



## Teagasc Horticultural Pest Update 2020

Latest Update: Week 17 (April 20<sup>th</sup> to 27th)

Compiled by: Dr Michael Gaffney

### ***Field Vegetable Pests***

Cabbage Root Fly remain active in both monitoring sites, with plenty of adults stuck on yellow sticky traps and in water traps. Egg laying is now evident at both sites, with an average of 8.3 eggs per plant being found at Kinsealy, and 5.3 eggs per plant at Ashtown (an increase on 0 and 2.3 eggs per plant recovered last week). In previous years (2018 apart) peak egg laying occurred 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, with 0.4 adults per trap at Kinsealy and 4 adults per trap recovered at Ashtown. In previous years trap counts have been much higher, so the expectation is that numbers will increase in the next week. Females require time to mate and mature before they commence egg laying.

The number of migrating **Aphids** caught both in water traps at both sites and in the 6m suction trap at Ashtown has increased this week, however none of our target species (Cabbage Mealy aphid, Carrot-Willow Aphid or Peach-Potato Aphid) 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.

There is no evidence of migratory moths such as Diamond Back Moth or Silver Y moth being active in crops at either site. In 2018 the first arrivals of DBM in the Dublin area occurred around week 18. The diversity of insect species recovered from the 6m aerial suction tower increased this week, with a number of Flea beetles and grain weevils recovered. Also a number of common green capsids were also observed in the trap. The water traps located in crops showed the a number of different species of parasitic wasps were now becoming active.

### ***Fruit Pests***

**Spotted wing Drosophila** activity at our Kinsealy and Ashtown locations has been obvious over the winter period. This week there was a noticeable increase in the average trap catch of 204.3 per trap in Kinsealy and 23.6 at Ashtown. Our '*in crop*' Strawberry and Raspberry traps had no SWD present this week. Growers should commence monitoring immediately and consult their advisor if SWD is found to be present in crops.



The number of Light Brown Apple Moth recovered this week using a pheromone trap in a hedgerow at our Kinsealy monitoring site increased. Light Brown Apple moth has a wide host range and can attack a range of vegetable, ornamental and fruit crops.

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