



Teagasc Horticultural Pest Update 2020

Latest Update: Week 16 (April 13th to 19th)

Compiled by: Dr Michael Gaffney

Field Vegetable Pests

Cabbage Root Fly activity is noticeable in the plots, with plenty of adults stuck on yellow sticky traps and in water traps, however no eggs have been found at our Kinsealy site this week. In Ashtown, an average of 2.7 eggs were recovered from Broccoli plants, indicating that some egg laying has commenced. In 2017 egg laying commenced in week 16 also, with peak egg laying occurring in the second week of May.

Carrot root flies have been recorded on yellow sticky traps at both North Dublin locations, which is not unusual. Females require time to mate and mature before egg laying, but a spell of good weather can increase the speed of this development.



Carrot root fly can be quickly identified on yellow sticky traps. They have a tendency to hit the trap side on, so usually present a side profile. The legs are red and usually trailing backwards. The head has a reddish colour and can appear slightly separated from the fly 'body'.

The number of migrating **Aphids** caught both in water traps at both sites and in the 6m suction trap at Ashtown were very low, and no species of agronomic importance were identified. However it should be noted that the AHDB in the UK have predicted that the combination of a mild winter and good weather might mean some agriculturally important aphid species may fly earlier this year than previous years.

Again, while there are some reports of silver Y moths or diamond back moths being found in traps in the UK, none have been observed in traps or within monitor crops. In 2018 the first arrivals of DBM in the Dublin area occurred around week 18.

A single Flea beetles and a single grain weevils were recovered from the 6m suction trap this week.

Fruit Pests

Spotted wing Drosophila activity at our Kinsealy and Ashtown locations has been obvious over the winter period. This week there was an average trap catch of 107 per Trap in Kinsealy and 15 at Ashtown. This is comparable to the numbers caught in previous years. Our in crop Strawberry traps had no SWD present and a single female was found in traps located in our Raspberry crop. Growers should commence monitoring immediately and consult their advisor if SWD is found to be present in crops.

A single Light Brown Apple Moth was recovered from a pheromone trap in North Dublin.

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