

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 decreased significantly in the past week due to unsettled windy weather and mounting natural enemy pressures. Numbers of the black bean aphid (*Aphis fabae*) flying remain high for the time of year, but numbers of the peach-potato aphid (*Myzus persicae*) have dropped right off.

CEREALS

Numbers of cereal aphids flying this week have fallen and numbers remain low for the time of year. There have been no reports of significant numbers of cereal aphids in crops. The threshold for control is 66% of tillers infested from GS61 to two weeks before the end of grain filling. The first barley crops have been harvested in East Anglia and southern England before rain stopped play.

POTATOES

Virus pressure has begun to drop throughout the country, but remains high in most of England but low in Scotland. The peach-potato aphid (*Myzus persicae*) has been found in most regions, but numbers are falling rapidly. Numbers of the black bean aphid (*Aphis fabae*) flying remain high, and this species is responsible for most of the virus pressure this week. This species is a good vector of PVA, so PVA-susceptible varieties may be especially at risk. Cereal aphids are scarce and remain at low levels for the time of year. Further regional information on potato virus vectors can be accessed here: www.potato.org.uk/online-toolbox/aphid-monitoring.

OILSEED RAPE

Aphids are no longer an issue in most crops with harvesting beginning in East Anglia and southern England before the rain returned. Aphid numbers in the crop are generally low. Continue to monitor the few backward crops of spring rape where the threshold for control is >4% plants infested before petal fall.

FIELD BRASSICAS and LEAFY VEGETABLES

Numbers of the peach-potato aphid (*Myzus persicae*) and the mealy cabbage aphid (*Brevicoryne brassicae*) have fallen this week. The currant-lettuce aphid (*Nasonovia ribisnigri*) was caught in the suction-traps at Dundee, Preston and Hereford.

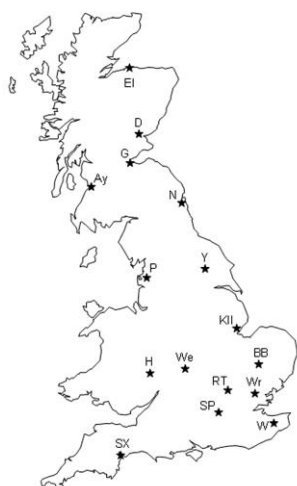
CARROTS

The numbers of the willow-carrot aphid (*Cavariella aegopodii*) flying are now very low everywhere.

PEAS and BEANS

The black bean aphid (*Aphis fabae*) has been reported in crops across the country, and aphid pressure has been high to very high for a number of weeks. The threshold for spraying is 10% of plants infested to prevent yield loss, however aphids seem to be re-colonising very quickly following applications. Pyrethroids applied to control bruchid beetle are having no effect at all on aphid numbers. The pea aphid (*Acyrtosiphon pisum*) is common in peas, particularly in eastern England, and it may also affect beans. Combining peas should be sprayed when around 20% of plants are infested and vining peas when 15% are infested.

SUCTION-TRAPPING RESULTS



The information below relates to suction-trap samples collected during bulletin week 14: 06/7 – 12/7.

- Cereal aphid numbers have decreased this week, and numbers are low for the time of year.
- Numbers of the peach–potato aphid (*Myzus persicae*) have also fallen significantly this week, highest numbers were at Kirton (111).
- The potato aphid (*Macrosiphum euphorbiae*) was caught in low numbers at eight sites.
- The numbers of the willow–carrot aphid (*Cavariella aegopodii*) are now low everywhere.
- The mealy cabbage aphid (*Brevicoryne brassicae*) was caught at eleven sites this week, with numbers highest in central and eastern England.
- The pea aphid (*Acyrtosiphon pisum*) was caught at eleven sites this week, with numbers decreasing and below the 10yr averages. Field reports of pea aphid are common especially in eastern England.
- Numbers of the black bean aphid (*Aphis fabae*) remain high, but are slowly decreasing everywhere except Kirton. Field reports indicate that despite multiple spray applications, aphids are very quickly re-colonising crops.
- Numbers of aphid predators (hoverflies, ladybirds and lacewings) are increasing in our trap samples and field reports suggest are now much more common in the field.

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, because fewer days’ samples having been identified.

Rose–grain aphid (*Metopolophium dirhodum*)

Rose–grain aphid (<i>Metopolophium dirhodum</i>)	Bulletin Week Totals 06/07-12/07				Accumulated until 12/07		
	2015	Compared to last Bulletin week	2014	10-year average 2005-14	2015	2014	10-year average 2005-14
Dundee	19		683	465	21	/	654
Gogarbank (Edinburgh)	14	↓	63	132	34	145	361
Newcastle	4*	↓	9	26	16	/	90
York	7*	↓	N/A	N/A	44	N/A	N/A
Preston	9*	↑	11	13	72	/	329
Kirton	5	↓	14	371	152	63	1102
Broom’s Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds)	4	↓	7	327	223	132	1047
Wellesbourne	37	↓	22	48	276	/	353
Hereford	27	↓	9	105	251	81	410
Rothamsted (Harpenden)	29	↓	5	244	146	136	570
Writtle	13	↓	19	170	103	231	575
Silwood Park (nr Ascot)	16*	↓	/	46	89	/	170
Wye	5*	↑	/	88	48	/	212
Starcross (nr Exeter)	16*	↓	55	40	388	912	329

The rose–grain aphid was caught at all fourteen sites this week, with numbers decreasing at eleven sites. Accumulated numbers are below the ten year average everywhere except Starcross.

Bird cherry–oat aphid (*Rhopalosiphum padi*)

Bird cherry–oat aphid (<i>Rhopalosiphum padi</i>)	Bulletin Week Totals				Accumulated until		
	2015	Compared to last Bulletin week	2014	10-year average 2005-14	2015	2014	10-year average 2005-14
Dundee	4		512	288	12	/	543
Gogarbank (Edinburgh)	0	↓	131	185	5	235	656
Newcastle	0*	↓	8	66	4	/	269
York	9*	↑	N/A	N/A	20	N/A	N/A
Preston	5*	↑	20	24	15	/	110
Kirton	4	↓	21	108	69	91	695
Broom's Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds)	0	↓	5	92	47	85	741
Wellesbourne	5	↑	29	29	16	/	170
Hereford	0	↓	25	43	26	77	198
Rothamsted (Harpenden)	0	↓	16	67	22	79	331
Writtle	0	↓	24	45	70	156	420
Silwood Park (nr Ascot)	0*	↓	/	21	18	/	212
Wye	0*	↓	/	24	39	/	230
Starcross (nr Exeter)	8*	↓	10	62	76	224	336

The bird cherry–oat aphid was caught at six sites in very low numbers. The accumulated numbers are below average.

Grain aphid (*Sitobion avenae*)

Grain aphid (<i>Sitobion avenae</i>)	Bulletin Week Totals				Accumulated until		
	2015	Compared to last Bulletin week	2014	10-year average 2005-14	2015	2014	10-year average 2005-14
Dundee	21		322	111	23	/	155
Gogarbank (Edinburgh)	2	↓	141	64	9	208	177
Newcastle	0*	↓	24	26	4	/	68
York	68*	↓	N/A	N/A	203	N/A	N/A
Preston	9*	↓	67	52	44	/	218
Kirton	2	↓	145	433	34	167	823
Broom's Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds)	11	↓	45	263	48	144	766
Wellesbourne	28	↓	62	271	65	/	558
Hereford	55	↓	60	163	141	136	405
Rothamsted (Harpenden)	9	↓	73	361	45	210	826
Writtle	8	↓	166	334	52	461	830
Silwood Park (nr Ascot)	9*	↓	/	293	59	/	441
Wye	5*	↓	/	133	28	/	235
Starcross (nr Exeter)	77*	↓	41	88	228	238	370

Numbers of grain aphid decreased at thirteen sites this week, with minor hotspots at York (68), Hereford (55) and Starcross (77). The accumulated numbers are below average for the time of year.

Peach–potato aphid (*Myzus persicae*)

Peach–potato aphid (<i>Myzus persicae</i>)	Bulletin Week Totals 06/07-12/07				Accumulated until 12/07		
	2015	Compared to last Bulletin week	2014	10-year average 2005-14	2015	2014	10-year average 2005-14
Dundee	10		3	3	10	/	7
Gogarbank (Edinburgh)	1	↓	0	2	27	4	10
Newcastle	12*	↑	1	0	24	/	14
York	51*	↓	N/A	N/A	411	N/A	N/A
Preston	13*	↓	1	5	144	/	108
Kirton	111	↓	21	153	2322	141	387
Broom's Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds)	67	↓	5	99	2168	1350	679
Wellesbourne	47	↓	15	11	1179	/	362
Hereford	18	↓	2	13	690	102	111
Rothamsted (Harpenden)	38	↓	12	55	1012	517	352
Writtle	29	↓	9	97	1656	1153	698
Silwood Park (nr Ascot)	5*	↑	/	11	122	/	54
Wye	28*	↓	/	11	579	/	174
Starcross (nr Exeter)	11*	↓	1	6	880	164	84

The peach–potato aphid was caught at fourteen sites this week, with a hotspot at Kirton (111). Numbers fell at eleven sites, but the accumulated totals are above the 10 yr averages throughout the Country.

Potato aphid (*Macrosiphum euphorbiae*)

Potato aphid (<i>Macrosiphum euphorbiae</i>)	Bulletin Week Totals 06/07-12/07				Accumulated until 12/07		
	2015	Compared to last Bulletin week	2014	10-year average 2005-14	2015	2014	10-year average 2005-14
Dundee	4		9	5	6	/	15
Gogarbank (Edinburgh)	1	↓	1	5	11	25	43
Newcastle	0*		0	1	11	/	16
York	2*	↓	N/A	N/A	19	N/A	N/A
Preston	0*	↓	0	1	40	/	27
Kirton	4	↓	2	9	75	26	59
Broom's Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds)	4	↑	0	5	19	29	44
Wellesbourne	0		0	5	45	/	37
Hereford	7	↓	0	20	86	31	69
Rothamsted (Harpenden)	4	↑	0	3	17	12	22
Writtle	0	↓	0	5	48	35	43
Silwood Park (nr Ascot)	0*	↓	/	1	28	/	16
Wye	0*		/	2	6	/	17
Starcross (nr Exeter)	8*	↓	1	1	56	20	39

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 06/07-12/07				Accumulated until 12/07		
	2015	Compared to last Bulletin week	2014	10-year average 2005-14	2015	2014	10-year average 2005-14
Dundee	0		0	2	0	/	2
Gogarbank (Edinburgh)	0		0	0	0	0	3
Newcastle	0*	↓	1	0	4	/	8
York	14*	↓	N/A	N/A	95	N/A	N/A
Preston	5*	↑	0	1	7	/	24
Kirton	193	↓	5	5	870	17	81
Broom's Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds)	52	↑	5	33	178	43	232
Wellesbourne	255	↓	5	32	3827	/	359
Hereford	107	↓	1	7	778	7	134
Rothamsted (Harpenden)	42	↓	3	17	138	18	208
Writtle	38	↓	8	46	550	121	577
Silwood Park (nr Ascot)	61*	↑	/	8	93	/	56
Wye	152*	↑	/	7	297	/	73
Starcross (nr Exeter)	12*	↓	12	19	127	56	156

The mealy cabbage aphid was caught at eleven sites this week, with hotspots at Wellesbourne (255), Kirton (193), Hereford (107) and Wye (152). Accumulated numbers are above the 10-year averages at Wellesbourne, Kirton, Hereford and Wye.

Willow-carrot aphid (*Cavariella aegopodii*)

Willow-carrot aphid (<i>Cavariella aegopodii</i>)	Bulletin Week Totals 06/07-12/07				Accumulated until 12/07		
	2015	Compared to last Bulletin week	2014	10-year average 2005-14	2015	2014	10-year average 2005-14
Dundee	4		4	3	73	/	71
Gogarbank (Edinburgh)	1	↓	1	3	229	98	85
Newcastle	5*	↓	2	5	106	/	106
York	2*	↓	N/A	N/A	454	N/A	N/A
Preston	19*	↓	2	5	545	/	543
Kirton	19	↓	2	8	1970	876	608
Broom's Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds)	8	↓	0	8	1963	375	730
Wellesbourne	7	↓	0	5	1169	/	433
Hereford	1	↓	1	14	364	60	387
Rothamsted (Harpenden)	0	↓	1	9	1412	103	375
Writtle	2	↓	0	9	2397	148	831
Silwood Park (nr Ascot)	5*	↑	/	0	671	/	238
Wye	0*	↓	/	3	1069	/	359
Starcross (nr Exeter)	5*	↑	2	12	344	39	155

The willow-carrot aphid was caught at twelve sites this week, with numbers highest at Preston (19) and Kirton (19). Numbers decreased at eleven sites and numbers are now low everywhere.

Pea aphid (*Acyrtosiphon pisum*)

Pea aphid (<i>Acyrtosiphon pisum</i>)	Bulletin Week Totals 06/07-12/07				Accumulated until 12/07		
	2015	Compared to last Bulletin week	2014	10-year average 2005-14	2015	2014	10-year average 2005-14
Dundee	4		23	14	4	/	35
Gogarbank (Edinburgh)	0	↓	4	7	9	20	27
Newcastle	0*	↓	5	3	1	/	14
York	2*	↓	N/A	N/A	19	N/A	N/A
Preston	0*	↓	3	2	11	/	40
Kirton	64	↓	16	180	170	47	504
Broom's Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds)	20	↑	14	197	52	123	498
Wellesbourne	20	↓	11	51	84	/	360
Hereford	1	↓	0	16	40	23	113
Rothamsted (Harpenden)	21	↓	14	112	82	134	361
Writtle	12	↓	64	239	123	244	610
Silwood Park (nr Ascot)	4*	↓	/	28	28	/	121
Wye	30*	↑	/	83	81	/	275
Starcross (nr Exeter)	5*	↓	1	18	235	77	114

The pea aphid was caught at eleven sites this week, with a hotspot at Kirton (64), and with numbers decreasing and below the 10yr averages.

Further information

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

AHDB Cereals and Oilseeds: [Click here](#)

AHDB Potatoes: [Click here](#)

AHDB Horticulture: [Click here](#)

Rothamsted Insect Survey: [Click here](#)

Science and Advice for Scottish Agriculture (SASA): [Click here](#)

In partnership with



© Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board 2015. All rights reserved.

While the Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board seeks to ensure that the information contained within this document is accurate at the time of printing, no warranty is given in respect thereof and, to the maximum extent permitted by law, the Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board accepts no liability for loss, damage or injury howsoever caused (including that caused by negligence) or suffered directly or indirectly in relation to information and opinions contained in or omitted from this document.

Reference herein to trade names and proprietary products without stating that they are protected does not imply that they may be regarded as unprotected and thus free for general use. No endorsement of named products is intended, nor is any criticism implied of other alternative, but unnamed, products.