## **NEWSLETTER**

Spring 2021



# Assured Agronomy

#### Cropping update

The dry conditions experienced in recent weeks has resulted in only yellow rust being found in susceptible varieties of winter wheat.

Similarly, the disease pressure in winter barley has been low, with T1 treatments being applied slightly later than billed. Most oilseed rape crops are now in full flower, having suffered minimal pollen beetle pressure. Sugar beet and spring cereals have been slow to emerge due to the cold spells in April.

**30 Jun:** End of EFA Fallow period.

- **1 Aug:** RPA derogations begin for cutting or trimming hedges throughout August, to sow oilseed rape or temporary grassland.
- **1 Aug**: Closed period, organic manure with high available N to tillage land on shallow or sandy soils except where crops will be sown on or before 15<sup>th</sup> September.

#### Larvae findings in OSR

Backward oilseed rape crops in some fields have suffered significantly from late larval feeding, resulting in stunted plants that were slow to reach the full flowering stage. It is unusual to find larvae damage in April, however as there was no damage evident in the autumn, it is likely that the adult egg laying, took place in January.

In one field site, counts on Individual plants gave an average total of 46 larvae, 85% of those were flea beetle, pictured right, and 15% of those were winter stem weevil, pictured left.

- Flea beetle larvae are thinner with a black head and black tail.
- The winter stem weevil larvae are creamy white, have a brown head and are legless and usually only found in the base of the stem.

On the same farm it has been possible to find OSR fields that are healthy and not showing any signs of damage. As such, fields that become prone to flea beetle attack can be regarded as a lottery occurrence.



Winter stem weevil

**CSFB** larvae

### Chemical supply

Adama have announced that Crawler will not be re-registered, final sales 30<sup>th</sup> September 2021, final use up on farm 30<sup>th</sup> November 2022.

This decision comes as a great loss to Oilseed Rape chemistry going forward, particularly with increased resistance found to Centurion Max on many field sites.

A reminder that final use up on farm for Epoxiconazole is 31<sup>st</sup> October 2021. For those that still have this left over it is an option at the T2 spray timing.

#### Frost

April recorded a high level of late frosts, with temperatures generally at or below freezing. Oilseed rape on low lying land suffered greater damage, than crops on higher ground. Fortunately developing pods in the bottom half of the canopy will compensate for the aborted seeds near the top.







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Two NRoSO points in total (not per bulletin) have been allocated between 01/01/2020 and 31/12/2021 reference NO467809F.

Two BASIS points (1CP/1PN) in total (not per bulletin) have been allocated between 01/06/2020 and 31/05/2021 reference CP/101008/2021/g.

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