

Aphid Alert...Mild weather could see aphid risk to cereal crops

Innovation Centres

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In the middle of November and aphids are still being found in cereal crops across the west and south of the country. Mainly Bird cherry-oat aphid, which is one of the main vectors of BYDV.

At Syngenta's Innovation Centre in Shropshire, a Sencrop weather station has been set up, this gives real time data and has recorded average daily temperatures above 3°C from the date of crop emergence (5 October 2018) until now. There have been 25 days where the temperatures were above 3°C, this increases the aphid migration risk, especially in crops that have not had Deter seed treatment. Aphid traps were sampled on 9, 18, 24 & 30 October 2018 and each recorded fairly high numbers of aphids present.

Aphid Monitoring Results for Shropshire

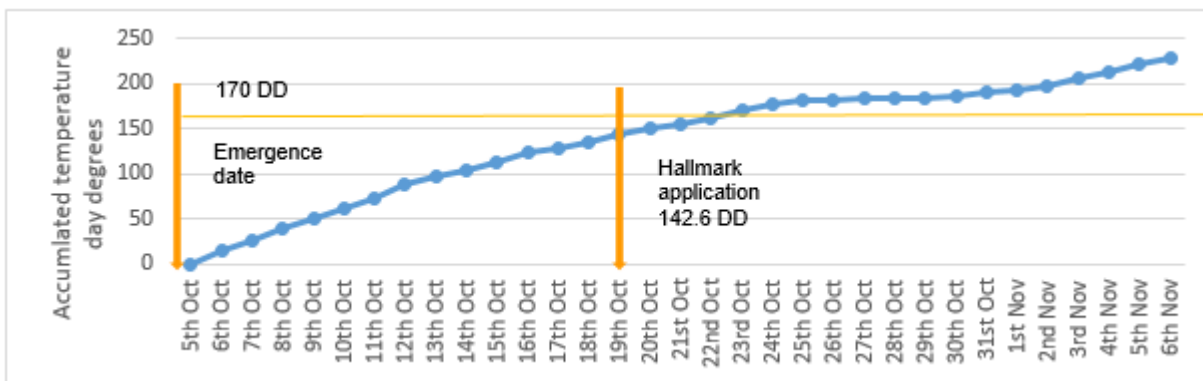
Aphid Species	Common Name	09/10	18/10	24/10	30/10
Other		20	53	6	21
<i>Rhopalosiphum Padi</i>	Bird Cherry-Oat Aphid	39	68	6	5
Unidentifiable			2	1	

★ = traps sampled



Insecticide seed treatments will have activity for up to 8 weeks, a follow-up spray will then be required if populations remain high. HALLMARK ZEON is the most persistent pyrethroid available. Applying 50 mls/ha will reduce the need for several follow-up sprays and help reduce the risk of resistance build-up.

At the Shropshire Innovation Centre T-Sum 170 was used to help apply HALLMARK ZEON at the correct timing to provide the best protection against BYDV infection (see below). After an insecticide application T-Sum 170 will be reset to 0 and the tracking of cumulative temperatures above 3°C will begin again.



Areas in the north still need to be vigilant as they have had high levels of aphids caught in the Rothamsted insect traps.