



Issued: 28th June 2022



IN BRIEF

- Sunshine and showers have provided good conditions for sugar beet growth and canopies continue to fill-out and generally look healthy. More rain is required to help reduce wilting on light land on hot days and with later germinating plants that continue to play 'catch-up'.
- Many crops have closed canopies across drills and are beyond the 16/18th leaf stage at which point they have effective mature plant resistance to aphid reproduction and the spread of virus.
- Much lower aphid numbers have been recorded across the YWP network and other monitoring sites over the last week. However, several reports of black bean aphids on the crop have been received.
- Reports of yellowing patches in crops are being reported and samples have been submitted to the Plant Clinic for investigation. These are mainly being found (but not exclusively) in non-cruiser seed treated crops.
- No significant foliar disease has been reported in crops to date. However, maintaining a healthy canopy is key to realising the crop's yield potential so it is important that you start monitoring crops closely for signs of foliar disease.
- BBRO has commenced its cercospora risk monitoring programme. This involves measuring crop temperature and relative humidity. No high-risk alerts have been triggered to date.
- Some patchy symptoms of nematode damage, especially on hot days are evident. Occasional reports of other pests such as a capsid and leaf miner feeding damage have also been reported.



ADVISORY

Virus Yellowing symptoms

It is expected that where there may have been primary virus infection, symptoms will be starting to show. It can be difficult to distinguish between different viruses, particularly where there may be more than one virus present within a field.



Fig 1: A range of yellowing symptoms in the BBRO untreated variety strips

Black bean aphid

A number of growers have raised concerns regarding the increasing numbers of this pest. However, they are inefficient vectors of BYV (and not BMV or BChV) and only need controlling when the risk of direct feeding damage is likely. This is typically only in backwards or stressed crops and when numbers average more than 100 aphids per plant across the whole field.



Fig 2: Black bean aphids on sugar beet leaf.

Cercospora leaf spot and other foliar diseases

BBRO has commenced its program of monitoring the risk of cercospora development in crops. This is based on a temperature and humidity model which is used to trigger a high-risk alert. Warm temperatures (>25°C) and high humidity (>90%) provide ideal conditions for rapid development and spread of this disease.

BBRO are using two monitoring systems: a network of in-crop weather sensors, placed in the sugar beet crop, as well as a wider network of general weather stations. Keep a watch-out for our text messages or monitor our website for regular updates.

No symptoms of cercospora, rust or powdery mildew have been reported to date.

BBRO are awaiting clarification on the use of the fungicide Caligula this season and will provide a guide to fungicide programmes in the next edition of the Advisory Bulletin.

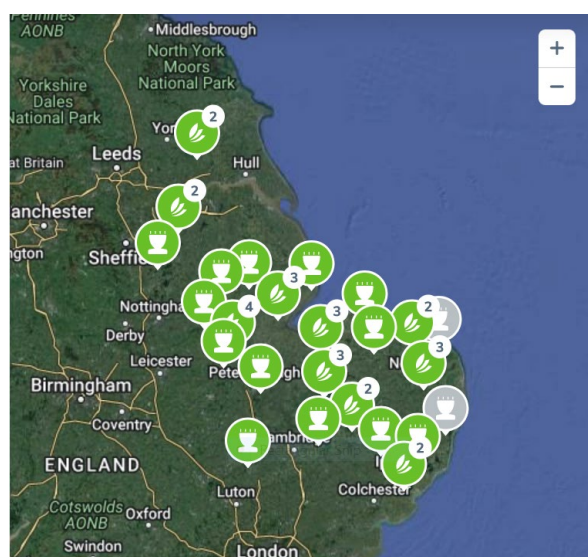
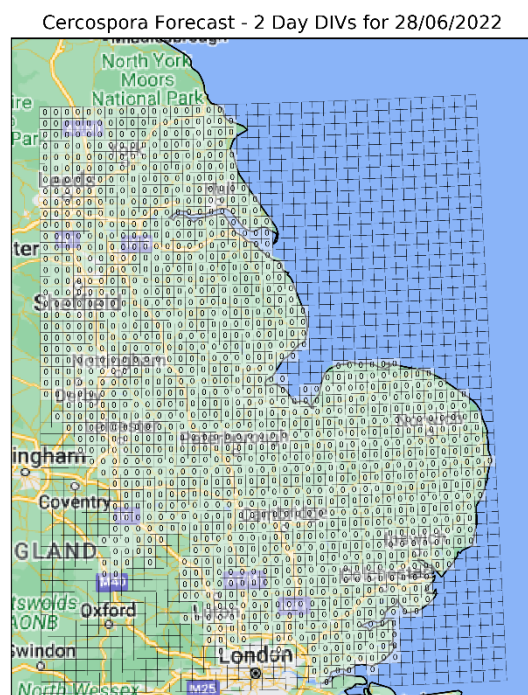


Fig 3: Location of in-crop sensors and the wider Weatherquest network monitoring crop temperature and relative humidity.



Nematodes- Keep an eye on any backward or stunted plant patches appearing at this stage of the season, especially areas where plants wilt in a dry period. Patches could be due to either BCN or FLN. The white immature BCN cysts may be visible on the root and several samples have been received in the plant clinic recently. In heavily infected areas the tap root may be absent, and many lateral roots are formed giving a ‘bearded’ appearance. More commonly, the roots are just small and may be becoming ‘fangy’.

Bolters and weed beet – Numbers are increasing in crops. Remember, just one weed beet or bolter per square metre, will reduce crop yields by 11% and on average 1,500 seeds are produced per weed beet or bolter. At this stage, most weed beet and bolters will be at the pre-flowering stage and can be pulled or have the stem broken close to the root and left on top of the crop to die.



Fig 4: Pre-flowering bolter



EVENTS

Next events:

BeetField22: JULY Re-visits



Topics:

Foliar disease & fungicide update
Cercospora risk & management focus
Virus yellows report
Variety selection for 2023

Plus a special Herbicide trial demo with UPL
(Bracebridge site only, allow extra 30 minutes)

7th - Bracebridge 26th - Fersfield 28th - Thorney

Book 1 hour slot: www.bbro.co.uk
BASIS & NRoSO points available



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Two NRoSO points in total (not per bulletin) have been allocated between 01/06/2021 and 31/05/2022 **NO471260f** reference. To claim these points please email NRoSOPD@cityandguilds.com