
Rutherglen bug

The Surrounding Habitat



Canola

Rutherglen bug numbers increase when canola production increases. This trend interacts with the El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO).

Sticky traps will detect the arrival of Rutherglen bug into canola fields before other methods like sweep netting.

Rutherglen bug populations can boom post-harvest on canola seeds, stubble and trash.

Fleabane

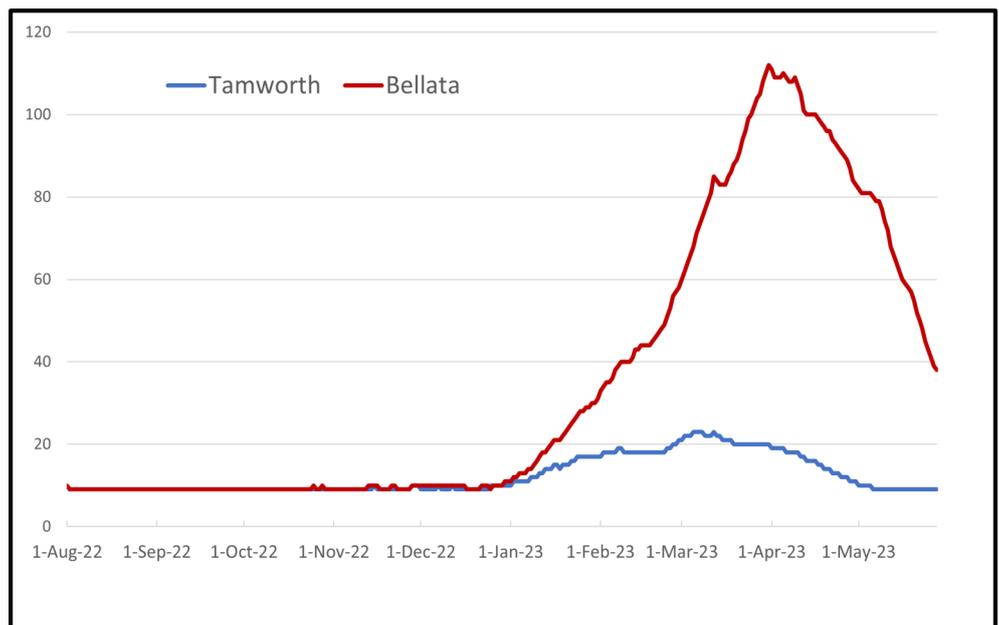
Broadleaf weeds, particularly Asteraceae, are known hosts of Rutherglen bug. However, Grey Cluster bug can be found on Fleabane in high numbers. Therefore observations on this weed are not always a good indicator of the pest.

Simulating regional trends in pest pressure

Our simple model of intrinsic rate of increase simulates population dynamics.

The model agrees with our field observations on sticky traps, showing a large difference between North (Moree—Bellata) and South (Liverpool Plains—Tamworth).

The model can estimate populations at any location for any time-period (including short-term forecast).



Simulated Rutherglen bug population dynamics between two sites in 2023