

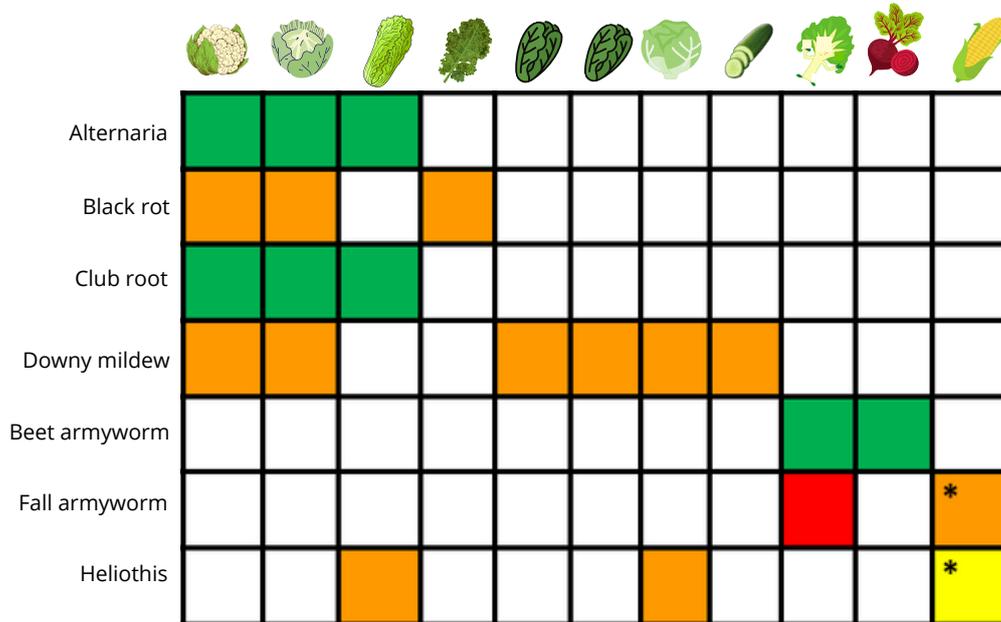


Surveillance Update

Sydney basin, NSW
17–23 February 2022



Legend:
Light green = Very low incidence
Green = Low incidence
Yellow = Low to moderate incidence
Orange = Moderate incidence
Red = High incidence



Crops in order of appearance: Cauliflower, Cabbage, Wombok, Kale, Cos Lettuce (hydroponic), Cos Lettuce (open field), Iceberg lettuce (open field), Cucumber, Sliverbeet, Beetroot, Sweetcorn
 * Multiple contributors

What's in the crop?

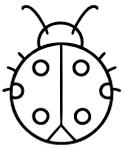
Weather conditions meant that less scouting has occurred this week. Please note some contributors were unable to contribute, leading to a reduction in the typical number of observations.



Fall armyworm: In high numbers in silverbeet on some farms.



Downy mildew: Consistent moderate levels across brassicas, lettuce and cucumber.



Beneficials: Lady beetles, hoverfly larvae, and parasitoids.

CASE STUDY of the week: **Giant African snail (*Achatina fulica*)** - Not present in Australia

- 1 Originating in eastern Africa, now widespread throughout Europe, Asia, the Americas and the Pacific.
- 2 Wide host range, including many important vegetable crops.
- 3 Damages stem, leaf, fruit, and flowers or can destroy an entire plant.
- 4 Has high entry and establishment potential into Australia.

It can be spread:

- 1 Via cargo, containers and machinery.
- 2 Illegally by travellers for human means.

If this pest were to arrive in Australia, early detection is the best means possible for eradication efforts before it negatively impacts plant industries.

The pest can carry a harmful bacteria called rat lungworm. This can raise human health concerns and so the snail should not be touched with bare hands or consumed.



Body length: 20cm

Giant African snail adult



Giant African snail eggs

Source: Pest and Diseases Image Library, Bugwood.org

[Access the AUSVEG Pest and Disease Preparedness resource here](#)

Unsure whether you are correctly diagnosing a pest or disease?

Send in a sample to NSW Department of Primary Industries (DPI).

For support, contact NSW DPI on 1800 675 623 or Maddy Quirk on 0437 004 174.

Past Surveillance Updates

[CLICK HERE](#)



Remember: Pest and disease pressure varies from farm to farm. Always monitor your crops and consult your consultant/agronomist for advice on control.