

June 27-11 – Canola Update by Brian Hall, OMAFRA Canola Specialist

Cabbage Seedpod Weevil (CSPW)

There have been a few reports of Cabbage seedpod weevil. Weevil adults are attracted to the yellow flower, so early flowering canola fields should now be scouted. Typically weevil populations decline rapidly in late June- July when adults die off. However the



cool wet spring this year may have delayed their emergence, so the only sure way to know is to **scout your field before spraying**. Insecticide application will kill off beneficial's that assist with pollination and control of canola pests, so spray only when thresholds are reached.

Scouting

Scouting should focus on the adults (4mm long), since only the adults can be controlled. Scout on warm, sunny days when weevils are more active. Weevil adults are easiest to locate on the uppermost flower bud cluster. The presence of Finches in the field is sign that weevils are also in the field.

Spray Timing & Threshold

It is important not to spray too soon, as the weevil will typically continue to invade fields for 7 – 10 days after the first flowers open.

A sweep net is the only practical way to determine the need to spray. If there are 2-4 weevils per sweep when the crop is in the early bloom stages control is necessary.

Spraying at this time will allow the weevils enough time to move into the crop, while still early enough to prevent them from laying any significant number of eggs in pods. The Weevils begin laying eggs in pods that are 3 cm (1.25") long. The larvae cause the greatest damage, consuming 3-5 seeds during their lifecycle.

Matador is the only insecticide registered for control.

***** Spraying at dusk or dawn is best to minimize the risk of bee kills. Notify local beekeepers in your area. *****

If a fungicide is applied at the same time, it is important to time the fungicide for maximum flower for it to be effective.

Tarnished plant bugs will also flourish in hot, dry weather and can cause problems with canola crops. Sweep net swipes will also provide information for monitoring for tarnished plant bugs and control is also provided by Matador. The threshold for control is 2 per sweep after pedal fall.