (*Cavariella pastinaceae* at Preston 120, Wellesbourne 20, York 8 and Silwood 2/*Cavariella theobaldi* at Preston 20).

*' indicates where totals have been corrected proportionally to seven days, fewer days' samples having been processed.

Rose–grain aphid (*Metopolophium dirhodum*)

Rose–grain aphid (<i>Metopolophium dirhodum</i>)	Bulletin Week Totals		06/06-12/06		Accumulated until		12/06
	2016	Compared to last Bulletin week	2015	10-year average 2006-15	2016	2015	10-year average 2006-15
Dundee	1		/	1	2	/	2
Gogarbank (Edinburgh)	12	↑	3	4	14	3	9
Newcastle	*4	↑	1	4	8	1	8
York	*17	↑	0	/	25	1	/
Preston	*34	↑	6	11	59	9	33
Kirton	*3	↑	3	12	16	14	25
Broom's Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds)	*0	↓	7	26	24	16	60
Wellesbourne	*6	↓	2	14	42	11	25
Hereford	*11	↑	7	14	30	9	32
Rothamsted (Harpenden)	*2	↓	0	15	34	6	23
Writtle	*0	↓	4	19	42	10	38
Silwood Park (nr Ascot)	*0		7	16	16	12	30
Wye	*0		1	1	4	4	5
Starcross (nr Exeter)	*3	↑	26	42	47	78	101

The rose–grain aphid was caught at ten sites in low numbers this bulletin week. There were small increases at seven sites and the highest numbers were at Preston.

Bird cherry–oat aphid (*Rhopalosiphum padi*)

Bird cherry–oat aphid (<i>Rhopalosiphum padi</i>)	Bulletin Week Totals		06/06-12/06		Accumulated until		12/06
	2016	Compared to last Bulletin week	2015	10-year average 2006-15	2016	2015	10-year average 2006-15
Dundee	1	↓	/	8	22	/	17
Gogarbank (Edinburgh)	3	↑	0	10	10	0	21
Newcastle	*4	↑	0	15	9	1	31
York	*20	↑	3	/	46	5	/
Preston	*6	↓	1	4	38	4	21
Kirton	*22	↑	3	79	157	10	130
Broom's Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds)	*34	↑	1	36	250	10	140
Wellesbourne	*78	↑	2	21	242	3	69
Hereford	*11	↓	1	14	142	7	38
Rothamsted (Harpenden)	*19	↓	5	18	180	12	53
Writtle	*50	↑	5	14	401	19	79
Silwood Park (nr Ascot)	*8	↑	11	34	128	17	111
Wye	*8	↑	2	10	163	17	110
Starcross (nr Exeter)	*31	↑	7	32	464	30	143

The bird cherry–oat aphid was caught at all sites this bulletin week. Numbers were up on last week at ten sites. Numbers are above the accumulated 10-yr means across much of England.

Grain aphid (*Sitobion avenae*)

Grain aphid (<i>Sitobion avenae</i>)	Bulletin Week Totals		06/06-12/06		Accumulated until		12/06
	2016	Compared to last Bulletin week	2015	10-year average 2006-15	2016	2015	10-year average 2006-15
Dundee	1	↓	/	4	10	/	8
Gogarbank (Edinburgh)	6	↑	1	3	10	1	7
Newcastle	*3	↑	0	3	8	1	10
York	*11	↑	7	/	19	15	/
Preston	*6	↓	2	7	14	3	20
Kirton	*0		0	2	9	1	10
Broom's Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds)	*3	↓	2	3	22	3	9
Wellesbourne	*14	↑	0	5	46	0	32
Hereford	*0	↓	0	6	12	2	16
Rothamsted (Harpenden)	*2	↑	4	3	17	4	8
Writtle	*3	↑	0	3	21	6	9
Silwood Park (nr Ascot)	*3	↑	2	7	18	4	19
Wye	*0		0	1	39	0	9
Starcross (nr Exeter)	*8	↑	4	10	36	13	9

The grain aphid was caught in low numbers at 11 sites this week.

Peach–potato aphid (*Myzus persicae*)

Peach–potato aphid (<i>Myzus persicae</i>)	Bulletin Week Totals		06/06-12/06		Accumulated until		12/06
	2016	Compared to last Bulletin week	2015	10-year average 2006-15	2016	2015	10-year average 2006-15
Dundee	0	↓	/	1	1	/	1
Gogarbank (Edinburgh)	0		0	1	0	1	2
Newcastle	*3	↑	0	2	3	1	5
York	*151	↑	1	/	171	3	/
Preston	*62	↑	22	11	68	22	17
Kirton	*20	↑	6	16	48	31	37
Broom’s Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds)	*220	↑	63	65	287	215	215
Wellesbourne	*1120	↑	186	81	1333	230	187
Hereford	*316	↑	95	21	392	106	44
Rothamsted (Harpenden)	*140	↑	68	21	258	83	96
Writtle	*155	↑	47	56	368	119	198
Silwood Park (nr Ascot)	*14	↑	24	12	28	33	30
Wye	*20	↑	20	14	43	61	84
Starcross (nr Exeter)	*1	↓	36	11	43	48	50

The peach–potato aphid was caught at 12 sites this week, with numbers increasing at 10 sites and a big hotspot at Wellesbourne (1120) and high numbers across much of central England.

Potato aphid (*Macrosiphum euphorbiae*)

Potato aphid (<i>Macrosiphum euphorbiae</i>)	Bulletin Week Totals		06/06-12/06		Accumulated until		12/06
	2016	Compared to last Bulletin week	2015	10-year average 2006-15	2016	2015	10-year average 2006-15
Dundee	2	↓	/	1	7	/	4
Gogarbank (Edinburgh)	4		0	6	8	1	14
Newcastle	*0		1	2	1	1	7
York	*0		1	/	5	1	/
Preston	*11	↑	1	3	23	2	11
Kirton	*3	↑	0	1	14	5	7
Broom’s Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds)	*4	↑	2	1	4	9	8
Wellesbourne	*0	↓	4	3	8	7	14
Hereford	*11	↑	16	5	21	21	14
Rothamsted (Harpenden)	*7	↑	2	1	13	4	7
Writtle	*4	↑	7	3	16	12	16
Silwood Park (nr Ascot)	*6	↑	11	2	14	19	12
Wye	*0		2	2	2	4	5
Starcross (nr Exeter)	*0	↓	7	6	3	15	24

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

Mealy Cabbage aphid (*Brevicoryne brassicae*)

Cabbage aphid (<i>Brevicoryne brassicae</i>)	Bulletin Week Totals		06/06-12/06		Accumulated until		12/06
	2016	Compared to last Bulletin week	2015	10-year average 2006-15	2016	2015	10-year average 2006-15
Dundee	0		/	0	0	/	0
Gogarbank (Edinburgh)	0	↓	0	1	1	0	1
Newcastle	*0		0	3	0	0	4
York	*39	↑	0	/	44	0	/
Preston	*73	↑	1	5	73	2	12
Kirton	*22	↑	5	4	68	33	23
Broom's Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds)	*8	↓	5	4	32	12	18
Wellesbourne	*1050	↑	132	43	1231	199	117
Hereford	*907	↑	41	14	1072	52	52
Rothamsted (Harpenden)	*5	↑	4	1	8	9	10
Writtle	*15	↑	4	8	42	23	75
Silwood Park (nr Ascot)	*3	↑	2	4	7	4	19
Wye	*3	↑	0	1	18	2	15
Starcross (nr Exeter)	*1	↓	6	10	10	17	45

The mealy cabbage aphid was caught at 11 sites this week, with big hotspots at Wellesbourne (1050) and Hereford (907).

Willow-carrot aphid (*Cavariella aegopodii*)

Willow-carrot aphid (<i>Cavariella aegopodii</i>)	Bulletin Week Totals		06/06-12/06		Accumulated until		12/06
	2016	Compared to last Bulletin week	2015	10-year average 2006-15	2016	2015	10-year average 2006-15
Dundee	12	↓	/	14	114	/	59
Gogarbank (Edinburgh)	46	↑	112	32	75	137	59
Newcastle	*3	↑	16	19	4	31	50
York	*199	↑	40	/	328	232	/
Preston	*818	↑	126	76	1076	274	449
Kirton	*207	↑	95	52	557	535	463
Broom's Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds)	*171	↑	73	60	387	1056	654
Wellesbourne	*213	↑	158	83	384	523	373
Hereford	*62	↑	65	35	120	187	335
Rothamsted (Harpenden)	*96	↑	287	53	218	815	364
Writtle	*97	↑	142	49	462	1656	863
Silwood Park (nr Ascot)	*14	↑	189	53	93	490	264
Wye	*11	↓	78	32	169	722	368
Starcross (nr Exeter)	*14	↓	36	17	135	232	112

The willow-carrot aphid was caught at all sites this week, with numbers increasing at 11 sites and a big hotspot at Preston (818).

Pea aphid (*Acyrtosiphon pisum*)

Pea aphid (<i>Acyrtosiphon pisum</i>)	Bulletin Week Totals		06/06-12/06		Accumulated until		12/06
	2016	Compared to last Bulletin week	2015	10-year average 2006-15	2016	2015	10-year average 2006-15
Dundee	0		/	1	0	/	1
Gogarbank (Edinburgh)	1	↑	0	1	1	0	3
Newcastle	*0		0	0	0	0	2
York	*0	↓	0	/	7	0	/
Preston	*0	↓	0	1	7	0	4
Kirton	*22	↑	0	2	31	0	19
Broom's Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds)	*43	↑	1	12	74	3	38
Wellesbourne	*98	↑	3	7	156	7	31
Hereford	*25	↑	0	5	97	1	19
Rothamsted (Harpenden)	*19	↑	3	10	100	6	36
Writtle	*7	↓	0	13	87	4	45
Silwood Park (nr Ascot)	*3	↑	7	13	42	9	32
Wye	*6	↑	17	5	27	22	18
Starcross (nr Exeter)	*6	↑	12	9	29	21	30

The pea aphid was caught at ten sites this week, with numbers increasing at nine sites and a hotspot at Wellesbourne.

Black bean aphid (*Aphis fabae*)

Black bean aphid (<i>Aphis fabae</i>)	Bulletin Week Totals		06/06-12/06		Accumulated until		12/06
	2016	Compared to last Bulletin week	2015	10-year average 2006-15	2016	2015	10-year average 2006-15
Dundee	0	↓	/	0	2	/	2
Gogarbank (Edinburgh)	3	↑	0	1	3	0	2
Newcastle	*0		0	0	0	0	0
York	*0		0	/	0	0	/
Preston	*0		1	0	1	2	2
Kirton	*0	↓	0	0	2	2	1
Broom's Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds)	*0		0	2	1	31	8
Wellesbourne	*0		3	4	0	11	9
Hereford	*0		5	4	0	9	8
Rothamsted (Harpenden)	*0	↓	16	6	3	33	11
Writtle	*0		6	4	0	18	10
Silwood Park (nr Ascot)	*11	↑	0	7	11	11	15
Wye	*0		0	3	0	10	7
Starcross (nr Exeter)	*77	↑	3	24	93	26	36

The black bean aphid was caught at three sites spanning from Edinburgh down to south west England. Starcross continues as a very distinctive hotspot for this species at present.

Further information

Please send information on crop aphids to: mark-s.taylor@rothamsted.ac.uk

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