



Issued: July 8th, 2021



IN BRIEF

- Showers and sunshine have provided ideal conditions for sugar beet growth and canopies continue to fill-out and generally look very healthy and indicative of a very good yield potential.
- Many crops have now closed canopies across drills and are beyond the 16-leaf stage at which point they have effective mature plant resistance to aphid reproduction and spread of virus.
- Very few aphids have been recorded across the YWP network over the last week and except for Bracebridge Heath, no aphids have been found across BBRO trial sites since the 24th of June.
- To date, the reports of yellowing in crops reported are very low and samples have been submitted to the Plant Clinic for investigation. It is expected that where there may have been primary virus infection, symptoms may start to show at this stage of the season. However, be assured this will be nothing of the magnitude of last season.
- Maintaining a healthy canopy is key to realising the crop's yield potential so it is important that you now start monitoring crops closely for foliar disease. Remember, fungicides provide more protection when applied at the early onset of symptoms but do not apply fungicides too early, wait for the first symptoms to show.
- **The risk of cercospora remains low with NO high-risk alerts triggered this week. Keep in touch with the BBRO cercospora risk in your areas via the Advisory Bulletin, text alerts and on the [BBRO website](#).**

CERCOSPORA
Early Warning Alert

Please consult the BBRO website for further information

- Heavy rainfall has caused some localised waterlogging and patches of backward growth and yellowing canopy are showing. These areas are worth investigating for possible causes such as soil compaction and recording for future action. Areas which are underwater for more than a couple of days may struggle to recover fully.



ADVISORY

Crop watch

Bacterial leaf spot - The wet weather has continued to cause some localised symptoms of bacterial leaf spot. There may be some potential for confusion of these symptoms with those of cercospora. Bacterial leaf spot tends to occur earlier in the season and has more angular lesions on the leaf, often on the leaf margins and with some associated yellowing. Early cercospora infection tends to be typified by more regular discrete circular spots.



Figure 1: Bacterial leaf spot



Figure 2: Cercospora leaf spot

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. The high rainfall will have provided ideal conditions for nematode mobility and root invasion. Patches could be due to either BCN or FLN. Whilst it is probably too early for the first the white immature BCN cysts to be seen on the root, 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'.



Figure 3: BCN uninfected plant (left) & infected plant (right)

(Note the lateral root production in the infected plant)

Bolters and weed beet – Numbers are increasing in crops. Remember, just one weed beet or bolter per square metre 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, have the stem broken close to the root and left on top of the crop to die.



EVENTS

Missed the recent BeetField21 events? Don't worry you can catch up on some of the discussions via our video: <https://youtu.be/KT4bpiGO9Mk>



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Two NRoSO points in total (not per bulletin) have been allocated between 01/06/2021 and 31/05/2022 reference **NO469403f**. To claim these points please email NRoSOPD@cityandguilds.com