



30th January 2025

BBRO Aphid / Virus Yellows update 30 January 2025

On the 23rd January DEFRA advised the UK sugar beet industry that the Emergency Authorisation application for the seed treatment Cruiser SB would not be permitted on the 2025 crop. In addition, no other seed treatments are approved or commercially available for the control of aphids in 2025.

Given this news, on-farm hygiene will be critical. We encourage all growers to remove and destroy all potential sources of aphids and virus, such as:

- beet spoilage
- cleaner loader sites
- cover crops on fields near to, or destined to become, beet (ideally six weeks before sowing).

BBRO are also working closely with the Insect Survey team at Rothamsted Research and, once available, BBRO will update the industry with the latest virus yellows forecasts and aphid first flight data. This will ensure everybody is aware of the potential risk of virus yellows and the timing of the first aphids into the crop.

The good news, compared to recent years, is that January 2025 has been relatively cool, with several significant frost events for many, and this will have helped decrease overwintering populations of aphids. As usual, once the next crop is sown, BBRO will monitor both winged and wingless aphids at 46 sites across the four factories and will provide real-time updates on the BBRO website. An emergency authorisation application for a second spray of Insyst is currently being made to provide all growers with a three-spray programme, if needed, in time for the coming season.

A more detailed review of the 2025 virus yellows threat is provided in the next edition of the BBRO BeetCast (launch date 3rd February) and we encourage all to attend the upcoming BBRO winter BeetTech conferences at Norwich (4th February) and Newark (11th February), where aphid and virus yellows control will be covered in further detail. The BBRO team will also be available to answer any additional questions you may have on aphid and virus yellows control too.

- [BBRO BeetCast - BeetCast January: Concentrating on the detail for 2025 | RSS.com](#)



EVENTS

Click on image to book

Detail delivers

British Beet
BBRO BeetTech25
Research Organisation

Possible impacts on the crop	% of crop affected
Pests	35
Variety	25
Soil type	28
Disease	42
Nutrient deficiencies	38
Weather	32

Session 1: BEET BOX TALKS
Four short practical sessions on the 'must knows' for 2025 season
Aphid control (Prof. Mark Stevens)
Nematode management (Dr Alistair Wright)
Cover crop use and destruction (Dr Georgina Barratt)
Weed control for 2025 (Pam Chambers - British Sugar)

Session 2: DATA DRIVEN DECISIONS
An overview of trials work and results and how to use the data to shape on-farm decisions
Sound science - Knowing nitrogen - revisiting rhizomania - varieties and resistance and the launch of **CROPWATCH**

Tuesday 4th February - Norfolk Showground
Tuesday 11th February - Newark Showground
8:30 arrival for 9am start, 12:45 finish

BOOK: www.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 01/06/2024 – 31/05/2025 - CP/138145/2425/g. To claim these points please email cpd@basis-reg.co.uk

Two NROSO points in total (not per bulletin) have been allocated from 1st September 2023 to 31st August 2024 - NO500860f and NO503154f from 1st September 2024 – 31st May 2025. To claim these points please email nroso@basis-reg.co.uk.