AHDB Aphid News (17th Dec 2015)

APHID ALERT UPDATE

Suction-trapping period 23rd November - 13th December 2015

APHID-BORNE VIRUSES IN WINTER CEREALS (BYDV) AND OILSEED RAPE (TuYV)

SUCTION-TRAPPING

Suction-trap sites

The exceptionally mild weather, which most areas have been experiencing throughout late November and early December, has led to some late aphid flight activity at Wye and Starcross but not much elsewhere.
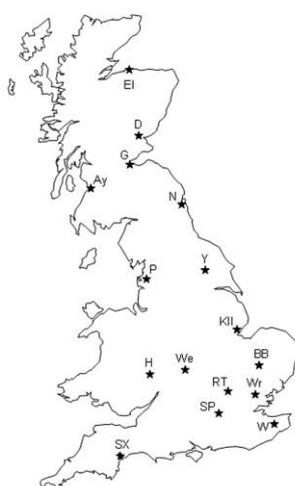
Site	*Rhopalosiphum padi*				*Myzus persicae*		
	23-29/11	30/11-6/12	7-13/12		23-29/11	30/11-6/12	7-13/12
Newcastle	0	0	NA		0	0	NA
York	0	0	NA		0	0	NA
Preston	11	3	0		0	0	0
Kirton	1	1	0		0	0	0
Broom's Barn	1	0	1		0	0	0
Wellesbourne	2	0	0		0	0	0
Hereford	5	4	5		3	0	0
Rothamsted	NA	NA	NA		NA	NA	NA
Writtle	1	2	6		2	0	0
Silwood	0	0	1		0	0	0
Wye	7	2	11		1	0	4
Starcross	31	8	8		0	1	1

However, aphids will be multiplying and moving on the ground in autumn-sown crops, especially in more southerly areas where they were not fully controlled before flights ended, so the risk of virus spread (BYDV and TuYV) is likely to be **high**. In the far south, as reported above, there is a small chance of winged aphids still arriving from outside the crops. Activity on the ground will continue until temperatures drop, with development and reproduction possible down to 3-4°C and walking between plants still possible above 1°C. It's hard to be precise about the level of frost needed to deliver a knock-out blow, but three to five consecutive days with grass minima dropping below -6°C should cause high mortality.

Whilst this unusually mild weather persists monitoring at risk crops is still advised until winter conditions take hold.

Further information

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

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