



Issued: 14/6/2019



## IN BRIEF

- The rain has certainly moved crops on in the last week and most crops are looking very healthy, some with canopies meeting across the rows. With many crops approaching or at the 10-12 leaf stage, there are questions about the need to continue with aphicide programmes
- Aphid control needs to remain a priority. It is important to remember that when plants reach the 12-leaf stage they DO NOT become completely resistant to acquiring the virus, it is a gradual change as the crop matures
- Crops therefore still need protection, so it is important to continue to monitor crops for aphids. Remember that the threshold increases to 1 green wingless aphid **per plant** above the 12-leaf stage
- Some potential cases of virus yellows symptoms have been reported and are being checked. Yellowing will be visible 2-4 weeks after infection but of course yellowing may be due to other factors
- Increasing numbers of leaf miner eggs and larvae are being reported so don't forget to look for these too
- First reports of downy mildew have been received. This disease may become more prevalent following the recent heavy rain and cooler conditions.



## ADVISORY

### Aphid watch

For an overview of winged aphid numbers in your area, check the new aphid mapping tool available on BBRO website for the latest information from our network of aphid traps.  
<https://bbro.co.uk/on-farm/aphid-survey-map/>

The recent heavy rainfall will help to suppress aphid numbers and the good news is that the incidence of virus remains very low. However, the first signs of virus in field has been found. Vigilance for green wingless aphids is still very important.



*Pic 1. First signs of yellowing virus found in 2019 crop.*

At the 12-leaf stage, aphids find it more difficult to feed on sugar beet and their reproductive rate declines. Previous research shows that at the 12-leaf stage their reproductive rate is less than half, when compared to the 5-leaf stage, but a proportion of aphids may still potentially spread virus. It is important therefore, where aphids are above the threshold, to protect crops beyond the 12-leaf stage. Remember, crops which are only just reaching the 12-leaf stage and that are nearing the end of spray interval of any previously applied insecticide will have a wider susceptibility window. Additionally, any less well-developed areas of crops in the field will be also be more susceptible.

If you are concerned about potential symptoms of virus, please contact your BS Contract Manager who can liaise with BBRO where we can test samples to confirm the symptoms.

### Other issues

We have increasing reports of multiple crowning. This may be due to early damage to the crown point, possibly from soil pests or birds.

Low levels of Silver Y moths have been observed but of no current concern. However, increasing numbers of diamond back moths have been recorded in beet. These are of no threat to the beet crop but have been blown into the country from the near continent but will attack brassica crops.

Also, watch your crop for any downy mildew or bacterial leaf spot which may develop in warm, humid areas.



## EVENTS

- 1. West Walton (Wissington) Demo Farm** – 19<sup>th</sup> June. 8:30 -11  
Book now <https://bbro.co.uk/events/>
- 2. Morley Innovation Event** – 20<sup>th</sup> June. Morley Farms.  
Join BBRO and many others at this event, which will be crammed to the hilt with agricultural innovation and know-how. Further details:  
<https://tmaf.co.uk/morley-innovation-day/>
- 3. BeetField19 - Summer Open Days**  
Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> July Fotheringhay, Peterborough. PE8 5HZ  
Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> July Thelveton Estate, Diss. IP21 4HP  
Book now: <https://bbro.co.uk/events/>



## CONTACTS

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## BASIS POINTS

Two BASIS points in total (not per bulletin) have been allocated for the period between 01/06/19 and 31/05/20 reference **CP/84954/1920/g**

. To claim these points please email [michele@basis-reg.co.uk](mailto:michele@basis-reg.co.uk)

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