



## 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

The temperatures during bulletin week 17<sup>th</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup> October continue to be above aphid flight thresholds, but as daylight hours are shortening rapidly, the windows of opportunity for migration are shrinking. The prolonged dry spell and relatively mild weather, especially in the south and east, suggest that aphids that have located unprotected crops will continue to do well. It is important that vigilance is maintained into November when colder weather should cause the autumn flights to end, and few frosts might kill a few off.

### WINTER CEREALS

Numbers of bird cherry–oat aphid (*Rhopalosiphum padi*) fell at 9 of the 12 English suction-trap sites this week. Numbers were highest at Newcastle and Preston, but below the 10-yr means for this week everywhere except Edinburgh and Newcastle. Single grain aphids (*Sitobion avenae*) were caught at Edinburgh and Silwood. We have received a few more reports of aphid colonies on newly emerged cereals in southern England, but as yet they are more difficult to find on crops further north. Reports also suggest that cereal aphids are widespread on emerging 'green bridge' stubbles in eastern England. **Monitoring is recommended whilst the aphid migration continues.**

Only a small proportion of aphids entering cereals are likely to be carrying BYDV. Problems with spread arise when the second generation offspring of the original winged colonisers are produced. This is usually the generation that begins moving significantly away from the plant originally colonised. Very approximately this begins when 170 day degrees above a threshold of 3°C (DD>3) have accumulated. DD>3 calculations should begin on the day of emergence for untreated crops, 1 week after application of pyrethroids or if aphids are found when neonicotinoid-treated seed protection runs out (i.e. approx. 6 weeks after emergence or 8 weeks after sowing).

### WINTER OILSEED RAPE and VEGETABLE BRASSICAS

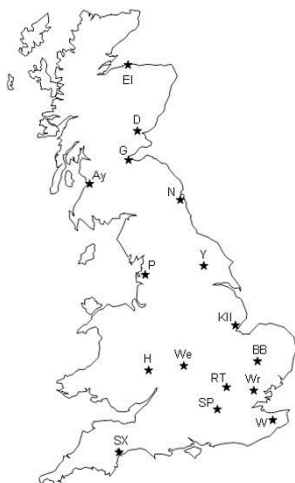
Peach–potato aphids (*Myzus persicae*) were caught in low numbers at seven suction-trap sites, with numbers highest in south east England. No mealy cabbage aphids (*Brevicoryne brassicae*) were caught in the suction-traps this week. Field reports of peach–potato aphids in oilseed rape crops have been seen from across parts of central, eastern and southern England. In eastern England many oilseed rape crops are being held back by the dry conditions and cabbage stem flea beetle attack. **We strongly recommend monitoring crops for aphids now.**

### OTHERS

The willow-carrot aphid (*Cavariella aegopodii*) was caught in ten suction-traps this week, with numbers highest at York and Broom's Barn.

**As always, we appreciate any intelligence from the field and any comments on the information we provide.**

# SUCTION-TRAPPING RESULTS



## Winter Cereal Aphids

Numbers of **female bird cherry–oat aphid**, *Rhopalosiphum padi*, flying this bulletin week fell again and are low for the time of year, except in the far north. The table below shows the combined total of both forms of **female** bird cherry–oat aphids caught during the week **17/10 - 23/10** and compares them to last year and a ten year mean. The table also includes numbers accumulated from a start date (**26/09**) representing **early emergence** and thus gives an indication of the build-up of virus vector pressure. English grain aphids (*Sitobion avenae*) always fly in much lower numbers than bird cherry–oat aphids in the autumn.

During the period **21/10 – 27/10** ten *R. padi* were tested at Rothamsted, four were of the cereal colonising form (30 year weekly mean = 3). The cereal colonising/bird cherry colonising data are only available for the Rothamsted site. The proportion of cereal colonisers is likely to be higher towards the south and west.

- Numbers of bird cherry–oat aphid fell at nine of the 12 English suction-trap sites this week.
- Numbers were highest at Newcastle and Preston, but below the 10-yr means for this week everywhere except Edinburgh and Newcastle.
- The number of cereal-colonising bird cherry–oat aphids remain about normal for the time of year at Rothamsted.
- So far this year numbers of the bird cherry colonising form are relatively low hence the **proportion** of cereal colonisers is higher than normal as measured at Rothamsted.
- Single grain aphids were caught at Edinburgh and Silwood.

'\*' indicates where totals have been corrected proportionally to seven days, fewer days' samples having been processed. '/' indicates that identification have not been completed.

<i>Sitobion avenae</i>				17/10-23/10	<i>Rhopalosiphum padi</i> - females only				
Compared to last week	2016	2015	2006-2015		Compared to last week	2016	2006-2015	2016 Acc from 26/09	2006-2015 Acc from 26/09
↓	1	1	0	Gogarbank (Edinburgh)	↓	133	81	1403	1806
	*0	0	0	Newcastle	↑	*355	161	436	1746
	*0	2	/	York	↓	*25	/	214	/
	*0	0	0	Preston	↑	*531	764	2433	7611
	0	0	1	Kirton	↓	5	166	134	1860
	0	0	0	Broom's Barn (Bury St Edmunds)	↓	25	154	123	1595
	0	0	0	Wellesbourne	↓	14	215	89	1344
	0	0	1	Hereford	↓	23	141	139	2126
	0	0	0	Rothamsted (Harpenden)	↓	8	96	54	1201
	0	0	1	Writtle	↓	15	219	81	1815
	*1	0	1	Silwood Park (nr Ascot)	↑	*12	97	56	840
	*0	1	1	Wye	↓	*13	184	162	1575
↓	*0	0	1	Starcross (nr Exeter)	↓	*47	94	277	1269

## Winter Oilseed Rape and Vegetable Brassica Aphids

The main aphid vector of **TuYV** is the **peach–potato aphid**, *Myzus persicae*, but it seldom reaches numbers high enough to cause direct feeding damage. Conversely the **mealy cabbage aphid**, *Brevicoryne brassicae*, is a poor vector of TuYV, but can cause direct feeding damage to isolated plants. This species is more of a problem in spring than in autumn.

- The peach–potato aphid was caught at seven suction-trap sites, with highest numbers at Wye, Kent.
- No mealy cabbage aphids were caught this bulletin week.

<i>Brevicoryne brassicae</i>				17/10-23/10	<i>Myzus persicae</i>			
Compared to last week	2016	2015	2006-2015		Compared to last week	2016	2015	2006-2015
	0	0	0	Gogarbank (Edinburgh)	↑	2	0	0
	*0	0	0	Newcastle		*0	0	0
	*0	0	/	York		*0	3	/
	*0	0	0	Preston		*0	0	2
	0	0	2	Kirton	↓	0	7	11
	0	0	0	Broom's Barn (Bury St Edmunds)	↓	1	4	4
	0	0	1	Wellesbourne	↓	1	0	2
	0	0	1	Hereford	↓	1	0	1
	0	0	0	Rothamsted (Harpenden)	↓	0	0	1
	0	0	0	Writtle	↑	3	1	1
↓	*0	0	0	Silwood Park (nr Ascot)	↓	*0	1	1
	*0	0	0	Wye	↑	*11	3	2
	*0	0	0	Starcross (nr Exeter)	↑	*2	0	1

## 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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