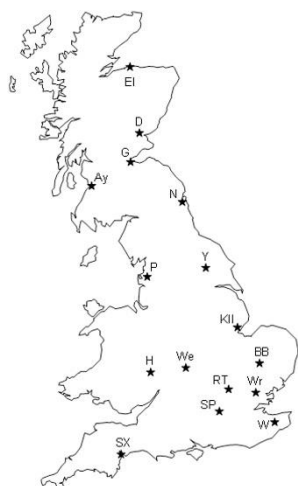


20 April 2018

Suction trap period 1 January to 15 April 2018



Suction-trap sites

Despite the brief cold snap at the very end of February, winter temperatures generally fell in line with the long-term average throughout most of England, leading to a normal expected first aphid flight date.

Temperatures in several parts of Scotland were 0.5°C lower than the long-term average, suggesting first aphid flight may be delayed by about a week in these areas.

The general message is that, (despite the current unseasonably warm weather), aphids will fly towards the middle of the range of dates they have historically, but may be slightly delayed in the North.

- The switch from weekly to daily suction-trapping commenced on 5 March, before that catches were weekly.
- The sudden change in weather, including the upturn in air temperature this calendar week, has prompted the beginning of this year's aphid reporting.
- Since March, we have caught half a dozen cereal aphids: three bird cherry-oat aphids (*Rhopalosiphum padi*) (singletons at Gogarbank, Wye and Hereford) and three rose-grain aphids (*Metopolophium dirhodum*) (1 at Writtle and 2 at Starcross).
- Three glasshouse-potato aphids (*Aulacorthum solani*) have made an early appearance (2 at Wye and 1 at Preston).
- No peach-potato aphids (*Myzus persicae*) or willow-carrot aphids (*Cavariella aegopodii*) have been caught so far this year.
- The shallot aphid (*Myzus ascalonicus*) is the most numerous aphid species in our suction-trap samples to date and has been caught in all of our traps from Kirton south.
- Yellow water-pan traps are not yet in operation.

There have been a few field reports of BYDV symptoms so far this year. Overwintering success of aphids and secondary spread of BYDV is thought to be less common than it was last season. The cut-off point for sprays against BYDV is thought to be GS31, after which no further economic benefit accrues. **Monitoring at risk cereal and oilseed rape crops is advised.**

Further information

Please send information on crop aphids to: alex.greenslade@rothamsted.ac.uk

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