

Topic/Title (Norwegian) Verdien av blomstrende planter for rovinsekter

Topic/Title (English) The value of flowering crops to insect predators

Picture (From systematic review by He, Kiær, Jensen, Sigsgaard 2021)

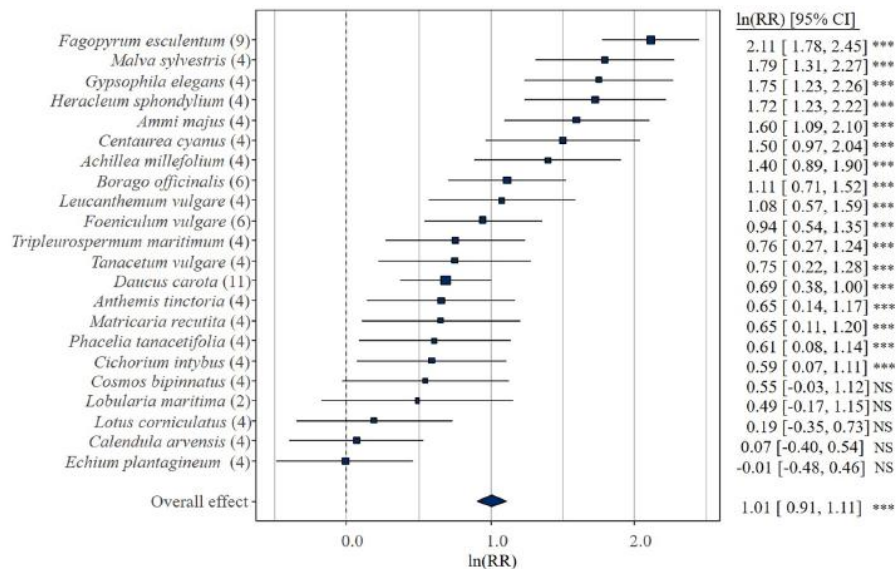


Fig. 2. The mean effect of flowers from different plant species on predator longevity. 95% confidence intervals are shown as bars around the means and provided in square brackets. Number of trials that use each plant species are given in parentheses. **** P < 0.001, *** P < 0.01, ** P < 0.05, NS: non-significant.

Summary: Contrary to earlier beliefs, the pollen and nectar of flowering plants can be an important food supplement to predatory insects. Which plants should be sown to support the natural enemies? Relatively few plants have yet been studied, and the value for important insect predators of common wild flowering plants of Norway are still little known.

Depending on student interest, different studies could be done such as:

- Bioassays comparing the value of different floral diets on a selected predator species. Fitness parameters development time, longevity
- Preference bioassays in the lab
- Visual observation of floral preferences in the field

Subject area (keywords) entomology, biological control, agriculture/horticulture

Language thesis (Norwegian and/or English)

Bachelor or Master thesis

Credits 30 or 60

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