The insect pests of oilseed rape: biology and potential for control by IPM

Sam Cook Rothamsted Research, UK



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Insects love oilseed rape!







Oilseed rape is important for farmland biodiversity

Oilseed rape is important to a wide variety of invertebrates

Surveys in UK using a range of techniques...

...collected 151 species + c. 40 additional groups id to genus or higher taxonomic rank

Skellern & Cook in prep







Oilseed rape is important for farmland biodiversity



Oilseed rape crops support populations of bees, butterflies & ^{KI} other pollinators, natural enemies of crop pests, detritivores & invertebrates used as food resources for farmland birds



British Ornithologists Union

Skellern & Cook in prep















Oilseed rape is important for farmland biodiversity



Need to better manage the crop to harness the biodiversity potential of the crop – towards 'sustainable intensification'



Talk outline: Summarise the insect pests of oilseed rape

Ecological approaches to pest management via IPM



What are the insect pests of rapeseed?





 Most widely distributed stem-mining pest in Europe; also recorded from Middle East, Asia, North Africa, Canada







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Damage

- Adult feeding damage may threaten establishment (100% crop loss)
- Larvae cause loss of vigour, stem wilting, delayed flowering, stem collapse; increased risk to frost and disease





Dewar Crop Protection







• Adult control via neonicotinoid seed treatments since 1990s



Seedgrowth.bayer.com

- On 1/12/13 a 2-year restriction on the use of the neonicotinoids: clothianidin, imidacloprid and thiamethoxam, was enforced by the European Commission.
- The 2014 winter crop was the first forwhich neonicotinoid seed treatmentswere not available to protect plantsduring emergence and establishment





October 2013 (before the ban), Suffolk 2013 UK







 In autumn 2014 Pyrethroid sprays become the main (only?) control option....



 BUT pyrethroid resistance confirmed in Germany

Zimmer et al., 2014 PBP 108:1-7

...and widespread in UK (Sept 2014) AHDB Project 214–0019





What happened in 2014?



What happened in 2014?

• Pyrethroids were repeatedly applied! (What effect on non-targets?!)





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Cabbage stem flea beetle (Psylliodes chrysocephala)

What happened in 2014?

- Pyrethroids were repeatedly applied! (What effect on non-targets?!)
- By 1 December total crop losses due to adult feeding were c. 5% of the national crop (AHDB survey).
- Reional variations : SE and E worst hit with c. 15% crops showing damage above adult control threshold levels
- Highest larval populations on record (Fera)
- Many farmers in SE have given up growing OSR









Distribution

• Worldwide!







Green peach aphid (Myzus persicae)

Life cycle : multivoltine







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Damage

- Feeding damage by adults and nymphs economically minor
- Virus vector Turnip yellows virus (TuYV)
- Can reduce yield by c. 30%
- Winged aphids can infect a crop from emergence – Oct (or Dec. if mild)
- Increased threat since revocation of neonicotinoid seed treatments
- C. 70% of UK *Myzus* population infected
- Resistance to pyrethroids widespread in UK and Europe; also resistance to pirimicarb; neonicotinoid resistance in S. Europe....

Pymetrozine only viable alternative (timing crucial)





Peach-potato aphid (Myzus persicae)



Distribution

- Central and southern Europe
- unconfirmed reports in N. America
- NOT yet present in northern Europe (UK)



Rape Stem Weevil (Ceutorhynchus napi)







Rape Stem Weevil (Ceutorhynchus napi)

- Adult feeding causes little damage
- Deposition of eggs may cause distortion of plant
- Larval tunnelling causes further damage + 'stem bursting'
- Increases susceptibility to fungal pathogens
- Yield losses c. 50%





Ivan Juran





Pollen beetle (Meligethes aeneus)

• Brassicogethes aeneus (Audisio 2009)

Distribution

- Europe
- Asia: Afghanistan, Jordan, Mongolia, Turkey
- N. Africa: Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia
- N. America: Canada, Mexico, USA









Pollen beetle (Brassicocgethes / Meligethes aeneus)









Damage

• Adult feeding damage at bud stage causes abscission 'blind stalks'







Damage

- Adult feeding damage at bud stage causes abscission 'blind stalks'
- Pyrethroid resistance widespread across Europe
- Loss of control resulted in complete loss of 30,000ha (€22-25 M) in Germany 2006
- Indoxacarb, neonicotinoids (thiacloprid acetamiprid) & Pymetrozine currently viable alternatives







Cabbage Seed Weevil (Ceutorhynchus obstrictus)

Syn. C. assimilis

Distribution

- Europe
- Russia
- Asia Minor
- N. America (Canada)









Cabbage Seed Weevil (Ceutorhynchus obstrictus)

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Damage

- Adults cause little direct damage but punctures in pod facilitates oviposition by brassica pod midge and increases risk of fungal infection by *Phoma lingam* (*Leptosphaeria maculans*)
- Yield loss through larval feeding on seeds: each larva consumes c. 5 seeds ; yield loss c. 20% (50% in N. America)



Brassica pod midge (Dasineura brassicae)

Distribution

- Europe
- N. Africa: Morocco







Brassica pod midge (Dasineura brassicae)





Damage

- pods yellow, become swollen split prematurely shedding larvae and seed
- Often most severe on headlands
- 82% loss seed weight







Pest Management of insect pests of oilseed rape







Integrated Pest Management (IPM) of insect pests of oilseed rape



- IPM is an effective and environmentally sensitive approach to pest management that relies on a combination practices (including the judicious use of pesticides)
- 4 usual steps in IPM programmes:
- 1. Set action threshold
- 2. Monitor pest density & assess risk
- Prevention cultural methods e.g. crop rotation, use of pestresistant cultivars, semiochemical e.g. pheromone repellents, habitat diversification intercropping, trap cropping
- 4. Control mechanical (e.g. trapping), biological, conservation biocontrol, botanical insecticides, synthetic pesticides





Action (economic) thresholds refer to the number of pests or level of pest damage above which require control measures.

- Based on: Pest biology Effects of damage on yield Response of pests to insecticides
- Expressed as: Number of pests per plant or per unit area of crop Amount of damage seen on plants No. insects in traps



1. Set Action Thresholds

• Defined for each pest species

P	est	UK threshold			
100	CSFB	25% leaf area eaten	5 larvae /plant		
	Peach-potato aphid	As soon as detected in crop			
A. Con	Rape stem weevil	NA			
R	pollen beetle	15 adults / plant (5 for backward crops) ^{* to 2012}			
1 Action	Cabbage seed weevil	0.5 adults/plant in north; 1/plant elsewhere			
A	Pod midge	Treat for cabbage seed weevil			





1. Set Action Thresholds



• Defined for each pest species; vary from country-country

P	est	UK threshold		Germany		Poland	
10-10-	CSFB	25% leaf area eaten	5 larvae /plant	10% leaf area3-5eatenlarvae/plant		1/m plant row	-
	Peach-potato aphid	As soon as de crop	etected in	As soon as detected in crop		2 aphid colonies/m2 at crop edge	
A Contraction	Rape stem weevil	N	A	10 weevils/trap in 3d		10 weevils /trap in 3d	2-4/25 plants
or	pollen beetle	15 adults / pl backward cro	lant (5 for ops) ^{* to 2012}	3-4 adults/plant GS 50-51; 7-8 GS 52-53 (3-4 on backward crops; >8 GS 55-59 (>4)		1 adult/plant GS 50-51; 3-5 GS 52-59	
1 Contraction	Cabbage seed weevil	0.5 adults/pl 1/plant elsev	ant in north; vhere	0.5-1 adult / plant		4/25 plants with weevils	
JAC.	Pod midge	Treat for cab weevil	bage seed	Treat for cabbage seed weevil		Treat for cabbage seed weevil	





- Defined for each pest species; vary from country-country
- Very few have been experimentally validated!



1. Set Action Thresholds



E.g. Revaluation of threshold for pollen beetle (UK) AHDB Project 495 (Ellis & Berry)

Previous to 2012 UK threshold 15 beetles/plant or 5 for backward crops (GS 50-61)

- Thresholds re-evaluated using logic:
- 1) OSR plants produce more flowers than needed for max yield; buds can be lost to pollen beetles and still produce maximum yield;
- 2) The number of 'excess flowers' could be predicted by # plants/m² at the bud stage. Crops with fewer plants/m² had more excess flowers than more dense crops
- 1 beetle damages 9 buds/season



1. Set Action Thresholds

Threshold for pollen beetle (UK) now based on plant density



Revised control thresholds for winter and spring oilseed rape

If there are less than 30 plants/m ²	the threshold is 25 pollen beetles per plant
If there are 30–50 plants/m ²	the threshold is 18 pollen beetles per plant
If there are 50–70 plants/m ²	the threshold is 11 pollen beetles per plant
If there are more than 70 plants/m ²	the threshold is 7 pollen beetles per plant









- Monitoring is necessary to determine the level of pest infestation and/or damage
- Informs when control threshold for a pest has been reached
- Helps to assess efficacy of control measures
- Methods based on understanding of crop location behaviour, phenology, immigration behaviours and spatio-temporal distributions



Monitoring methods: CSFB – adult damage

• Assess % feeding damage to leaves













Monitoring methods : CSFB – no. larvale/plant

- Count larvae in plant petioles and stems (from at least 25 plants/field); threshold = average 5/plant
- Count stem/petiole damage; >50% relates to c. 2-5 larvae/plant





Dewar crop protection



Monitoring methods : CSFB – larval damage predicted by no. adults

- Water traps (4/field)
- 2 in headland and 2 in-field
- Threshold: mean total >96/trap over period Sept. to end Oct.
- But timing of larval sprays critical; this measure is rather crude
- Where best to trap?



(A) Total female *P. chrysocephala* distribution (17 September–29 October 1998) (mean = 17.472) Warner et al., (2003) Ent. Exp. Appl. 109:225-234

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Real-timing monitoring of insect pests is needed!

- Machine learning enables detection and recognition of insect species
- Camera traps being developed by several groups
- LIDAR (Light Detection and Ranging (LIDAR) 'laser' sensor technology being tested to detect OSR pests & beneficials











ProPlantexpert.com on-line risk assessment tool for: Cabbage stem flea beetle, rape stem weevil, pollen beetle, cabbage stem weevil, cabbage seed weevil, brassica pod midge

- proPlant DSS developed in Germany, used widely in Europe
- Based on phenological models of pest immigration and life cycle development parameters
- Uses local weather conditions (temperature, sunshine h, windspeed & rainfall)
- Predicts pest parameters up to 3d in advance
- Uses traffic light warning system







ProPlantexpert.com On-line risk assessment tool





Low risk (moderate conditions) Treatment against adults to prevent egg laying still possible

Risk medium (good conditions) Treat later against larval hatching

Risk high (optimal conditions) Risk of high proportion of larvae hatching before winter. Important to monitor plants for larval symptoms

1. Indicates start & end of adult migration and highlights risk of migration





Optimum conditions

2. Warns of start of egg laying, intensity & larval development predictions

pest aphids



Monitoring: Suction traps Risk assessment: phenological Models of 1st flights



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Site



Myzus persicae

APHID ALERT UPDATE 2

Suction-trapping period 14th December 2015 - 3rd January 2016

Rhopalosiphum padi

APHID-BORNE VIRUSES IN WINTER CEREALS (BYDV) AND OILSEED RAPE (TuVV)

SUCTION-TRAPPING



Met Office figures suggest last month was the wettest December on record. The UK mean temperature for December was a record breaking at 7.9°C, which is 4.1°C above the long-term average. The previous record was 6.9°C in 1934. The temperatures for December 2015 were closer to those normally experienced during April or May. Along with the remarkable warmth, there has been a virtual complete lack of air frost across much of England. The exceptionally mild weather has led to further late aphid flight activity in south west and south east England, particularly during the week 14th-20th December but less so 21st December to 3rd January.

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La	mant	, v	

Suction-trap sites

	14-20/12	21/12 - 3/1	14-20/12	21/12 - 3/1	
Newcastle	0	0	0	0	
York	0	1	1	0	
Preston	8	0	0	0	
Kirton	0	2	0	0	
Broom's Barn	2	2	0	0	
Wellesbourne	0	1	0	2	
Hereford	7	7	1	1	
Rothamsted	NA	NA	NA	NA	
Writtle	13	2	1	0	
Silwood	4	2	0	1	
Wye	8	7	2	0	
Starcross	30	3	1	0	
	•		•		





Cultural methods e.g.

- Crop rotation
- Use of pest-resistant cultivars
- Habitat diversification : intercropping, cover crops, mixed cropping, trap cropping

Semiochemical e.g.

• pheromone repellents



3. Prevention: Use of pest resistant cultivars



CEREALS & OLISEEDS RECOM	mer	nde	d L	.ist [®]	B)		Wint	er oilseed rape 2015/16 - East/West Region
YIELD, QUALITY, AGRON		ND DI	SEAS	E RE	SISTA	NCE		
RECOMMENDED HIGCA	NEW NE	N NEV	V NEW	NEW		NEW	NEW	NEW C * C * * * *
~	V316	Popi	SY F	Picto	Cam	Ince	Araz	. .
Variaty type	DU	DU	PH	Contra	Conv	PU	PU	
Seese of recommondation	RH UK			Conv	Conv		EAN	Desistant gultivers available
Gross output (vield adjusted for	r oil conte	nt) as 9	% cont	rol	UN	UK	0.00	Resistant cultivars available
Fungicide treated (5.3 t/ha)	109	107	107	107	106	106	106	
Seed yield as % control								for dispasos (Light loaf
Fungicide treated (5.0 t/ha)	108	106	108	107	105	105	108	IUI UISEASES (LIGIILIEAI
Agronomic features								
Resistance to lodging	8	8	8	[8]	8	8	[8]	cnot Stom conkor)
Stem stiffness	8	8	7	8	8	8	8	Spot, Sterri Cariker)
Shortness of stem	6	6	7	6	6	6	6	
Earliness of flowering	7	6	7	6	6	7	8	
Earliness of maturity	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	
Seed quality (at 9% moisture)								
Oil content, fungicide treated (%)	46.0	46.0	44.2	44.4	45.6	45.7	43.6	No commercial OSP
Glucosinolate (µmoles/g of seed)	12.9	10.4	12.3	11.6	11.2	10.1	12.0	
Light loof cost	8	8	7	5	8	8	5	
Stem canker	6	5	6	5	5	4	4	cultivars resistant to any
Status in RL system	0	5	0	J	5	-		Cultivals resistant to any
Year first listed	15	15	15	15	15	14	15	
RL status	P1	P1	P1	P1	P1	P2	P1	insect pest!



cv. Amelie - resistant to TuYV transmitted by Myzus persicae

- But resistance based on virus not against the host insect
- Plant resistance to insect pests still in research pipeline •

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3. Prevention: Use of pest resistant cultivars

Exciting genetic breakthrough by Limagrain:



Limagrain United Kingdom





Resynthesised lines

- Potential as sources of resistance to pest insects
- Resynthesized rapeseed lines (*B. oleracea* × *B. rapa*) broaden genetic diversity

e.g. partial resistance to *Ceutorhynchs pallidactylus*

Eickermann et al J. Appl Ent. (2010) 134:542-550; Bull. Ent. Res 101:287-294







3. Prevention: Use of pest resistant cultivars

Hybridization with resistant species

Sinapis alba resistant to attack by Ceutorhynchus obstrictus

B. napus x S. alba \rightarrow novel resistant lines

Resistance due to glucosinolates profile?

McCaffrey et al. (1999) J. Ag Sci. 132 289-295 Tansey, Dosdall et al (2010) Canadian Entomologist 142:212-221; APIS 4:95-106







3. Prevention: Habitat diversification (intercropping, cover crops, mixed cropping, **trap cropping**)





Turnip rape (Brassica rapa) trap crop

More attractive than oilseed rape to pollen beetle, seed weevil and to cabbage stem flea beetle



Cook et al., 2006; Ent. Exp. Appl. 119:221-9 Cook et al., 2007 Arthropod-Plant Interactions 1:57-67



Barari, Cook, Clark & Williams (2005) BioConrol 50: 69-86 Döring, Mennerich & Ulber (2014) Bulletin IOBC/wprs



3. Prevention: Habitat diversification (intercropping, cover crops, mixed cropping, trap cropping)

Replicated field plots

Pollen beetles & seed weevils can be reduced to below spray threshold







Full field-scale studies (Canada) against C. ostrictus Showed trap cropping can be effective....

... in large, square fields but not smaller, narrower fields

Cárcamo, Dosdall et al (2007) Crop Protection 26:1325 1334





3. Prevention: Habitat diversification (intercropping, cover crops, mixed cropping, **trap cropping**)

Replicated field plots (2005)

TR borders significantly reduced no. CSFB in oilseed rape plots vs controls Barari, Cook, Clark & Williams (2005) BioConrol 50: 69-86





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3. Prevention: Habitat diversification (intercropping, cover crops, mixed cropping, **trap cropping**)

Field trials 2015-26 PhD studentship Duncan Coston "Quantifying the impacts of the Neonicotinoid restriction on Oilseed Rape" Supervised by RRes (Sam Cook, Lin Field) & University of Reading (Tom Breeze & Simon Potts)



 Initial results looked promising but by Christmas ALL OSR plants were gone ☺







- 3. Prevention: Habitat diversification (**intercropping**, cover crops, mixed cropping, trap cropping)
- Work from France shows that intercropping or undersowing OSR with legume mixtures can reduce CSFB infestation
- Collaboration with NIAB trial comparing 4 cover crop mixtures on CSFB damage
- Some promise....









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3. Prevention: Use of semiochemicals

- Host plant volatiles (reduced emissions of attractive compounds)
- Non-host volatiles
- Pheromones several possibilities but not commercialized
- CSFB Evidence for production of male-produced sex pheromone

Bartlet et al (1994) Phys. Ent. 19: 241-250)

Phylotretta flea beetles – male-produced aggregation pheromone Peng & Bartelt et al

Seed weevil - oviposition deterring pheromone Ferguson & Mudd et al

Pollen beetle - Evidence of epideictic pheromone Ruther & Thiemann ; Cook et al

Pod midge – evidence for female-produced sex pheromone









Mechanical e.g. trapping

Commercialized trap with 2-phenylethyl isothiocyanate





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Bioinsecticides

Spinosad insecticide active via contact/ingestion based on chemical compounds found in the bacterial species

(not in EU)





4. Control: Bio-insecticides

Bioinsecticides - In research pipeline

- Entomopathogenic fungi e.g. *Metarhizium anisopliae, Beauveria bassiana*
- Pathogenic nematodes e.g. *Steinernema feltiae*







4. Control

Botanical insecticides

Commercialized

Pyrethrum

Research pipeline:

Neem – activity shown (pod midge & pollen beetle)

Carum carvi Thymus vulgaris Pavela et al

CARE! Many are broad spectrum! Sam Cook, Rothamsted Research



Caraway







Pyrethrum 5



4. Control

- Mechanical e.g. trapping
- Botanical insecticides
- Rock dusts
- GM
- RNAi's
- Conservation biocontrol



in research pipeline





Use of agronomy & habitat management methods to conserve the natural enemies of crop pests in the agri-environment to improve biocontrol

- Field margins can support populations of natural enemies of crop pests
- Commercial mixtures for birds, bees/butterflies but none for biocontrol!





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4. Control: Conservation biocontrol

• Grassy margins support generalist natural enemies of aphids e.g. Holland et al., 2012 Ag. Ecosyt. Env. 155:147-152

• Nectar-rich mixtures can attract other generalists



















Most efficient natural enemies of the brassica specialist pests of oilseed rape are the brassica specialist parasitoids

- Parasitism rates up to 80% in untreated crops
- Many overwinter as cocoons in soil; susceptible to tillage





- Undisturbed field margins could boost populations
- But they need Brassicas to reproduce and most commercial mixtures do not contain brassicas!
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Optimizing Brassica 'banker plants' for use in field margins to improve biocontrol in OSR

14 Brassica types screened **Brassica napus subsp. Biennis Forage rape** best 'all-rounder' - Good for parasitoids of:

Pollen beetle

Seed weevil

Pod midge





Skellern, Clark, Ferguson, Watts & Cook In Prep Data from UK Defra project IF0139

Department for Environment Food & Rural Affairs





Do margins containing brassicas improve biocontrol in crops of the rotation?

- Abundance of biocontrol agents was increased in margins \odot
- Abundance decreased with distance into the field
- Little evidence of significant biocontrol effects 😕
- Challenge for future:

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-move biocontrol agents into the open field -show positive effects on yield



The research leading to these results has received funding from the European Union Seventh Framework Programme (FP7/ 2007-2013) under the grant agreement n°265865- PURE





Oilseed rape crops are great for invertebrate biodiversity

A large proprtion have functionally useful traits (predators pollinators etc)

For some OSR pests IPM tools are commercially available; many tools still in research pipeline

- 1. Set action threshold \checkmark
- 2. Monitor pest density & assess risk $\sqrt{\sqrt{}}$
- 3. Prevention v
- 4. Control

Further development of ecological approaches to IPM of oilseed rape pests will ensure insecticides are used only when necessary; prolonging their active life, safeguarding the environment, maximising profitibility & contributing towards sustainable intensification of the crop





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Health and Safety Executive

Chemicals Regulation Directorate Posticidos



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17th Biannual Meeting September 17-19th 2018, Zagreb, Croatia

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Gosia Jedryczka

Real

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WG ICOC

http://wwwuser.gwdg.de/~iobc/index.html

International Organization for Biological and Integrated Control of Noxious Animals and Plants West Palaearctic Regional Section (WPRS)