

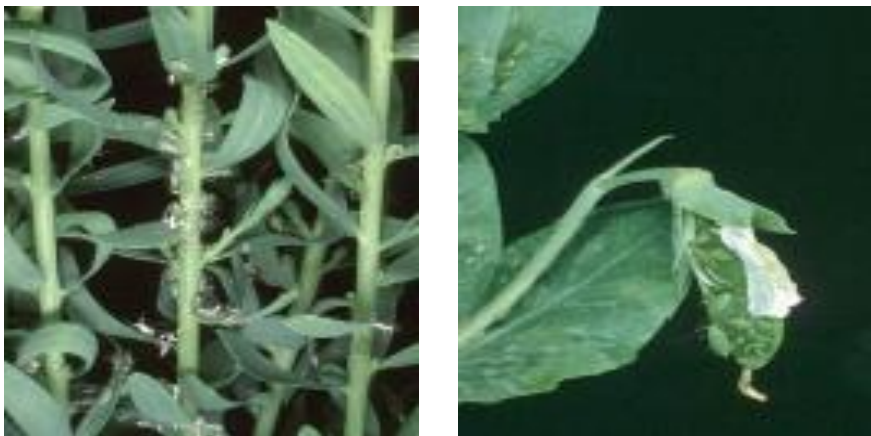
Pea Aphids

Common insect pests in pulse crops
Small (about 1/8 inch)
Pale to dark green in color with reddish eyes



Damage

Aphids feed by sucking sap from plants, which can deplete plant vigor and result in plant death. Vector of several diseases.



Sexual and asexual cycle
Host plants: Pulses, alfalfa
High Fecundity: 4-6 nymphs/day
Short generation: 7-8 days in summer
Active months: May-August

Life Cycle



Pea Aphid Monitoring

Scouting for aphids in pulse crops is conducted using a 15-inch sweep net

Threshold Levels

Sample aphids when pulses are beginning to bloom through to pod set
Lentil: 20 aphids/plant in top 8 inches OR (30-40 aphids per sweep)
Peas: >10 aphids on plant between 10th node and first flowering
Don't treat if below 7 aphids/plant
If many natural enemies are present, resample 2 days later to estimate population trend

Natural Enemies

Ladybird beetles – Aphid Predators
Parasitic Wasps – Lay eggs in the aphid body and leave empty shell after parasite leaves