Surveillance fact sheet: Russian wheat aphid
(Diuraphis noxia)

Affected crops
- Wheat, barley, oats, rye and triticale

When to look
- Throughout the season, but prevalent in spring

What does the pest look like?
- Can be winged or wingless
- Elongated body up to 2 mm in length
- Light-green in colour
- Double tailed cauda (‘double-tail’ appearance) – only in adult wingless aphids
- Siphunculi (‘exhaust pipes’) not visible

What should I look for?
- Plant symptoms together with the presence of aphids
- Leaf rolling
- White to purple streaks on leaves
- Awns can be trapped by rolled leaf flag
- Heads can have bleached appearance

If I find Russian wheat aphid?
- Call the Exotic Plant Pest Hotline or contact state department of agriculture directly

Plant symptoms include leaf streaks, trapped awns and prostate appearance (tillers run parallel to the ground)