

Abstract

Cabbage: Insect update in Cole crops: What's bugging your crops? Thrips, swede midge and leps

At any period of time during the cabbage season, insect pests can become a problem. Fortunately, there are some control tactics that provide better control than has been achieved in the past. Several new insecticides for control of caterpillars have proven to provide longer-term control while being gentler on important natural enemies and safer to the applicator. During hot, dry years onion thrips can be a severe problem but use of resistant varieties and judicious use of insecticides can usually provide adequate control. Swede midge can be controlled by crop rotation if it is done on a large scale, but adequate control continues to be a problem on smaller farms. Good control of swede midge can be achieved with systemic insecticides but adequate control using organic methods remains a challenge. More details on methods of controlling insects will be discussed.