



Issued: 25th April



IN BRIEF

- Soil conditions are changing very quickly with diverse weather conditions, cultivation timings will be critical as seedbeds dry out quickly, monitor each field closely after tillage passes.
- Rolling is an option for cloddy seed beds if soil conditions continue to dry out quickly, ensure soil is friable before rolling to prevent compaction around the seed.
- If re-drilling is required in areas where Cruiser has already been used, **do NOT re-drill with Cruiser treated seed.**
- Select appropriate seed rates in line with expected establishment. **Remember Cruiser SB treated seed must be drilled at a maximum rate of 1.15 units/ha.** Ensure all drill operators are aware of the [guidelines associated with the use of Cruiser SB](#) treated seed, particularly ensuring all drilled seed is covered.
- 100,000 plants/ha should remain the target population for establishment, seedbed quality and moisture should remain the key driver for decision making.
- If drilling into fields or areas of fields such as headlands with a poor seedbed, consider using a higher seed rate, and again ensure seed coverage, to go beyond 1.15 units this will always need to be non Cruiser seed.
- Non-Cruiser crops will need monitoring from emergence but with only 2 insecticides currently available, careful management is essential to ensure the best protection. Currently, Insyst should be used as the first spray for non-treated crops. Further guidance will be issued once emergency authorisation decisions are known.
- Listen to [April's BeetCast](#) to hear more relating to aphid and virus control.
- Please do not use pyrethroid insecticides for aphid control on sugar beet as over 80% of the UK peach-potato aphid population are currently resistant to these products. Pyrethroids can also have a negative impact on beneficial insects too (which now appear to be increasing) and these will be crucial in limiting the spread of virus yellows this year.
- BBRO Aphid Survey now underway.



ADVISORY

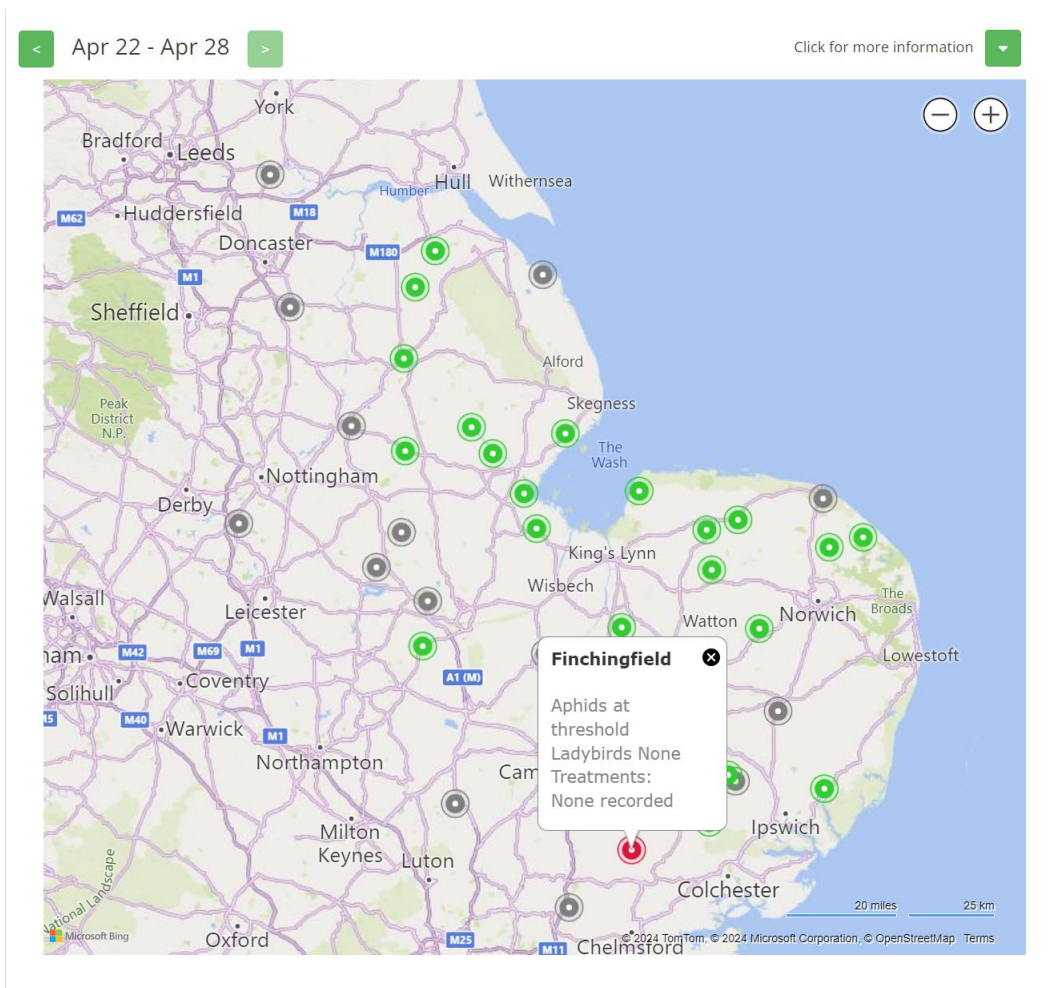


Figure 1: Aphid survey map as of 25th April 2024, green wingless aphids found at threshold at one site. Green denotes sample received but no aphids found. Grey denotes no sample received (or currently not drilled). Data is collected twice a week.

<https://plus.bbco.co.uk/on-farm/member-area/aphid-survey/aphids-site-map/>

Strict stewardship for Conviso® crops

If you are using Conviso technology please ensure that you follow the stewardship requirements which will help to protect against resistance and improve the longevity of the product.

- ✓ Conviso® One should only be applied to Conviso® Smart branded varieties. Conventional varieties treated with Conviso® One herbicide in error will be destroyed. CHECK FIELDS CAREFULLY before treatment
- ✓ Conviso® One has a broad spectrum of activity, but be mindful Conviso® One will not control all weeds at all growth stages; some species are more susceptible than others; most reliable efficacy is achieved when treated weeds are small
- ✓ Apply Conviso® One as a single application at 1.0L/ha. DO NOT split the dose; this is an illegal use and is not supported
- ✓ Applications of Conviso® One can benefit from the addition of MERO® in marginal situations (eg. dry conditions, weeds are becoming slightly larger than the optimum size)

- ✓ Follow the guidance provided on the product label; be aware the current label does not allow for tank mixing of any additional herbicides and the crop should be a minimum of 4 true-leaf stage before treatment
- ✓ It may be appropriate and necessary to sequence with alternative selective herbicide products dependent on the species present, emergence pattern and anticipated weed burden in individual fields
- ✓ Conviso® One can deliver very robust weed control, but be realistic about product performance if weeds are treated at large growth stages
- ✓ At row closure review the success of the herbicide programme and if efficacy is below expectation, investigate the reasons for sub-optimal performance
- ✓ Be mindful of the resistance risk arising from reliance on ALS-chemistry; plan diversity in cultivations, cropping patterns and use of alternative chemistries as part of a broader weed management strategy through the rotation
- ✓ Further information and support is available:
 - <https://www.kws.com/gb/en/products/sugarbeet/conviso%C2%AE-smart/>
 - <https://lgseeds.co.uk/conviso-smart-sugar-beet-all-you-need-to-know/>
 - <https://cropscience.bayer.co.uk/our-products/herbicides/conviso-one>

Following section supported by Pam Chambers, British Sugar

Controlling barley cover crops

A number of scenarios can occur with respect to timing of removal of cover crops.

- **Outright kill required** – risk of wind blow has passed and removal is required, either of the two situations below may occur.
 - Growing conditions are good and timing for control is optimum.
 - Spraying is late and competition from the cover crop is becoming an issue.
- **Reduction of competition is required** – there is still a risk of wind blow to the crop and protection from the cover crop is still needed. In some instances, the beet may not be emerged, but vigour reduction of the cover crop is required.
- **Incomplete control of the cover crop from an earlier spray** – this is less likely this season and if further control is required then it should be tied in with controlling other grass weeds, see notes below on ‘Specific Restrictions’.

Fusilade Max (fluazifop-P-butyl) or equivalent has a label requirement of 1 true leaf for the beet crop, other graminicides tend to be from the 2 true leaves growth stage. Suggested rates for volunteer cereal removal are 0.4-0.5 l/ha, consider a lower rate where suppression only is required. Where outright kill is needed then use a higher rate 0.6 to 0.7 l/ha especially if the cover crop is a hybrid or very vigorous.

Remember it is a ‘**Specific Restriction**’ for all ACCase inhibitor herbicides that to avoid the build up of resistance, it is not permitted to apply products containing an ACCase inhibitor more than twice to any crop. In addition, do not use the same ACCase active in mixture or

sequence. So, when considering cereal cover crop removal, you need to factor in other grass weeds, e.g. black-grass and Italian ryegrass that may require controlling.

Actives used for post-emergence annual broad-leaved weed control will have some impact on volunteer barley but cannot be relied upon for complete kill. Ethofumesate for example can safely be used in winter wheat crops and will have variable results on barley depending on the variety.

Volunteer potato control

Volunteer potatoes are already emerging in early drilled beet crops. BBRO are mid-way through a project looking at volunteer potato control. Observations so far are:-

- Clopyralid, ethofumesate and ALS* chemistry gave best foliage control of volunteer potatoes
- Clopyralid, phenmedipham and ALS* chemistry have given best reduction in daughter tuber numbers

*triflurosulfuron-methyl as in Debut/Shiro and foramsulfuron/thiencarbazone-methyl as in Conviso One.

Clomazone, dimethenamid-p, quinmerac and metamitron were also observed these have not shown any significant benefits with respect to volunteer potato control either on foliage or daughter tubers.

Varieties of potatoes will vary in their susceptibility to herbicides, and they won't all emerge at the same time. Make the first application of clopyralid when emerging volunteer potatoes are 5-10 cm tall followed by a second application 7-10 days later. Always use clopyralid in tank mix with other conventional herbicides.

Where growing a SMART variety the inclusion of an early clopyralid application may be required to allow optimum timing of the Conviso One for other weeds e.g., weed beet. Remember you cannot tank mix other herbicides with Conviso One they can only be used in sequence.

Clopyralid is extremely difficult to remove from water so always consult the Voluntary Initiative guidelines before using (www.voluntaryinitiative.org.uk). Do not use if there is risk of heavy rainfall within 48 hours of application.

Stewardship of Cruiser SB crops - reminder

There are several key conditions summarised below that must be adhered to:

- A maximum seed rate of 1.15units/ha of treated seed. If there are concerns about poor establishment and a higher rate of seed is required, untreated seed can be used but the rate of Cruiser SB treated seed must not exceed 1.15 units in each

hectare drilled. It is essential to make accurate records of where all Cruiser SB treated seed is drilled within fields.

- Careful and targeted use of herbicides is required to minimise the number of flowering weeds in treated sugar beet crops and reduce the risk of indirect exposure of pollinators to neonicotinoids. The use of BASIS recommended herbicide programmes must be adopted by growers and their agronomists. Ensure all drill operators are aware of the [guidelines associated with the use of Cruiser SB treated seed](#), particularly ensuring all drilled seed is covered.
- No thiamethoxam seed treatment i.e. Cruiser SB may be used on the same field area for 46 months from the date of sowing treated sugar beet seed in 2024.



EVENTS

BeetField24 - May

14th May am - Morley, Norfolk
14th May pm - Yaxley, Suffolk
15th May pm - Baston, Peterborough
16th May am - Selby, Yorkshire

2024 is forecast to be a high aphid and therefore virus year. It is vital that growers know how best to manage their own crop as every farm situation is different.

Aphid & Virus special
Plus: Plant Clinic, weed control and ALS resistance management
Book: www.bbrow.co.uk/events

IPM
at the heart of sugar beet production

BBRO

14th May
Morley

14th May
Yaxley

15th May
Baston

16th May
Selby

You will also be able to find us at the Morley Innovation Day – 20th June. Please see below to book.



Morley Innovation Day including the AHDB Strategic Cereal Farm East Open Day

Thursday 20th June 2024
Opens at 10am
Last four starts at 2pm

Morley Farms, Deopham Road,
Morley, Wymondham, NR18 9DF
Free lunch and refreshments.

what3words: responses.trucked.defender

The event and parking are
1/2 mile from the main farm.
Follow the signs on the day.



The **Morley Innovation Day** showcases the latest arable advice and research from UK agribusinesses and research organisations. This free-to-attend event features a mix of field-based demonstrations and static exhibits, enabling attendees to interact with leading industry experts. This event is made possible by the unique relationship between The Morley Agricultural Foundation and NIAB delivering farmer-facing long-term agronomy research.

NIAB Field Demonstration Tours

Access NIAB's latest agronomy and soils research and demonstrations at Morley Farms, alongside impartial variety and agronomy advice from our regional agronomy team and crop specialists. Tour groups start in the demonstration fields at regular intervals from 10am through to 2pm, and include:

- Winter wheat varieties - Claire Lesman
- Barley varieties - Patrick Stephenson
- Cereal disease management - Aoife O'Driscoll

EVENT TIMETABLE

9.45am Registration open
10.00am NIAB field demonstration tours start
12.00 - 1.30pm Lunch
2.00pm Final field tour starts
4.00pm Event closes

Please register on the NIAB

website:

bit.ly/MorleyInnovationDay2024



NIAB Soils and Farming Systems team will be on hand to discuss the latest research on assessing new diverse wheat lines under regenerative agricultural practices. In addition to the Morley Soil and Agronomy Monitoring Study (SAMS) and other long term experiments at Morley.



AHDB will present the research underway at the new AHDB Strategic Cereal Farm East, hosted by David Jones at The Morley Agricultural Foundation. Topics will include cultural control of grassweeds, decision support for managing BYDV risk and improving nutrient use efficiency.



A long term supporter of the Morley Innovation day, Agrovista technical staff will be on hand to discuss Project Lamport which is a series of long term trials. They investigate cultural controls to reduce the reliance on pesticides particularly to manage blackgrass and improving soil health with a aim to exertive profitable crop production.



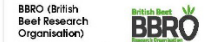
Adams & Howling will be discussing Malting barley both winter and spring and current market requirements.



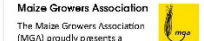
Openfield will be in attendance to discuss grain marketing information. We are also very grateful to Openfield for sponsoring lunch.



Some of the current cohort of TMAF funded PhD students will be demonstrating their work to date. The subjects include: wheat genetic improvement to rooting, nitrogen efficiency, and septoria resistance.



BBRO will be on hand to discuss topical issues of the season, including Virus Yellows.



The Maize Growers Association (MGA) proudly presents a diverse range of trials at Morley Farms, showcasing innovative approaches to maize growing. These trials address key challenges growers face, aiming to optimise yield, enhance crop quality, and promote sustainable practices. Come and speak with us as we delve into distinct areas of investigation: Pre-Emergence & Post-Emergence Weed Control, Foliar Applied Nitrogen, Soil Nitrogen Mineralisation, Under sowing Maize, Reduced Herbicide Usage, Deep Drilling and Alternative Seed Dressings.



The John Innes Centre is a plant and microbial research centre based in Norwich. Visit us on the John Innes Centre stand to find out about our latest research highlights such as tackling Virus Yellows disease in sugar beet, identifying resistance to cabbage stem flea beetle in oilseed rape, using genomic editing to improve future crops, development of Plenty Sense nitrogen sensors for understanding nitrogen availability and timing of fertiliser applications and Freeing solutions to disease in potato.

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Tel: 01953 856330 www.tmaf.co.uk Registered charity No. 1097177



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BASIS POINTS

Two BASIS points in total (not per bulletin) have been allocated for the period between 01/06/23 and 31/05/24 reference CP/126447/2324/g. To claim these points please email cpd@basis-reg.co.uk

Two NR0SO points in total (not per bulletin) have been allocated from 1st September 2023 to 31st August 2024 - NO500860f. To claim these points please email [nrroso@basis-reg.co.uk](mailto:nroso@basis-reg.co.uk).