



## 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](http://www.potato.org.uk/online-toolbox/aphid-monitoring).

**GENERAL** – Aphid flight activity remains relatively low after yet another week of unsettled weather. Although the temperatures were often in the high teens and low twenties, heavy rain with thundery downpours and brisk winds persisted. There were reports of hail in the north although for the south the weather did improve as the week progressed finishing in a drier spell. Even though aphid migration is low, aphids will still be present in many crops as they head towards maturation. This is the peak period when the numbers of natural enemies will be active and abundant.

### WINTER AND SPRING CEREALS

All three aphids colonising wheat and other cereals are now very low in number. At most suction traps sites numbers have fallen. Against the same period last year and against the 10-year mean, 2016 is proving to be an unremarkable season for rose-grain aphid, bird cherry-oat aphid and grain aphid. Only in the Grampian region (YWT) for bird cherry-oat aphid are numbers well above average (x2). No reports of spraying have been received. The threshold is 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. During this bulletin week, 90% the UK's winter wheat was flowering (GS61).

### POTATOES

An astonishingly low catch of peach-potato aphids (*Myzus persicae*) were recorded in this bulletin week. Although widespread, peach-potato aphid numbers in YWTs were similarly low. Records were received of the glasshouse-and-potato aphid (*Aulacorthum solani*) and bulb-and-potato aphid (*Rhopalosiphoninus latysiphon*) in Northern England and Scotland but in low numbers. Consequently, virus pressure was either low or normal for the time of year. During this period when aphid migration appears to be low, it is always worth checking for numbers on the host, as these are ideal conditions for growth.

Cereal aphid and black bean numbers remain low but may still pose a threat later on. Further regional information on potato virus vectors can be accessed here: [www.potato.org.uk/online-toolbox/aphid-monitoring](http://www.potato.org.uk/online-toolbox/aphid-monitoring).

### WINTER and SPRING OILSEED RAPE

Peach-potato aphid and mealy cabbage aphid are either low in number or absent at trap sites. Growers should note that although numbers are low, over half of peach-potato aphids were carrying turnip yellows virus (TuYv) as reported by AHDB's Horticultural Pest Blog.

### FIELD BRASSICAS and LEAFY VEGETABLES

All aphids affecting field brassicas and leafy vegetables are generally low in STs. The real threat to crop production is the additional threat of the diamond back moth caterpillars to brassicas. A number of growers have reported problems.

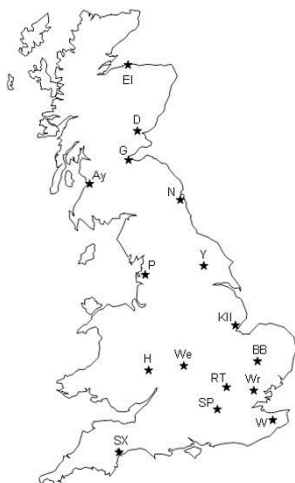
### CARROTS and PARSNIPS

Numbers of willow-carrot aphid fell throughout the ST and YWT networks. However, In YWTs willow-carrot aphid virus pressure is still a potential concern in Northern England. Numbers of parsnip aphids, *Cavariella pastinaceae* (Newcastle 2; Preston 2) and *Cavariella theobaldi* (Newcastle 1), are very low.

### PEAS and BEANS

The combined numbers of pea aphid and black bean aphid did not reach double figures across the whole of the network. Many records were singletons and consequently were unlikely to have posed a serious threat, but crop inspection is still recommended. Combining peas should be sprayed when around 20% of plants are infested and vining peas when 15% are infested. The threshold for black bean aphid in field and broad beans is 10% colonisation at early flowering and 5% infested to prevent virus transmission.

# SUCTION-TRAPPING RESULTS



The information below relates to suction-trap samples collected during **Bulletin Week 15: 27/6 – 03/7**.

- Unseasonably wet and windy weather has proved to be challenging to many aphids that, for the most part, were recorded in single figures.
- Bird cherry–oat aphid and, to a lesser extent, grain aphids numbers appear to be higher at Dundee than elsewhere.
- The currant-lettuce aphid (*Nasonovia ribisnigri*) was absent and only five records of parsnip aphids (*Cavariella pastinaceae*, *Cavariella theobaldi*) were counted.
- In potatoes, virus pressure was deemed to be normal or low across the UK. Three aphid species were recorded in STs and YWTs: peach–potato aphid, glasshouse-and-potato aphid and bulb-and-potato aphid, but all were very low in number.
- YWTs showed that willow-carrot aphid virus pressure is still a potential concern in Northern England.
- Despite low aphid numbers on the wing, prudence is needed. It might well be the case that healthy aphid populations are present on the host. Crop inspection is still recommended.

\* 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		27/06-03/07		Accumulated until		03/07
	2016	Compared to last Bulletin week	2015	10-year average 2006-15	2016	2015	10-year average 2006-15
Dundee	11	↓	/	135	50	/	154
Gogarbank (Edinburgh)	1	↓	7	122	26	10	164
Newcastle	3	↓	6	32	32	12	59
York	4	↑	24	/	31	38	/
Preston	0	↓	2	58	65	49	304
Kirton	1	↓	94	307	25	168	525
Broom's Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds)	1	↓	113	322	30	210	558
Wellesbourne	0	↓	70	117	57	191	250
Hereford	0		83	158	35	204	297
Rothamsted (Harpenden)	2		51	167	41	155	277
Writtle	*0	↓	32	213	44	94	353
Silwood Park (nr Ascot)	0		27	43	16	86	117
Wye	3	↓	16	43	17	52	87
Starcross (nr Exeter)	1	↓	82	34	55	344	286

The rose–grain aphid was caught in low numbers at 9 sites this week. There were small increases at York, but generally numbers are below the 10-yr means.

**Bird cherry–oat aphid (*Rhopalosiphum padi*)**

Bird cherry–oat aphid ( <i>Rhopalosiphum padi</i> )	Bulletin Week Totals		27/06-03/07		Accumulated until		03/07
	2016	Compared to last Bulletin week	2015	10-year average 2006-15	2016	2015	10-year average 2006-15
Dundee	167	↓	/	144	746	/	235
Gogarbank (Edinburgh)	5	↓	0	183	72	4	254
Newcastle	30	↑	1	72	65	5	198
York	4	↓	6	/	62	13	/
Preston	6	↑	3	15	64	12	64
Kirton	1	↓	24	157	189	66	487
Broom's Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds)	3	↓	20	336	263	41	587
Wellesbourne	3	↓	0	13	263	23	117
Hereford	5	↓	8	56	163	26	141
Rothamsted (Harpenden)	5	↓	7	143	196	22	250
Writtle	*1	↓	12	154	422	51	345
Silwood Park (nr Ascot)	7	↑	3	32	144	23	160
Wye	7	↑	16	36	174	35	167
Starcross (nr Exeter)	10		20	32	504	59	228

The bird cherry–oat aphid was caught at all sites this bulletin week. Numbers tended to be down on last week's bulletin and the Dundee hotspot is now on the wane. Numbers are below 10-yr means across England.

**Grain aphid (*Sitobion avenae*)**

Grain aphid ( <i>Sitobion avenae</i> )	Bulletin Week Totals		27/06-03/07		Accumulated until		03/07
	2016	Compared to last Bulletin week	2015	10-year average 2006-15	2016	2015	10-year average 2006-15
Dundee	18	↑	/	10	50	/	34
Gogarbank (Edinburgh)	1	↓	3	46	22	4	63
Newcastle	3	↓	2	17	29	4	34
York	0		46	/	23	105	/
Preston	0	↓	18	90	21	27	131
Kirton	0	↓	30	183	12	31	213
Broom's Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds)	0		27	351	22	35	392
Wellesbourne	2	↓	7	67	55	21	140
Hereford	0		53	142	19	75	196
Rothamsted (Harpenden)	4	↑	19	332	22	35	371
Writtle	*3	↑	22	341	24	34	415
Silwood Park (nr Ascot)	0	↓	31	79	23	43	127
Wye	10	↑	13	48	52	19	72
Starcross (nr Exeter)	3	↓	94	35	61	118	72

The grain aphid was caught in low numbers at 7 sites this week. Only at Dundee are these numbers higher than the 10-year mean.

**Peach–potato aphid (*Myzus persicae*)**

Peach–potato aphid ( <i>Myzus persicae</i> )	Bulletin Week Totals		27/06-03/07		Accumulated until		03/07
	2016	Compared to last Bulletin week	2015	10-year average 2006-15	2016	2015	10-year average 2006-15
Dundee	3	↓	/	1	13	/	4
Gogarbank (Edinburgh)	0	↓	25	5	3	26	9
Newcastle	1	↓	4	3	19	13	12
York	0	↓	192	/	256	295	/
Preston	0		80	58	110	106	87
Kirton	2	↓	932	151	179	2442	394
Broom's Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds)	0	↓	709	153	366	2355	638
Wellesbourne	0	↓	79	60	1649	1193	483
Hereford	0	↓	186	41	466	653	140
Rothamsted (Harpenden)	0	↓	130	101	297	899	313
Writtle	*0	↓	128	197	416	1415	605
Silwood Park (nr Ascot)	0		10	8	29	127	56
Wye	0	↓	77	20	59	600	232
Starcross (nr Exeter)	0		604	72	43	691	150

Numbers of the peach–potato aphid crashed with many sites not recording any numbers at all.

**Potato aphid (*Macrosiphum euphorbiae*)**

Potato aphid ( <i>Macrosiphum euphorbiae</i> )	Bulletin Week Totals		27/06-03/07		Accumulated until		03/07
	2016	Compared to last Bulletin week	2015	10-year average 2006-15	2016	2015	10-year average 2006-15
Dundee	1	↓	/	2	14	/	9
Gogarbank (Edinburgh)	0	↓	6	11	14	10	32
Newcastle	1	↑	1	2	2	9	12
York	0	↓	8	/	9	13	/
Preston	0	↓	6	6	30	28	24
Kirton	0		24	22	15	59	37
Broom's Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds)	0		1	15	4	15	28
Wellesbourne	0	↓	2	5	21	58	35
Hereford	0	↓	26	18	29	85	47
Rothamsted (Harpenden)	0		6	3	15	19	17
Writtle	*0		16	7	16	56	33
Silwood Park (nr Ascot)	0		0	2	14	32	18
Wye	1	↑	0	1	3	6	12
Starcross (nr Exeter)	0		27	8	8	54	41

The potato aphid was recorded as singletons at three sites

**Mealy Cabbage aphid (*Brevicoryne brassicae*)**

Cabbage aphid ( <i>Brevicoryne brassicae</i> )	Bulletin Week Totals		27/06-03/07		Accumulated until		03/07
	2016	Compared to last Bulletin week	2015	10-year average 2006-15	2016	2015	10-year average 2006-15
Dundee	0		/	0	0	/	1
Gogarbank (Edinburgh)	0	↓	0	0	2	0	2
Newcastle	0		3	0	0	3	6
York	0	↓	34	/	49	65	/
Preston	0	↓	2	3	81	6	16
Kirton	0		644	67	75	1074	132
Broom's Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds)	0		247	29	32	297	56
Wellesbourne	1	↓	541	167	1347	2329	654
Hereford	0	↓	326	54	1100	619	141
Rothamsted (Harpenden)	0		34	14	8	69	32
Writtle	*0		226	53	44	405	156
Silwood Park (nr Ascot)	0		7	15	7	28	44
Wye	0		27	9	18	111	72
Starcross (nr Exeter)	0		46	14	10	131	137

The mealy cabbage aphid was only recorded at Wellesbourne. This is proving to be a radically different year to 2015.

**Willow-carrot aphid (*Cavariella aegopodii*)**

Willow-carrot aphid ( <i>Cavariella aegopodii</i> )	Bulletin Week Totals		27/06-03/07		Accumulated until		03/07
	2016	Compared to last Bulletin week	2015	10-year average 2006-15	2016	2015	10-year average 2006-15
Dundee	1	↓	/	2	174	/	67
Gogarbank (Edinburgh)	4	↓	25	9	153	225	94
Newcastle	9	↓	11	9	59	96	92
York	0	↓	94	/	475	433	/
Preston	2	↓	87	34	1151	548	567
Kirton	0	↓	408	73	683	2168	748
Broom's Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds)	4	↓	149	33	450	1924	831
Wellesbourne	1	↓	122	31	447	1326	577
Hereford	0		52	15	153	395	401
Rothamsted (Harpenden)	4	↓	51	18	247	1343	481
Writtle	*0	↓	48	23	489	2112	977
Silwood Park (nr Ascot)	0		8	6	100	738	321
Wye	5	↓	28	11	200	978	456
Starcross (nr Exeter)	0	↓	18	14	143	333	165

The willow-carrot aphid numbers fell at all sites and nowhere were double figures recorded.

**Pea aphid (*Acyrtosiphon pisum*)**

Pea aphid ( <i>Acyrtosiphon pisum</i> )	Bulletin Week Totals 27/06-03/07				Accumulated until 03/07		
	2016	Compared to last Bulletin week	2015	10-year average 2006-15	2016	2015	10-year average 2006-15
Dundee	1	↓	/	3	4	/	11
Gogarbank (Edinburgh)	0	↓	6	7	2	7	22
Newcastle	0	↓	1	3	11	1	8
York	0		4	/	9	17	/
Preston	0		10	23	7	10	34
Kirton	1	↓	66	92	62	131	332
Broom's Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds)	0	↓	26	66	95	42	284
Wellesbourne	1	↑	9	75	185	33	210
Hereford	0	↓	16	22	101	31	67
Rothamsted (Harpenden)	0	↓	26	60	110	51	182
Writtle	*0	↓	46	108	105	70	336
Silwood Park (nr Ascot)	0		5	16	46	27	71
Wye	1	↓	6	22	32	50	129
Starcross (nr Exeter)	0		148	22	31	173	75

Single records of the pea aphid were recorded at four sites.

**Black bean aphid (*Aphis fabae*)**

Black bean aphid ( <i>Aphis fabae</i> )	Bulletin Week Totals 27/06-03/07				Accumulated until 03/07		
	2016	Compared to last Bulletin week	2015	10-year average 2006-15	2016	2015	10-year average 2006-15
Dundee	1		/	0	4	/	3
Gogarbank (Edinburgh)	0		5	1	3	5	3
Newcastle	0		9	3	0	9	3
York	0		220	/	0	233	/
Preston	0		66	13	1	68	17
Kirton	0		460	62	7	567	78
Broom's Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds)	0		709	123	1	1040	179
Wellesbourne	0		270	66	2	556	143
Hereford	0		351	52	0	399	80
Rothamsted (Harpenden)	0	↓	252	128	5	399	200
Writtle	*0	↓	768	149	2	1404	242
Silwood Park (nr Ascot)	1	↓	68	27	15	137	58
Wye	0	↓	72	19	2	175	50
Starcross (nr Exeter)	2	↓	38	8	200	116	67

Starcross is no longer a hotspot for this species. Across the network low numbers of this aphid were recorded.

## Further information

Please send information on crop aphids to: [mark-s.taylor@rothamsted.ac.uk](mailto:mark-s.taylor@rothamsted.ac.uk)

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