

# Aphids on cabbages and kale

The Cabbage aphid (*Brevicoryne brassicae*), The False cabbage aphid (*Lipaphis erysimi*), The Green peach aphid and (*Myzus persicae*).; local name: Ume (Kikuyu), Kukni (Dholuo)



Green peach aphid adults and nymphs (courtesy of NRI, UK – Handbook for extension staff, Zimbabwe)

Prevention	Monitoring	Direct Control	Direct Control	Restrictions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Intercrop with onion, garlic, spider plant, coriander</li> <li>◆ Avoid too much N</li> <li>◆ Plant in a well prepared fertile seedbed to promote crop vigour</li> <li>◆ Keep the fields free of weeds and alternative hosts such as wild mustards</li> <li>◆ Manage the field to favour natural enemies such as lady bird beetles, hover flies and Aphidiu.</li> <li>◆ Encourage growth of milk weed within the field. Milk weed is a host of other types of aphids which are natural enemies</li> <li>◆ Mulch with wheat straw or clear/transparent polyethylene sheet as reflectors of UV light discourage aphids from landing on the crop.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Early in the season after transplanting and when the conditions are cool and dry favouring aphid development.</li> <li>◆ Look at the lower leaves, stems and growing point for soft bodied insects, curled or capping of infested leaves, black sooty mould.</li> <li>◆ Institute control measures when 1 to 2 % of plants are infested</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Use overhead irrigation to knock aphids off the leaves.</li> <li>◆ Spray soapy solution (potassium soaps) (add 10-15 table spoon full of liquid soap in 20lt bucket and spray). Avoid powder detergent soaps because they can burn plant leaves and if used frequently, will reduce soil fertility.</li> <li>◆ use garlic or a mix of garlic and neem; red chilli pepper and soap (take 50g mix in 2 lts of water, boil for 15 minutes, allow to cool and spray) and pyrethrum flower</li> </ul>	◆ Deltamethrin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Moderately hazardous (WHO Class II)</li> <li>◆ Toxic to aquatic organisms</li> <li>◆ Avoid near water ways</li> <li>◆ High risk to bees and other non-target arthropods</li> <li>◆ Don't spray when plants are flowering</li> <li>◆ Contact pesticide with residual activity</li> </ul>
			◆ Imidacloprid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Moderately hazardous (WHO Class II)</li> <li>◆ Mode of action: Neonicotinoid</li> <li>◆ Apply as seed dressing</li> <li>◆ Maximum number of treatments: one per batch of seed.</li> <li>◆ Treated seed is harmful to humans and wildlife</li> </ul>
			◆ Pirimicarb	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Mode of action: Carbamate</li> <li>◆ Dangerous to fish and other aquatic species</li> <li>◆ Do not contaminate surface water or water ways</li> </ul>
			◆ Thiamethoxam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Not classified by WHO</li> <li>◆ Mode of action: pyrethroid</li> </ul>
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Wear protective clothing when handling chemicals</li> <li>◆ Follow instruction on the product label such as dosage, pre-harvest interval and appropriate time of application</li> </ul>



## Kenya

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