

Plantevern og skadedyrbiologi utenom vekstsesongen /Out of season management and biology of a selected fruit pest

Integrated pest management (IPM) is to combine several measures in a smart way, including preventative ones. This requires detailed knowledge of the target pest also outside the growing season, which may be especially important in perennial crops like fruits and berries. Norway has a colder winter than most other fruit producing countries, meaning that studies made abroad may not give the information needed to apply out of season measures optimally.

The topic will fit students who want or need to do their field work in the late summer, autumn or early spring. The exact approach and objectives must be tailored to student's time schedule and ambitions, and projects at NIBIO.

All photos: N. Trandem

			
Larve av plommevikler/ Larva of plum fruit moth	Tre rødfotteger/ Three forest bugs	Jordbærnsutebille/ Strawberry blossom weevil	Bladlusklekking/ aphid hatching on raspberry

Two current possibilities are:

- 1) What is the potential effect of placing bands of corrugated cardboard on the trunks of plum trees to catch overwintering larvae of the plum fruit moth (**plommevikler** - *Grapholita funebrana*)? The larvae normally overwinter on the trunks and the cardboard provides a good hiding place. Larvae infected with parasitoids, nematodes or fungal pathogens will also be collected and studies of these could be included in the thesis. Another option is to compare plum fruit moth and codling moth (eplevikler - *Cydia pomonella*) with regard to cardboard preferences. The field work can at least partly be performed at Ås, in an orchard at NMBU.
- 2) Elucidating the biology and phenology of the forest bug (**rødfottege** - *Pentatoma rufipes*), using traps for the adults in the autumn and direct observation of juvenile stages on cherry trees in the period September-March. The species is present in the NMBU cherry orchard, but some field work should also be performed in Sogn (Western Norway), where the species is more abundant.

Other possibilities include questions about aphids (Aphididae – **bladlus**) overwintering on raspberry canes, or strawberry blossom weevil (*Anthonomus rubi* – **jordbærnsutebille**) behaviour in the autumn. Both these will require the student having a driving licence.

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