



## Latest information

- An Emergency Authorisation, expiring on 20 Nov 2015, for the use of Cruiser OSR and Modesto has been approved for use on oilseed rape planted in Suffolk, Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire to control CSFB.
- Emergency Authorisations for foliar applications of InSyst for control of CSFB and Teppeki for control of peach–potato aphid have also been approved.

## Action

- Speak to your supplier about conditions associated with the use of products under Emergency Authorisations.
- CSFB samples can be sent to Rothamsted Research for resistance testing.
- Refer to AHDB Information Sheets 43 and 32 for more information on CSFB and aphids.

## What are neonicotinoids and what is the issue?

- On 1 December 2013, a restriction was enforced by the European Commission (EC) on the use of the neonicotinoids clothianidin, imidacloprid and thiamethoxam, on plants that are attractive to bees and cereals (except winter cereals).
- Neonicotinoids are widely used to control a range of insect pests.
- UK-approved active substances from the neonicotinoid insecticide group include acetamiprid, clothianidin, imidacloprid, thiacloprid and thiamethoxam.
- In spring 2012, new research suggested that low doses of neonicotinoids have negative consequences for bee health.
- Following an assessment of the research, the EC decided to restrict the use of certain neonicotinoids as a precaution.
- As the link between neonicotinoids and bee health is not yet clear, the EC will review new scientific information it receives within two years.
- These actives were used to treat winter and spring oilseed rape (OSR) seed to protect the crop during the first 6–8 weeks of growth from cabbage stem flea beetles (CSFB), other flea beetles and peach–potato aphids, which transmit turnip yellows virus (TuYV).
- Of the crops covered by AHDB Cereals & Oilseeds, the decision affects all oilseed crops, all maize crops and any cereal crops sown between January and June.

## The implications for oilseed rape

From 1 December 2013, seed treated with clothianidin (eg Modesto), imidacloprid (eg Chinook) or thiamethoxam (eg Cruiser OSR) cannot be planted, unless covered by an Emergency Authorisation.

### Cabbage stem flea beetle

In Autumn 2014, approximately 5% (~30,000 ha) of the original planting area was reported to have been lost to adult CSFB. About 1.5% of this area was reported to have been successfully replanted. The regions reported as worst affected were the East and South East where about 8% and 4% of the crop was lost and not successfully replanted.

### Chemical control\*

Widespread CSFB resistance to pyrethroids has recently been confirmed in the UK. There is an Emergency Authorisation for InSyst (acetamiprid) which can be applied up until 5 leaves unfolded stage to control CSFB. Authorisation expires 25 November 2015.



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Adult cabbage stem flea beetle

Cruiser OSR (fludioxonil/ metalaxyl-M/thiamethoxam) and Modesto (beta-cyfluthrin/ clothianidin) treated seed can be planted in Suffolk, Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire. Authorisation expires 20 November 2015.

**\*Speak to your supplier about conditions associated with the use of products with Emergency Authorisations.**

**Do not use more than one autumn foliar application of any neonicotinoid insecticide on OSR.**

### Turnip yellows virus

Around 60% of the OSR area in the UK is affected by TuYV. The average yield loss in untreated crops is 15%, although yield losses of up to 30% can occur.

### Chemical control\*

Pyrethroids are authorised for use. However, AHDB-funded research shows peach–potato aphid resistance is widespread throughout the UK, so control from a pyrethroid is unlikely.

Foliar applied pymetrozine (Plenum) and thiacloprid (Biscaya) are viable alternatives to which the peach–potato aphid has not developed resistance to. Pymetrozine and thiacloprid can both be applied once in the autumn. There is an Emergency Authorisation for Teppeki (flonicamid). Teppeki has no efficacy against flea beetle or cabbage stem flea beetle. It can be applied only once and the authorisation expires on 3 February 2015. Application timing is crucial and AHDB Aphid News can help identify when to spray.

## The implications for cereals and other crops

### Cereals

Cereals sown between January and June cannot be treated with thiamethoxam, clothianidin or imidacloprid but treatment is permitted at other times (between July and December).

### Winter and spring linseed

Imidacloprid (eg Chinook) seed treatments were used to control flax flea beetle.

Pyrethroid insecticides are the only alternative.

### Grain maize

Clothianidin (eg Poncho) was used to control frit fly and wireworm.

Seed treatment alternatives are thiocloprid (eg Sonido), which controls wireworm and provides subsequent control against frit fly, and methiocarb (eg Mesurol), which controls frit fly.

## What are the implications for crop protection?

Alternative chemical control options are available for most situations.

Greater reliance on a limited range of insecticides may worsen issues associated with insecticide resistance and hitting non-target organisms.

Decisions to use alternative pesticide applications should be justified to reduce the risk of insecticide resistance developing.

Spray decisions should be made using crop monitoring and spray threshold information.

Always follow label recommendations, consider local conditions and consult a professional agronomist, if necessary.

## How to dispose of treated seed

Dispose of any treated seed by following the requirements for disposal of the product on the product information document.

If you are without the product information document, contact the supplier for disposal requirements.

## Further information

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IS43: Cabbage stem flea beetle

IS32: Controlling aphids and virus diseases in cereals and oilseed rape

PR541: Assessing the impact of the restrictions on the use of neonicotinoid seed treatments

Research Review 77: Implications of the restriction on the neonicotinoids imidacloprid, clothianidin and thiamethoxam on crop protection in oilseeds and cereals in the UK (AHDB, 2013)

Project 214-0009: Maximising control of cabbage stem flea beetles (CSFB) without neonicotinoid seed treatments (Including Snapshot Assessment)

[cereals.ahdb.org.uk/neonics](http://cereals.ahdb.org.uk/neonics)

[cereals.ahdb.org.uk/pests](http://cereals.ahdb.org.uk/pests)  
(for AHDB Aphid News)

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