

Hello everyone,

Please see the update below for the BC Peace pest monitoring project:

Grasshopper nymph's development is now around late instar to adult stages. Remember that most of those very early nymphs are non-pest slant-faced species, but early identification of pest nymphs helps in effective control- the earlier control is applied the more effective it is. Overall grasshopper populations seem to be much lower this year than last, but if you are in a problem spot, now is when you want to be thinking about control if necessary. For more info and thresholds please see:

<http://www.agriculture.gov.sk.ca/Default.aspx?DN=626d78ef-2444-4fae-98fc-95e05d88e759>

http://www.peaceforageseed.ca/pdf/Insect_Updates_pdf/Grasshopper%20Nymph%20Key%20adaptation.pdf



Grasshopper quick ID: Migratory nymph on left with break in the black patch on the hind femur, Two-striped (center) with solid black patch on hind femur. These are the two main pests in our area based on collections last year that you want to watch for. Far right is a slant-faced grasshopper with sharply sloping head.

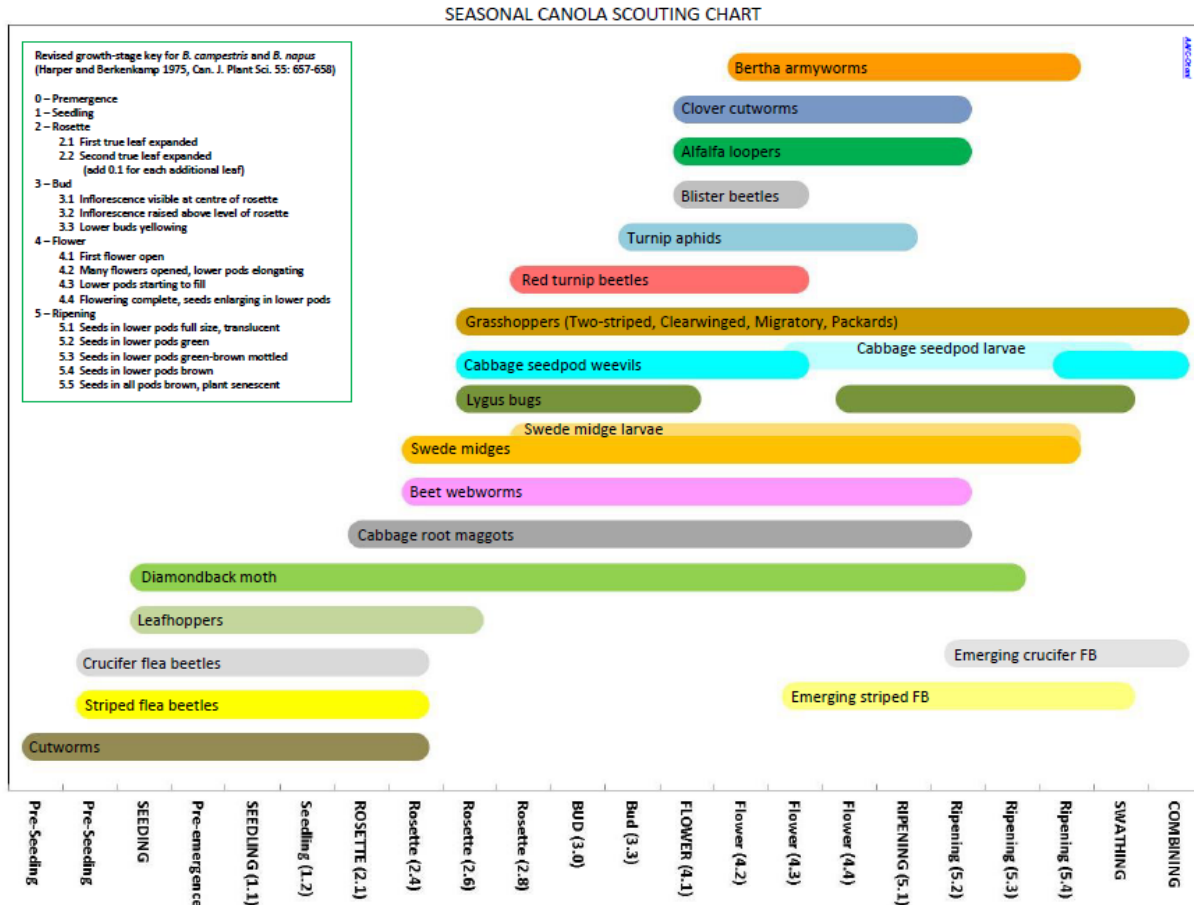
Wheat Midge should be on wheat grower's radar this year, especially in the Rolla area where populations were highest last year. This pest has yet to reach economic levels in our region, but growers should be familiar with scouting protocols and economic thresholds. Pheromone monitoring is used to get an idea of initial and peak midge emergence and cannot be used to indicate risk levels as of yet. Start looking for the midge once wheat has flowered on calm evenings. An important finding from last year indicated that the current year's Canola crops seem to be an important habitat for the emergence of Wheat midge parasitoids which were recovered from our region last season. Keep this in mind when making decisions to spray in this year's Canola and wheat crops as preserving these parasitoid populations will be important for future management of the Wheat midge in the BC Peace- I can't stress enough how important it is to follow available economic thresholds when making control decisions.

See below for more information on this pest, keeping in mind the susceptible stage is **only when wheat is in flower, not just once the head has emerged:**

<http://www.agriculture.gov.sk.ca/wheatmidge>

Remember also to keep checking for the latest Prairie Pest Monitoring updates here:
<http://PrairiePestMonitoring.blogspot.ca>

You can also find this Canola scouting chart at the PPMN blog:



I encourage growers to contact me with questions anytime. I can be reached by:

E-mail: bcpeacepestmonitoring@gmail.com

Phone: 250-719-4488

Or on Twitter: @BCPPM

And a special thanks to all the sponsors and supporters of this project, and to the Beaverlodge research farm staff for assistance and expertise, as well as all the farmer cooperators who provide fields for monitoring efforts.

