



Dvergsjuka i bringebær – mer kunnskap om insektvektorer i Norge/ Rubus stunt stunt phytoplasma – more knowledge on insect vectors in Norway

	
<p>Mange skudd er et symptom på dvergsjuka i bringebær/ A proliferation of shoots is a symptom of Rubus stunt phytoplasma. Photo: Dag-R. Blystad</p>	<p>Nymfer av bringebærsikade/ Nymphs of rubus leafhopper. Photo: N. Trandem</p>

Rubus stunt is a phytoplasma disease of increasing importance in Norway. In some raspberry crops, symptoms have been observed to spread rapidly, and we assume this spread is caused by insect vectors, and also by phytoplasma being present in wild raspberry nearby. Internationally, the rubus leafhopper (*Macropsis fuscula*, **bringebærsikade**) is the only known vector of this phytoplasma. This species is also present in Norway.

The topic will fit students who are interested in interactions between plants, insects and microorganisms, including molecular techniques to identify the phytoplasma in plants and insects. The exact approach and objectives must be tailored to student's time schedule and ambitions, and projects at NIBIO.

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