

Topic/Title (Norwegian) Integriert plantevern i frukt – plass til nyttedyr

Topic/Title (English) Integrated pest management in fruit –room for beneficials



Summary Fruit is a high value crop and losses due to pests can be high. Norway and EU as part of the Green Deal have decided to reduce pesticide use by 50%. To meet this goal fruit growers need alternatives. In the project “IPM Fruit” starting December 2023 a team of scientists will work together with advisory service and growers to research and develop such new methods and strategies. We will look into the contribution of natural surroundings to support natural enemies of pests with a focus on lepidopteran pests, which are among the most damaging in Norway as well as globally. Creating a resilient orchard by supporting the beneficial insects living in and around the orchard is important, and knowledge about how management of orchard and surroundings can play an important part. As a master student the project offer the opportunity to participate in field studies in apple orchards, assessing selected pests and beneficial insects. A masters or bachelor study can also be done in the lab to on insect pests and natural enemy interaction and may include how this is affected by plants. Bachelor students interested in doing a literature study are also welcome.

Subject area Beneficial insects, functional biodiversity, biological control, insect-plant interactions, orchard (re)design

Language thesis English is preferred

Bachelor or Master thesis Both BSc and MSc are invited to take contact

Credits 30 or 60

Project/company NMBU, NIBIO, NLR, Gartnerhallen, fruitgrowers

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