

## Old Pests, New Pests and Heaps of Hoppers: Insect Concerns from 2021 and Forecast for 2022

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**Flea beetles** (*Phyllotreta* spp.) in canola and **grasshoppers**, in many crops, were major insect concerns in 2021. There were reports of reseeding of canola because of injury from flea beetles, and some reports of multiple applications of foliar insecticides. Late summer populations of flea beetles were also a concern in canola. **Diamondback moth** (*Plutella xylostella*) was a concern in canola in some regions from mid-July to mid-August. **Alfalfa weevil** (*Hypera postica*) was a concern in alfalfa fields in some regions in mid- and late-June. **Aphids in small grains** were abundant in some regions from late-June to late-July, although in some of these fields natural enemies such as lady beetles, lacewing larvae and hover fly larvae were also abundant. **Lygus bugs** were controlled in some fields of canola, sunflowers, alfalfa seed, and strawberries. Lygus damage was also an issue in dry beans. Thresholds for Lygus bugs in canola have been revised, and will be presented.

**Western corn rootworm** (*Diabrotica virgifera virgifera*) was found in Manitoba for the first time. Larvae of this insect feed on the roots of corn, and can be a major concern when corn is grown in the same field for multiple years. Crop rotation is an effective management strategy for corn rootworms. The known range of the **cabbage seedpod weevil** (*Ceutorhynchus obstrictus*) and **pea leaf weevil** (*Sitona lineatus*) in Manitoba expanded considerably, based on surveys and submitted samples.

With the exception of diamondback moth and the main species of aphids affecting small grains, all the other insects covered in this presentation overwinter in Manitoba. Environmental factors and key natural enemies that could influence their populations in 2022 will be discussed. Scouting and management tips for will also be discussed.

Annual summaries of insect pests in crops in Manitoba are posted at:  
<http://www.gov.mb.ca/agriculture/crops/insects/index.html>