Issue 13: 9th October 2025

Ö IN BRIEF

- Cercospora active spores have been found in many areas. Currently disease levels remain low but with warm wet weather prevailing a further fungicide (where disease found) is recommended to prevent further development.
- Manage and monitor clamps carefully. Keep storage time as short as possible
 especially in warm weather and be careful not to store too much soil or tops as
 these will affect air flow and increase deterioration of clamp.
- On-farm hygiene is of utmost importance don't allow pests and diseases to over-winter. Clear spoil and control groundkeepers.
- Reminder of stewardship requirements regarding previous use of Cruiser SB
- BeetCast October: Future proofing the industry



Foliar Disease Management - Third Fungicides

Cercospora leaf spot can now easily be found in most fields of sugar beet and it is worth considering if a third fungicide may be beneficial to keep further disease development at bay. Those earmarked for harvest from mid-November are most likely to benefit from an additional fungicide at this time especially with mild weather forecast into late October.

Warmer temperatures will favour continued development of further spots with the risk of significant canopy loss which may also happen very quickly and can become widespread. Cercospora can strip a canopy of its leaves in a matter of days so it is worth preventatively treating crops to be safe, especially those which will be harvested in the new year and will benefit from a strong canopy to provide frost protection.

If applying a third application be mindful of the harvest intervals:

Fungicide Product	Harvest Interval	
	(Days after application)	
Revystar XE	28	
Angle / Priori Gold	35	
Twist	21	
Caligula	7	

Caligula can now be sprayed onto crops. If doing so, these tops must not be fed to livestock. Revystar XE and Caligula will give the best control of Cercospora.

Maximise yield and sugar content during harvesting in warm weather

Preserving sugar content during harvesting, cleaning and loading is a priority, especially whilst temperatures remain warm. Target:

- optimum crowning (be conscious of excess remaining tops for 'just-in-time' loading & delivery)
- · low levels of root damage and bruising
- minimal time in clamp

Use the BBRO 'Harvesting Assessment Guide' for assessing losses.

To minimise root breakage, avoid running the harvester too aggressively, assessing for root breakage and bruising at the clamp. Ensure a regular dialogue between harvester and haulier. If clamping is required avoid too much soil or tops. Keep clamps low and wide to help with air flow which is particularly important in warmer weather, do not push-up or level the clamp.

British Sugar are offering an on-farm harvester assessment, speak to your Agriculture Manager for more info.

On-farm Hygiene

Clean up soil heaps, Maus lines and crop residues in a timely fashion. This will limit overwinter carry over of pests and diseases. It is essential to return spoil to the field it came from and make sure it is cultivated down and incorporated. Avoid storing harvested beet on fields which will be drilled with sugar beet next spring.

Cruiser SB Stewardship – reminder of strict rotational requirements.

Remind yourself of where any sugar beet crops using Cruiser SB treated seed were grown in 2023 and 2024 as they are still subject to restrictions on flowering crops.

Breaching these conditions is both illegal and violates your contract to supply your sugar beet to British Sugar. Fields grown with Cruiser SB in 2022 will no longer be subject to restrictions. If you have any concerns please contact BBRO via info@bbro.co.uk or speak to your British Sugar Agriculture Manager.

- Any crop excluded from the below table should be considered 'restricted' i.e. a minimum of 32 months from drilling of sugar beet.
- The 32-month restriction applies to those agri-environment options that allow flowers to grow or appear on the same ground on which Cruiser SB treated seed was sown in 2024.
- Cover crops (including mixes) must also follow the 32-month restrictions

	Non-restricted	Restricted
Rules	No restrictions following Sugar Beet	A minimum of 32 months from drilling of Sugar Beet
Crops	1. Wheat (including Durum Wheat)	23. Oilseed Rape
	2. Barley	24. Linseed
	3. Millet	25. Mustard
	4. Sorghum	26. Soya Bean
	5. Oat	27. Pea
	6. Maize / Corn	28. Bean
	7. Rye	29. Buckwheat
	8. Triticale	30. Clover
	9. Canary seed	31. Phacelia
	10. Spelt	32. Chicory
	11. Potato	33. Radish
	12. Cabbage	34. Vetch
	13. Kale	35. False Flax
	14. Swede	36. Lucerne
	15. Lettuce / Babyleaf / Spinach	37. Sunflower
	16. Onions	38. Borage
	17. Leeks	39. Sainfoin
	18. Carrots	40. Nyger
	19. Parsnips	41. Lupins
	20. Cauliflower	
	21. Broccoli	
	22. Turnip	

Fodder, energy and red beet were not included as part of the Cruiser SB derogation to ensure the 'controlled and limited' element of the Emergency Authorisations.

CONTACT

British Beet Research Organisation, Centrum, Norwich Research Park, Colney Lane, Norwich, NR4 7UG

Prof Mark Stevensmark.stevens@bbro.co.uk07712 822194Francesca BroomFrancesca.broom@bbro.co.uk07710 285689Stephen Aldisstephen.aldis@bbro.co.uk07867 141705General Enquiriesinfo@bbro.co.uk01603 672169



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