

Petworth Monitor Farm

Meeting title: IPM and how it can be used to improve business resilience

Date: 12 December 2019

Speakers: Sacha White (ADAS), Andy Barr (East Lenham Farm)



Integrated Pest Management

Barley Yellow Dwarf Virus (BYDV)

- There are multiple types of aphid, with different life cycles and options for control – identify the pest, use threshold information and life cycle to decide a control option
- **Sowing date:** Late sown crops are at a lower risk of BYDV
- **Natural enemies:** Beetles are beneficial in helping to control BYDV however, monitor your grass margins as these can increase aphid numbers as a preferred habitat.

Cabbage stem flea beetle (CSFB)

- **Drilling date:** Drilling oilseed rape early can increase the ability of the crop to tolerate adult damage because the crop will be better established by the time cabbage stem flea beetle migration begins. However, late drilling (into September) is likely to result in lower larval pressure and possibly avoid adult damage
- **Seed rate:** Increasing seed rates for establishment may help when drilling in dry conditions however, this may also encourage CSFB larvae
- **Trap crop:** Leaving volunteer OSR until late September can help to act as trap crop to attract migrating CSFB away from drilled OSR
- **Livestock:** Defoliation of OSR using a topper and/or sheep before stem extension can also help control CSFB larvae. Care must be taken when grazing livestock due to sulphur levels so don't use pregnant ewes or stock requiring high DLWG's. Introduce livestock to OSR over a period of time making sure they have adequate fibre (straw) water and minerals. (see, [Livestock and the arable rotation](#))
- **Natural enemies:** CSFB is attacked by parasitoids in both larvae and adult form: Species from the Ichneumonidae and Braconid family of parasitoid wasps are known to be predators. They can be encouraged through flower margins that include flowers from the Umbelliferae family and by including fallows. These could be part of your greening/EFA's or, ES schemes.

Take-home messages

- Know your pest and be sure what you spray is required (use threshold information) and, be as precise as possible with what you spray. [Encyclopaedia of pests and natural enemies](#) can be used to identify pests, their thresholds and natural enemies.
- Monitor grass margins for aphids
- Consider drilling date to reduce pest risk
- Identify if natural enemy habitats could be incorporated into the farm

Further information

- [Encyclopaedia of pests and natural enemies](#)
- [Encyclopaedia of cereal diseases](#)
- [Encyclopaedia of arable weeds](#)
- [FAR focus: Integrated Pest Management \(New Zealand\)](#)
- [Recommended Lists for cereals and oilseeds](#)
- [Livestock and the arable rotation](#)
- Pest and disease monitoring tools can be found at ahdb.org.uk/tools

AHDB resources

- Understand your business costs with AHDB's benchmarking tool Farmbench at ahdb.org.uk/farmbench
- Monitoring tools are available at ahdb.org.uk/tools
- Sign up to market information and research newsletters at ahdb.org.uk/keeping-in-touch
- Find out what's going on at other Monitor Farms and Strategic Farms at ahdb.org.uk/farm-excellence
- All AHDB events can be found at ahdb.org.uk/events
- For guidance on how Brexit will impact your business, see ahdb.org.uk/brexit

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