



Issued: 31/05//19



IN BRIEF

- **Aphid control remains a priority but thresholds must be adhered to. Remember the threshold up until the 12-leaf stage (1 green wingless aphid per 4 plants) increases to 1 green wingless aphid per plant above the 12-leaf stage. Check before you spray.**
- **Aphid numbers are unprecedented, but the good news is that virus levels are exceptionally low.**
- **Check the BBRO's aphid map to see yellow water pan trap data near you. Visit <https://bbro.co.uk/on-farm/aphid-survey-map/> survey.**
- **Increasing numbers of leaf miner eggs and larvae are being reported so don't forget to look for these too.**
- **Sporadic thrips damage is being observed although there are no treatments available for this pest.**
- **In addition, a number of reports of multi-crowned beet have been received where the original growing point has been damaged or lost. We are closely monitoring this issue, but this is another consequence of the loss of previous seed treatments.**
- **Crops are now growing rapidly so don't forget to apply manganese.**
- **First reports of downy mildew and silver disease have been received in the BBRO plant clinic.**

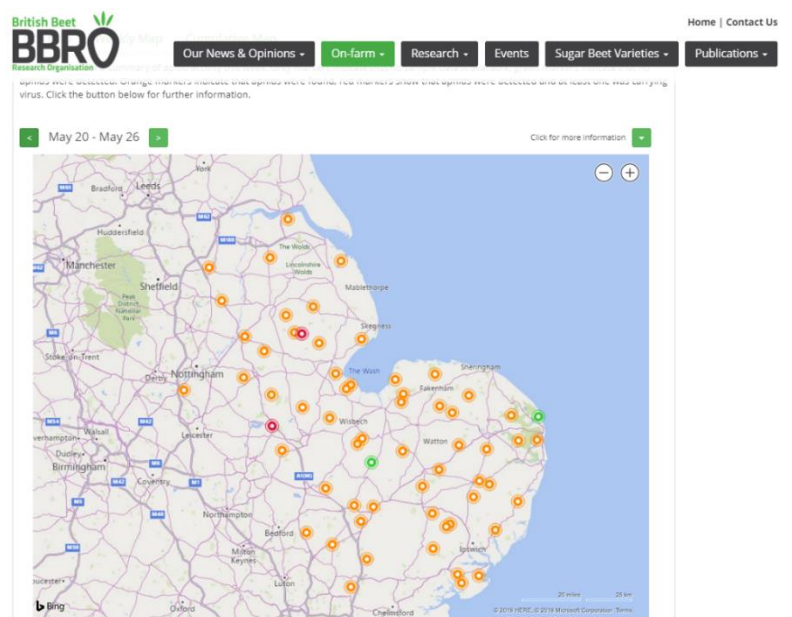


ADVISORY

Aphid mapping

The aphid survey is providing a weekly update on aphid population changes but is no substitute for checking your own crop.

If you want to see the data behind the maps, please use our new additional website page for growers <https://plus.bbro.co.uk/on-farm/login>. You will need to enter your contract no. and postcode to access.



Treatment

If threshold is reached on your crop, you have two spray options; Biscaya or Teppeki.

Please note: you are allowed two applications of Biscaya, but not as successive use. If you intend to use two applications of the one product the sequence will need to be Biscaya, Teppeki, Biscaya. As insecticides they will have some impact on beneficials so please use only when necessary. However, if you haven't already sprayed and you are approaching the 12-leaf stage before you find threshold then potentially only a maximum of two sprays may be needed. If this is the case it is possible to start with Teppeki.



Photo 1: Green wingless aphids can be hard to detect. Close inspection with a magnifier may be helpful, unfurling leaves and checking the heart where possible.

Tank mixing

BBRO have not conducted any research regarding the tank mixing of these projects. However, Belchim have tested a number of key physical compatibilities for Teppeki (www.belchim.co.uk) and state that water volume must not be reduced below 200 L/ha and timings must not be compromised. Similarly Bayer have tested a number of key physical compatibilities for Biscaya (<https://bbro.co.uk/media/50074/19-6-biscaya-tank-mix-sheet-2019.pdf>) Bayer recommend that to avoid compromising the efficacy of the product, it is only used as per label instructions.

Growth

Growth has been rapid in most areas, with more advanced crops now meeting along rows and many at 6-8 leaf stage. Crops are termed as established at 6-leaf stage. Plant population is key in determining yield, so this is the time to undertake population counts. Count the number of plants in 20m of a row for 50cm row spacing or 22m of a row for 45cm row spacing. Multiply the number of plants by 1000 to give the plant population in '000/ha. 100,000plants/ha is the target.



Photo 2: Crops meeting along rows

Whilst checking population rates, take a close look at how well your crop was drilled. Understanding the issues now, could help you improve next year and increase that all important yield.

Monitor your crops for:

- Establishment counts
- Drill spacing
- Skips and doubles
- Headland shut off
- Tractor wheeling effects
- Signs of pest and diseases



Photo 3: Correct row shut off



Poor spacing, skips and doubles are a key indicator that a drill maybe set-up incorrectly or require maintenance, always be sure to investigate whether missing plants are caused by drill skips and not by pest damage or seed that is yet to germinate.

Photo 4: Check for drill skips and doubles

Multi-crowning

A number of growers have contacted us regarding multi-crowning. This is due to damage to the growing point and could be caused by pest/bird damage, fertilizer prills or herbicides.



Photo 5: Two healthy beet to the left of photo, growing alongside two multi-crowned beet

Hygiene critical

Rapid growth in field crops is good to see but rapid growth of beet on old clamps, dumps and spoil heaps is not good as these may act as sources of foliar diseases, virus and virus-carrying aphids. Make sure any new leaf growth is destroyed as soon as possible.



Photo 3: Not all growers appear to be aware of the importance on on-farm hygiene



EVENTS

1. Wissy Demo Farm – 19th June, West Walton. Wisbech
2. **Morley Innovation Event** – 20th 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 2nd July Fotheringhay, Peterborough. PE8 5HZ
Thursday 4th July Thelveton Estate, Diss. IP21 4HP
Book now: <https://bbro.co.uk/events/>



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BASIS POINTS

Two BASIS points in total (not per bulletin) have been allocated for the period between 01/06/18 and 31/05/19 reference CP/67099/1819/g. To claim these points please email michele@basis-reg.co.uk

Two NRoSO points in total (not per bulletin) have been allocated between 01/06/2018 and 31/05/2019 reference NO465447f. To claim these points please email NRoSOCPD@cityandguilds.com