



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 flight activity marginally increased on last week, but numbers remain low for the time of year after another week of unsettled and windy weather. Aphids may still be present in many crops as they head towards maturity but they are coming under mounting natural enemy pressure.

WINTER AND SPRING CEREALS

Numbers of all three cereal aphids are now very low for the time of year compared to 10-year means. The threshold is 66% of tillers infested from GS61 to two weeks before the end of grain filling, however spraying after the flowering period is unlikely to be economically worthwhile, giving a progressively smaller yield response. The first winter barley crops have been harvested in southern England in between showers.

POTATOES

Virus pressure is low across all regions. Numbers of peach–potato aphid (*Myzus persicae*) and the potato aphid (*Macrosiphum euphorbiae*) remain very low in both ST and YWT this week. Lack of sunshine is slowing up crop growth in some parts of southern and western England, but mature plant resistance should now make it more difficult for aphids to transmit virus within the crop. In Scotland things are a little later than normal with most crops not yet at full canopy and continued monitoring for aphids is recommended.

Cereal aphid and black bean aphid 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.

WINTER and SPRING OILSEED RAPE

Numbers of peach–potato aphid and mealy cabbage aphid are low or absent at most 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 potential threat to crop production is diamond back moth caterpillars in a range of brassicas. A number of growers have reported problems.

CARROTS and PARSNIPS

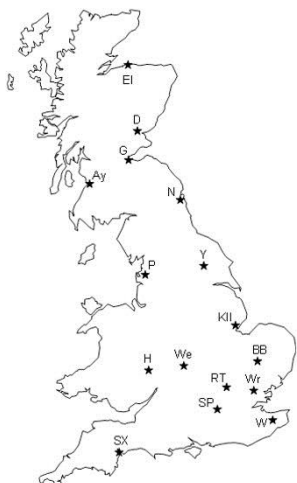
The numbers of willow–carrot aphid (*Cavariella aegopodii*) flying are now very low everywhere. Numbers of parsnip aphids, *Cavariella pastinaceae* (1 at Newcastle) and *Cavariella theobaldi* (1 at Wellesbourne) are also very low.

PEAS and BEANS

Pea aphid (*Acyrtosiphon pisum*) numbers are low in our trap catches compared to 10-year means for this time of year. Field reports indicate natural enemies are doing a good job, especially hoverfly larvae. Combining peas should be sprayed when around 20% of plants are infested and vining peas when 15% are infested. The vining pea harvest has already begun in Lincolnshire.

The threshold for black bean aphid (*Aphis fabae*) in field and broad beans is 10% colonisation at early flowering and 5% infested to prevent virus transmission. We have not received any field reports of crops requiring treatment so far. Numbers in both ST and YWT are conspicuously low both for the time of year and compared to the large migrations seen in 2015.

SUCTION-TRAPPING RESULTS



The information below relates to suction-trap samples collected during **Bulletin Week 16: 04/7 – 10/7**.

- Continued unsettled weather resulted in only a marginal increase in aphid flight activity this bulletin week.
- Numbers of all three cereal aphids are now very low for the time of year compared to the 10-year means. Numbers are higher at Dundee than elsewhere.
- Numbers of peach–potato aphid (*Myzus persicae*) and the potato aphid (*Macrosiphum euphorbiae*) remain very low this week.
- The numbers of willow–carrot aphid (*Cavariella aegopodii*) flying are now very low everywhere.
- Single currant-lettuce aphids (*Nasonovia ribisnigri*) were caught at Elgin and Starcross.
- Numbers of parsnip aphids, *Cavariella pastinaceae* (1 at Newcastle) and *Cavariella theobaldi* (1 at Wellesbourne) are also very low.
- Numbers of the black bean aphid (*Aphis fabae*) are conspicuously low, both for the time of year and compared to the large migrations seen in 2015.

* 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		04/07-10/07		Accumulated until		10/07
	2016	Compared to last Bulletin week	2015	10-year average 2006-15	2016	2015	10-year average 2006-15
Dundee	11		/	354	61	/	507
Gogarbank (Edinburgh)	3	↑	24	160	29	34	324
Newcastle	4	↑	8	18	36	20	77
York	0	↓	12	/	31	50	/
Preston	4	↑	11	12	69	60	316
Kirton	6	↑	7	548	31	175	1073
Broom's Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds)	8	↑	9	342	38	219	900
Wellesbourne	0		48	72	57	239	322
Hereford	0		30	81	35	234	379
Rothamsted (Harpenden)	4	↑	39	160	45	194	437
Writtle	2	↑	11	124	46	105	477
Silwood Park (nr Ascot)	0		15	6	16	101	122
Wye	7	↑	6	79	24	58	165
Starcross (nr Exeter)	1		18	26	56	362	312

The rose–grain aphid was caught in low numbers at ten sites this week. There were small increases at eight sites and the highest numbers were at Dundee, but numbers are well below the 10-yr means.

Bird cherry–oat aphid (*Rhopalosiphum padi*)

Bird cherry–oat aphid (<i>Rhopalosiphum padi</i>)	Bulletin Week Totals		04/07-10/07		Accumulated until		10/07
	2016	Compared to last Bulletin week	2015	10-year average 2006-15	2016	2015	10-year average 2006-15
Dundee	137	↓	/	190	883	/	424
Gogarbank (Edinburgh)	11	↑	1	367	83	5	621
Newcastle	65	↑	0	58	130	5	256
York	8	↑	4	/	70	17	/
Preston	2	↓	4	9	66	16	73
Kirton	4	↑	11	150	193	77	637
Broom's Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds)	12	↑	4	97	275	45	684
Wellesbourne	7	↑	5	24	270	28	140
Hereford	7	↑	1	37	170	27	178
Rothamsted (Harpenden)	15	↑	0	52	211	22	302
Writtle	14	↑	0	42	436	51	386
Silwood Park (nr Ascot)	4	↓	1	8	148	24	168
Wye	27	↑	1	24	201	36	191
Starcross (nr Exeter)	29	↑	9	39	533	68	267

The bird cherry–oat aphid was caught at all sites this bulletin week. Numbers were very slightly up on last week's bulletin, with hotspots at Dundee (137) and Newcastle (65).

Grain aphid (*Sitobion avenae*)

Grain aphid (<i>Sitobion avenae</i>)	Bulletin Week Totals		04/07-10/07		Accumulated until		10/07
	2016	Compared to last Bulletin week	2015	10-year average 2006-15	2016	2015	10-year average 2006-15
Dundee	23	↑	/	77	73	/	111
Gogarbank (Edinburgh)	1		5	73	23	9	135
Newcastle	2	↓	2	10	31	6	44
York	8	↑	104	/	31	209	/
Preston	4	↑	8	38	25	35	169
Kirton	1	↑	0	501	13	31	714
Broom's Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds)	0		1	217	22	36	610
Wellesbourne	2		25	256	57	46	397
Hereford	1	↑	51	121	20	126	316
Rothamsted (Harpenden)	1	↓	17	215	23	52	586
Writtle	1	↓	6	147	25	40	562
Silwood Park (nr Ascot)	0		9	39	23	52	166
Wye	1	↓	5	105	53	24	177
Starcross (nr Exeter)	5	↑	93	45	66	211	177

The grain aphid was caught in low numbers at 12 sites this week, with a small hotspot at Dundee (23).

Peach–potato aphid (*Myzus persicae*)

Peach–potato aphid (<i>Myzus persicae</i>)	Bulletin Week Totals		04/07-10/07		Accumulated until		10/07
	2016	Compared to last Bulletin week	2015	10-year average 2006-15	2016	2015	10-year average 2006-15
Dundee	4	↑	/	3	17	/	7
Gogarbank (Edinburgh)	5	↑	1	2	8	27	11
Newcastle	0	↓	9	1	19	22	14
York	0		52	/	256	347	/
Preston	2	↑	32	32	112	138	119
Kirton	1	↓	169	214	180	2611	608
Broom’s Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds)	1	↑	113	120	367	2468	758
Wellesbourne	0		59	24	1649	1252	507
Hereford	0		42	18	466	695	158
Rothamsted (Harpenden)	0		60	58	297	959	370
Writtle	2	↑	26	84	418	1441	689
Silwood Park (nr Ascot)	0		5	3	29	132	60
Wye	4	↑	27	14	63	627	246
Starcross (nr Exeter)	0		44	8	43	735	159

The peach–potato aphid was caught at seven sites in low numbers this bulletin week.

Potato aphid (*Macrosiphum euphorbiae*)

Potato aphid (<i>Macrosiphum euphorbiae</i>)	Bulletin Week Totals		04/07-10/07		Accumulated until		10/07
	2016	Compared to last Bulletin week	2015	10-year average 2006-15	2016	2015	10-year average 2006-15
Dundee	1		/	3	15	/	12
Gogarbank (Edinburgh)	0		1	9	14	11	41
Newcastle	1		1	1	3	10	13
York	0		6	/	9	19	/
Preston	0		4	2	30	32	27
Kirton	0		4	17	15	63	54
Broom’s Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds)	0		4	7	4	19	35
Wellesbourne	0		0	4	21	58	39
Hereford	0		16	16	29	101	63
Rothamsted (Harpenden)	0		4	3	15	23	20
Writtle	0		0	4	16	56	38
Silwood Park (nr Ascot)	0		1	0	14	33	19
Wye	0	↓	0	2	3	6	14
Starcross (nr Exeter)	0		5	2	8	59	44

The potato aphid was recorded as singletons at two sites.

Mealy Cabbage aphid (*Brevicoryne brassicae*)

Cabbage aphid (<i>Brevicoryne brassicae</i>)	Bulletin Week Totals		04/07-10/07		Accumulated until		10/07
	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)	1	↑	0	0	3	0	2
Newcastle	0		0	0	0	3	6
York	4	↑	12	/	53	77	/
Preston	0		4	1	81	10	17
Kirton	0		192	27	75	1266	159
Broom's Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds)	0		45	26	32	342	82
Wellesbourne	2	↑	580	127	1349	2909	780
Hereford	0		128	16	1100	747	156
Rothamsted (Harpenden)	0		37	14	8	106	46
Writtle	0		28	26	44	433	182
Silwood Park (nr Ascot)	0		61	14	7	89	58
Wye	0		129	28	18	240	100
Starcross (nr Exeter)	0		9	14	10	140	151

The mealy cabbage aphid was caught at three sites in low numbers this bulletin week.

Willow-carrot aphid (*Cavariella aegopodii*)

Willow-carrot aphid (<i>Cavariella aegopodii</i>)	Bulletin Week Totals		04/07-10/07		Accumulated until		10/07
	2016	Compared to last Bulletin week	2015	10-year average 2006-15	2016	2015	10-year average 2006-15
Dundee	3	↑	/	3	177	/	70
Gogarbank (Edinburgh)	2	↓	2	5	155	227	99
Newcastle	11	↑	10	6	70	106	98
York	4	↑	18	/	479	451	/
Preston	2		34	10	1153	582	577
Kirton	1	↑	31	15	684	2199	763
Broom's Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds)	0	↓	10	13	450	1934	844
Wellesbourne	0	↓	5	5	447	1331	582
Hereford	0		2	16	153	397	417
Rothamsted (Harpenden)	1	↓	0	9	248	1343	490
Writtle	1	↑	2	12	490	2114	988
Silwood Park (nr Ascot)	0		4	1	100	742	322
Wye	1	↓	1	7	201	979	462
Starcross (nr Exeter)	0		4	12	143	337	177

The willow-carrot aphid was caught in low numbers at nine sites this week. Highest numbers were at Newcastle, but numbers are now low everywhere.

Pea aphid (*Acyrtosiphon pisum*)

Pea aphid (<i>Acyrtosiphon pisum</i>)	Bulletin Week Totals		04/07-10/07		Accumulated until		10/07
	2016	Compared to last Bulletin week	2015	10-year average 2006-15	2016	2015	10-year average 2006-15
Dundee	2	↑	/	7	6	/	29
Gogarbank (Edinburgh)	0		2	10	2	9	26
Newcastle	2	↑	2	2	13	3	12
York	0		2	/	9	19	/
Preston	0		1	3	7	11	35
Kirton	0	↓	71	185	62	202	429
Broom's Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds)	0		31	157	95	73	394
Wellesbourne	0	↓	27	79	185	60	314
Hereford	0		1	18	101	32	100
Rothamsted (Harpenden)	2	↑	26	64	112	77	285
Writtle	0		12	156	105	82	485
Silwood Park (nr Ascot)	0		4	14	46	31	106
Wye	1		20	60	33	70	233
Starcross (nr Exeter)	2	↑	6	7	33	179	82

The pea aphid was caught at five sites in very low numbers.

Black bean aphid (*Aphis fabae*)

Black bean aphid (<i>Aphis fabae</i>)	Bulletin Week Totals		04/07-10/07		Accumulated until		10/07
	2016	Compared to last Bulletin week	2015	10-year average 2006-15	2016	2015	10-year average 2006-15
Dundee	0	↓	/	2	4	/	5
Gogarbank (Edinburgh)	0		0	2	3	5	5
Newcastle	0		11	2	0	20	5
York	0		320	/	0	553	/
Preston	0		9	3	1	77	20
Kirton	0		414	64	7	981	143
Broom's Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds)	0		312	72	1	1352	251
Wellesbourne	0		250	70	2	806	213
Hereford	0		134	29	0	533	109
Rothamsted (Harpenden)	1	↑	283	105	6	682	305
Writtle	1	↑	157	49	3	1561	291
Silwood Park (nr Ascot)	0	↓	37	8	15	174	66
Wye	3	↑	117	36	5	292	86
Starcross (nr Exeter)	3	↑	45	20	203	161	86

The black bean aphid was caught at four sites in very low numbers for the time of year.

Further information

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

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