



Issued: 20th July 2022



IN BRIEF

- The dry and hot conditions continue to ‘take its toll’ on crops. Many are wilting especially on light and thin soils during the heat of the day and water stress and is causing lower leaf yellowing and senescence. Where leaves are in direct contact with the hot soil surface, they are becoming scorched. On deeper more moisture retentive soils, crops are holding remarkably well.
- A chance of showers this week may bring some very light relief and the forecast indicates the possibility of some longer showers next week. However, experience shows that sugar beet is resilient to drought and retains the ability to recover and regenerate canopy growth later in the season when better conditions return. This will provide some compensatory root and sugar yield improvement.
- The incidence of foliar disease remains low. The very first symptoms of rust have been found in a few crops. Some symptoms of Alternaria are present and may be mis-diagnosed as cercospora. It is vital to check each individual crops for foliar disease symptoms BEFORE deciding whether to apply a fungicide. Do not be tempted to start fungicide programmes based on what is being reported in other crops!
- No high-risk periods triggered for cercospora. Whilst canopy temperatures have been high, the humidity has not been sufficiently high for the disease to develop. Free water on the leaf surface is necessary for sporulation to occur.
- Avoid applying fungicide to crops which are severely wilted, especially in the hot part of the day as they will be relatively ineffective. If a fungicide is required in the current drought conditions, target an early morning application whilst the crop is ‘standing-up’ and there is some active growth to take-up the fungicide.
- Virus symptoms continue to develop in crops but where control measures have been used (Cruiser-treated seed and/or foliar insecticides) symptoms are limited (albeit not in all cases) to small primary infection plants and patches. Virus symptoms are more prevalent in unprotected crops.
- Cruiser SB treated seed- if you drilled Cruiser SB treated seed in 2022, it is important to remember that there are strict stewardship scheme requirements that you must comply with. Details are provided below.



Foliar disease

Whilst the incidence of foliar disease remains low, it is important to check crops closely for early symptoms. Wait for the first symptoms to show before applying a fungicide. If the foliar disease pressure is high and the crop is partially wilting, whilst efficacy will be compromised it may be necessary to apply a fungicide to control disease. Target application in a cooler period of the day when the crop is under less stress.

Some symptoms in the early stages can be similar and confusing so be clear on what is present before applying a fungicide. Use the BBRO Plant Clinic if you need assistance. We have seen symptoms of *Alternaria* in crops this season which can be confused with *cercospora*. *Alternaria* most frequently occurs on the back of other issues (saprophytic) such as pest damage (leaf miner) virus yellows, nutrient deficiency (magnesium) and leaf senescence. Very rarely does *Alternaria* need controlling with fungicides.



Fig 1: Early sign of rust 2022



Fig 2: *Alternaria* (2020 photo)



Fig 3: *Cercospora* (2021 photo)

No high-risk periods triggered for *cercospora* as the humidity in crops has remained below the threshold of 85-90% in the periods when the temperatures have been high in crops. The screen shot of one of the Sencrop weather stations demonstrates the typical pattern of temperature and humidity in crops over the last seven days. When we get some persistent rain and the crop canopy stays wet for a while, this will increase the risk significantly.

We have had some questions about the risk of irrigation and *cercospora*. In most cases, the canopy will dry quickly after irrigation and will not remain wet and humid for long enough to increase the risk significantly. However, it is worth keeping a close eye on irrigated crops for disease symptoms.

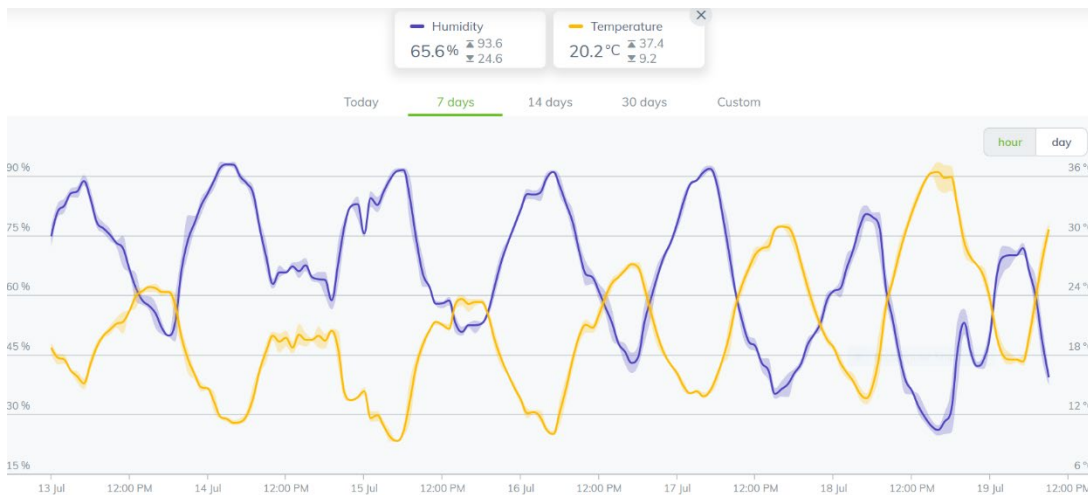


Fig 4:

Sencrop graph showing the levels of humidity and temperature measured

Cruiser Stewardship

As the cereal and OSR harvest season progresses, and you finalise your crop rotation planning, please remember that there are strict restrictions on what you can grow following the Cruiser SB treated sugar beet seed in 2022. Be aware that this may affect wider crop rotations and may affect planning for autumn-sown crops,

The following-crop restrictions apply for subsequent crops planted on the same area of land as Cruiser SB sugar beet drilled in 2022.

- 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 2022.
- Cover crops (including mixes) must also follow the 32-month restrictions.

	<i>Non-restricted</i>	<i>Restricted</i>
Rules	<i>No restrictions following Sugar Beet</i>	<i>A minimum of 32 months from drilling of Sugar Beet</i>
Crops	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Wheat (including Durum Wheat)</i> 2. <i>Barley</i> 3. <i>Millet</i> 4. <i>Sorghum</i> 5. <i>Oat</i> 6. <i>Maize / Corn</i> 7. <i>Rye</i> 8. <i>Triticale</i> 9. <i>Canary seed</i> 10. <i>Spelt</i> 11. <i>Potato</i> 12. <i>Cabbage</i> 13. <i>Kale</i> 14. <i>Swede</i> 15. <i>Lettuce / Babyleaf / Spinach</i> 16. <i>Onions</i> 17. <i>Leeks</i> 18. <i>Carrots</i> 19. <i>Parsnips</i> 20. <i>Cauliflower</i> 21. <i>Broccoli</i> 22. <i>Turnip</i> 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 23. <i>Oilseed Rape</i> 24. <i>Linseed</i> 25. <i>Mustard</i> 26. <i>Soya Bean</i> 27. <i>Pea</i> 28. <i>Bean</i> 29. <i>Buckwheat</i> 30. <i>Clover</i> 31. <i>Phacelia</i> 32. <i>Chicory</i> 33. <i>Radish</i> 34. <i>Vetch</i> 35. <i>False Flax</i> 36. <i>Lucerne</i> 37. <i>Sunflower</i> 38. <i>Borage</i> 39. <i>Sainfoin</i> 40. <i>Nyger</i> 41. <i>Lupins</i>

Fodder, energy, and red beet are not included as part of the derogation to ensure the ‘controlled and limited’ element of the Emergency Authorisation.

It has also been made very clear that no further use of thiamethoxam seed treatments (including any re-drilling of treated sugar beet if crop lost due to wind blow or capping) on the same field area for **46 months** from the date of sowing treated sugar beet seed in 2022 – a requirement of the Cruiser SB EA. This is to minimise the risk of any residues being acquired by succeeding bee-attractive crops or weeds and hence exposing bees and/or other pollinators to the neonicotinoid seed treatment.

[To access the full Stewardship document please click here.](#)



EVENTS

BBRO BeetTech23 dates confirmed:

7th February – Newark Showground

9th February – Newmarket Racecourse

Details to follow.

Book below for the July BeetField22 revisits

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



CONTACTS

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

Prof Mark Stevens mark.stevens@bbro.co.uk 07712 822194

Dr Simon Bowen simon.bowen@bbro.co.uk 07718 422717

Stephen Aldis stephen.aldis@bbro.co.uk 07867 141705

General Enquiries info@bbro.co.uk



BASIS POINTS

Two BASIS points in total (not per bulletin) have been allocated for the period between 01/06/22 and 31/05/23 reference **CP/120094/2223/g**. To claim these points please email cpd@basis-reg.co.uk

Two NRoSO points in total (not per bulletin) have been allocated between 01/06/2022 and 31/05/2023 **NO471260f** reference. To claim these points please email NRoSOCPD@cityandguilds.com