Manitoba Crop Pest Update
Issue 7: July 6, 2022

Manitoba Agriculture

Summary

Insects: Grasshopper monitoring and management continues. Levels of pea aphids at or over the economic threshold have been found in some pea fields that are starting to flower in the Central region. Levels of barley thrips around threshold have been reported from some barley fields. Lots of blister beetles are being noticed, including some of the species that when they are juveniles specialize in eating grasshopper eggs. Flea beetle insecticide applications have wrapped up, as most fields are now past the susceptible stages.

Weeds: Sprayers kept rolling over this last week doing a good job of keeping up with weed control. We are close to finishing up all herbicide applications, with late-seeded canola crops still needing spraying and second pass glyphosate applications going on corn and soybeans. Wet fields have been challenging to drive in, ruts and stuck sprayers have been seen across the province. Generally weed control has been very good, though some glufosinate applications did not seem to work well, warranting respraying. This was a difficult situation given the tight glufosinate supplies.

Entomology

First confirmation of soybean aphids for year – Soybean aphids were found in a soybeans south of Fannystelle on July 5. They were just found in one random spot in the field, so no big numbers. This is the first confirmed report of soybean aphids for this year. What the population does, and whether they approach threshold levels still remains to be seen.

Photo by Jason Voogt – Field 2 Field Agronomy

Tips for monitoring and managing barley thrips:

Monitoring: Sampling should begin when the flag leaf is first visible and continue until the head is completely emerged from the boot. Barley thrips exhibit an edge effect; there are usually more thrips near field margins than other areas of the field. Most thrips can be found under the top 2 leaf sheaths. Unroll the leaf sheaths away from the stem to find the thrips.

Economic Threshold: Insecticide treatments are only effective when applied before heading is complete.
Treat when thrips are equal to or greater than the number calculated by:
Threshold (Thrips/stem) = (Cost of Control ÷ expected $ value per bushel)/0.4

Weeds

What's wrong with this corn? It's fallen over and some stalks have broken. Look at this pic:

This demo plot at 2022 Crop Diagnostic School was sprayed with 1 REL/acre (360 grams ae) of glyphosate plus 2,4-D last Tuesday. By Thursday afternoon the whole plot had fallen over, but now the plants are starting to stand up again. They are still very fragile, though, the slighted nudge and they will break off at the base. Even though this is a registered use, we don't recommend spraying 2,4-D on corn. It can result in floppy corn and brittle stalks that can snap off. If we don't get a big wind event the plants could

be fine, we won't be out of the woods on this for at least another week. With good growing conditions they will recover from this and hopefully we don't lose any more plants.

Weed ID

Here's some pics of some weeds in our plots that we've flagged and our Crop Diagnostic School participants have been ID'g them for a small prize! Do you know these?

Answers (starting at top left picture going to the right):
Chickweed, portulaca,
Smartweed, biennial wormwood,
Wild buckwheat, prickly lettuce,
Lambs quarters, kochia,
Canada fleabane, pineapple weed

Forecasts

Diamondback moth. A network of 52 pheromone-baited traps were monitored across Manitoba in May and June to determine how early and in what levels populations of diamondback moth arrive. Traps have now been pulled and the adult monitoring complete. Diamondback moth were found in 39 traps.

Levels were low until about mid-May. After that some moderate to high counts occurred in traps in the Eastern and Central regions. Counts were generally low in Western Manitoba, with the first counts over 10 happening the week of June 19-25.

The highest cumulative trap count was 229 from a trap near Hadashville in the Eastern region. There are some areas in the Eastern and Central region where looking for larvae while crop scouting would be good to prioritize.

Table 1. Highest cumulative counts of diamondback moth (*Plutella xylostella*) in pheromone-baited traps for five agricultural regions in Manitoba as of July 2, 2022.

Region	Nearest Town	Trap Count
Northwest	Grandview	27
	Grandview	14
	Shortdale	7
	Russell, Bield, Grandview	5
Southwest	Rossburn, Miniota	12
	Rivers	10
	Brandon	8
Central	Altona	128
	Gnadenfeld	111
	Halbstadt	53
	Carman	38
Eastern	Hadashville	229
	Whitemouth	226
	Beausejour	205
	Stead	182
	Tournond	41
Interlake	Arborg	13
	Arborg	2

← Highest cumulative count

Highest counts in each region and a monitoring summary are updated weekly on the Insect Page of the Manitoba Agriculture website at:
https://www.gov.mb.ca/agriculture/crops/insects/diamondback-moth-forecast.html

So far only low levels of larvae of diamondback moth have been reported.

Armyworms (*Mythimna unipuncta*). A network of pheromone-baited traps are being monitored from early-May until mid-July to determine how early and in what levels populations of armyworms have arrive. Some moderate counts have occurred from traps in Eastern and Central Manitoba. The highest cumulative count is 88, from a trap near Beausejour in the Eastern region. So far there have been no reports of larvae of armyworms being found in Manitoba.

Table 2. Highest cumulative counts of armyworms in pheromone-baited traps for agricultural regions in Manitoba as of July 5, 2022.

Region	Nearest Town	Trap Count
Northwest	All traps with 0	
Southwest	Brookdale	9
	Brandon	16
Central	Rosenfeld	54
	Halbstadt	35
	Rosebank	18
Eastern	Beausejour	88
	Lac du Bonnet	55
	Dominion City	47

← Highest cumulative count

Highest counts in each region of Manitoba and a monitoring summary are updated weekly on the Insect Page of the Manitoba Agriculture website at: https://www.gov.mb.ca/agriculture/crops/insects/pubs/true-armyworm-trap-results-july5-2022.pdf

A map showing armyworm counts from Manitoba, Eastern Canada, and several Northeast U.S. states is available at: https://arcg.is/0Lry5a. Go to the link "TAW".

Bertha armyworm. Trap counts for bertha armyworm have been low so far. Highest counts so far have been:

Table 1. Highest cumulative counts of bertha armyworm (*Mamestra configurata*) in pheromone-baited traps for five agricultural regions in Manitoba as of July 5, 2022.

Region	Nearest Town	Trap Count
Northwest	Inglis	6
	Russell, Shell Valley	4
Southwest	Killarney	21
	Boissevain	20
	Glenboro	14
	Glenboro	12
Central	Belmont	22
	Rosenort	19
	Baldur	11
	Cartwright	5
Eastern	Whitemouth, Beausejour	6

0-300 = low risk - green
300-900 = uncertain risk - yellow
900-1,200 = moderate risk
1,200+ = high risk

← Highest cumulative count

	Stead	5
	Ste.Anne, Tourond	2
Interlake	Arborg	1

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To **report observations** on insects, plant pathogens, or weeds that may be of interest or importance to farmers and agronomists in Manitoba, please send messages to the above contacts.

To be placed on an **E-mail list** so you will be notified immediately when new Manitoba Crop Pest Updates are posted, please contact John Gavloski at the address or numbers listed above.